

# The Art of Learning



## Message from Administration

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We have enjoyed a wonderful fall season so far, and have been taking every advantage to get outside and take in the warm weather! As the weather begins to change to colder and more wintry conditions, we ask families to remember that students will be outside every day for active play, sometimes a few times a day, unless the thermometer dips below -20 C with the wind chill. We ask that students are prepared for the weather and that they are sent with warm clothing and suitable footwear. Thank you for helping us keep kids active and acclimatized to the weather in our Alberta winters.

Students returned from the October break to start new learning contracts that will eventually become presentations for the Jubilee stage. All K to 12 students have spent time this past month brainstorming and developing ways to translate their curricular learning into engaging performances to share with you in December! This year's theme for Jubilee, which is also our school Year Theme, is Cultivating Curiosity. We expect all students to attend this performance so that their Arts Immersion learning can be shared and celebrated. The performance is during the evening on December 6, 2024. There will be information coming soon about ticket sales and the timeline of events so watch your email!

From November 1 to 30, we are collecting donations for the Veterans Food Bank of Alberta. Donations of non-perishable and non-expired food items can be dropped off at each campus location. We appreciate the generous contributions our community makes.

We feel proud of the work our teachers and students are preparing to show their respect and generosity around Remembrance Day observances. Each campus will have a Remembrance Day assembly prior to November 11th, in order to mark this important day with reflection and art.



*Message from Administration continued.*

We had such fun celebrating Halloween at all three campuses. At the Erickson Centre, high school students showed their school spirit with a full week of creative costumes and halloween events. Students dressed as their favourite pun, participated in closet cosplay, and became twins with their teachers and artists as just some examples. We are grateful to our CAA School Council for hosting the Knob Hill Halloween dance and supporting our student council at Rosscarrock with their Halloween dance. Families who attended the KH dance enjoyed dancing, snacks, photo booths, fortune telling, crafts, spooky stories, and a pumpkin silent auction. At Rosscarrock, students danced, admired decorated hallway and classroom displays, got their photos taken at the photo booth, and enjoyed treats from the concession. An extra special treat this year were the live performances by both the Year 6/7 and Year 8/9 Rock Band groups who kicked off the middle school dance! Thanks to all who helped to set-up, supervise, and join in with the dancing. We appreciate you making these popular and fun school events such a success.



November’s Developmental Asset category of the month is Boundaries and Expectations.

**In This Issue**

- Book Fairs                      Page 5
- Adult Choir                      Page 7
- CAA High School              Page 10  
Info Session
- Calendar and Links          Page 12

This category includes the assets of Community Values Youth, Children as Resources, Service to Others, and Safety. Each of these assets focuses on external supports that can help build students’ feelings of empowerment. Please check your email for ideas on how you could identify and strengthen these assets with your child/ren.

Also in November, all students in Kindergarten to Year 12 will be heading out to the Connect Charter School Field Experience Centre in Kananaskis for outdoor education, wellness, and arts-based learning experiences.

### *Message from Administration continued.*

Students in K to 3 will attend day trips at the camp, while students in Years 4 to 12 will attend two-day one-night trips. We look forward to sharing highlights and photos from these trips in next month's newsletter!

Lastly, we'd like to welcome our new Digital Media Artist, Ms. Naomi Hoffman, to the CAA Team! Naomi has taken over from Ms. Sarah Murdoch, who has left to pursue a new role in a community supports organization. We thank Ms. Sarah for her 5 years with Calgary Arts Academy, and are excited to introduce Ms. Naomi to the Knob Hill and Rosscarrock campuses! Ms. Naomi has a Bachelor of Communication Design from the Alberta University of the Arts, and has experience working as a freelance illustrator, graphic designer, muralist, and video game artist.

We look forward to connecting with each of you at our upcoming November parent-teacher conferences. See you then!

Warmly,

CAA Administration



## **Kindergarten/Year 1 News**

We are excited to share highlights from our first Learning Contract, "Our First Rodeo". We celebrated with a lively Barn Dance, where Year 2/3 students joined us to watch our dance moves and view our month-long art projects. It was a great opportunity to showcase our new skills, growing confidence and sense of community. October ended on a fun note with a Halloween assembly, where we dressed up in creative costumes and enjoyed showing them to our friends.

In November, we are thrilled to begin our next Learning Contract, "Winter WONDERland!" Through this contract, we will explore the magic of winter with storytelling, seasonal changes, scientific experiments,

*Message from Kindergarten/Year 1 continued.*

which will deepen our understanding of our own community and uniqueness. We will investigate math concepts through shapes, discover the science behind winter weather, and express ourselves through art. As we begin preparing for Jubilee, we are excited to proudly perform and present our learning on the big stage for the entire school community!



**Year 2/3 News**



Our vibrant Learning Contract, "Tales from Around the World," recently wrapped up with a spectacular two-night showcase that truly dazzled the audience! Now, with Mr. E leading our latest adventure, "Loose Parts Alive," we are diving into the magic of movement. We are using our bodies to create intricate patterns and explore regrouping in a fun, dynamic way. Through the scientific method, we are exploring the intriguing world of computer science, while also learning to navigate our emotions and making connections between feelings and experiences. As we continue our studies of Ukraine, Tunisia, Peru, and India, we are exploring how decisions are made within these diverse communities.

## Artists Updates from Knob Hill

In Kindergarten and Year 1, students are exploring the changing seasons with Ms. Shannon, as they prepare for a winter-themed Jubilee performance. Meanwhile, Year 2 and 3 students in Year 2/3 are using innovative math activities with Mr. E, using each other as interactive “loose parts”. All of these these experiences will contribute to their upcoming Jubilee showcase.



## Book Fairs



### Knob Hill Usborne Book Fair

Get some early holiday shopping done while at the Parent/Teacher Conferences. Purchases made at the Book Fair will earn 25% more in FREE books for our school library. You can also browse the large selection of books [here](#) and order online until Sunday, November 11 at midnight.

### Rosscarrock Scholastic Book Fair

The book fair is running November 4 to 8 and students will have the opportunity to browse the large selection of books. [Click here](#) for more information.

## Athletics Update

As October wraps up, students are excited to have moved Physical Education classes inside into the gym, where they are currently engaged in a volleyball unit. Soon they will transition to Tchoukball - a fun, fast-paced handball game with a twist!

The boys' and girls' volleyball teams are reaching the end of their successful seasons, with the final games scheduled for November 7 at the Volleydome. Both teams have shown great progress and teamwork, building on their victories from earlier tournaments. We wish them the best of luck in the finals.

Looking ahead, basketball season is just around the corner. All Year 6 to 9 students are invited to tryout. The boys' team will hold tryouts on November 13 and 15, while the girls' team tryouts will follow on November 20 and 22.



## Artists Updates from Rosscarrock

Students in Years 4 and 5 are exploring the world of Renaissance art in Ms. Christy's visual arts class. By blending Renaissance themes with contemporary pop art, students have crafted vibrant "Pop Art Monas" that promise to impress on the big stage at Jubilee.



Year 6 and 7 students are diving into Media Arts with Ms. Naomi, where they are experimenting with 3D design by folding paper into shapes while incorporating mathematical concepts. Soon, they will take this work to the next level, using Adobe editing to decorate their 3D props for Jubilee. Meanwhile, in Year 8 and 9, students are gaining insights into Renaissance culture, learning social dance from the era, and practicing the Pavane with Ms. Jessica. They are also discovering the art of hand-fan communication from 14th to 16th century Europe, all of which will feature prominently in their Jubilee presentation.

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## Year 4/5 News

We are marking the start of our second contract with big and exciting questions! In Year 5, we have been working on multiplication and division, while in Year 4, we have been exploring angles. We are also challenging ourselves to see just how much math we can fit into one contract!

After a fantastic exploration of flight and buoyancy, we have now moved on to computer science, where we are learning to code and even creating our own video games. We are also diving into the art world with stop-motion animation and pop art, exploring the works of pop artists as inspiration for our own unique masterpieces.

Our reading and writing skills continue to grow, and we are grateful for all the families who joined us at conferences to celebrate our successes. Thank you for supporting us on this incredible journey!

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## CAA Adult Choir

**Do you like to sing? Do you enjoy music, laughter and having fun?  
Come and join our Calgary Arts Academy Adult Choir! We are a  
non-auditioned ensemble that sings a wide variety of music.**



## Year 6/7 News

Our first Learning Contract, 'The Identity Gallery', was a showcase of creativity and self-expression. We explored our identities through various art projects, including Circle of Courage vinyl records, self-portraits inspired by Canadian artist Deb Weiers and unique contour line art. As part of this journey, in Year 7 we visited the new exhibition at Contemporary Calgary: Ghosts of Canoe Lake, by Marcel Dzama. This exhibition introduced us to Canadian landscapes and the connections between the real and subconscious, encouraging us to think about how we perceive the world around us.



"Genetically Modified" is our second Learning Contract and will lead us to examine our place in the natural world and the ways human choices can impact other living things. We will combine our knowledge of genetic modification with different plant and animal species to create a visually captivating project. Through this, we will depend our understanding of living systems and explore the effects of our actions on food and the environment. In Math we will apply our measurement skills to real-world experiences by designing and personalizing props for Jubilee. Our curiosity guide us as we develop our own perspectives on genetic modification and its role in society.

In Science, we are exploring structures, forces and energy through engaging research projects and hands-on activities. In Year 6, we worked with peers to build catapults and design car ramps to test friction on toy cars. These activities brought scientific concepts to life and helped us develop our problem-solving skills.

Looking ahead, we are excited for our overnight trips to Connect Camp at Sibbald Lake in November!

## Year 8/9 News

October has been a month full of creativity and learning! We wrapped up our first learning contract, "Storyed Metamorphosis", where we dove into science concepts and created stop-motion videos focused on plant cells. We showcased the videos at a special screening in the gym, which was a fantastic way to celebrate our hard work!

This month we have launch our second Learning Contract, "From East to West: A Renaissance", focused on Social Studies. Our goal is to explore the Renaissance period, leading up to an exciting Jubilee performance that brings this era to life.



One highlight was our field trip to Contemporary Calgary, where we toured Marcel Dzama's Ghosts of Canoe Lake exhibit. Inspired by the artwork, we created paper-mache balloons and were thrilled to receive an invitation to showcase our stop-motion videos at the gallery!

Looking ahead to November, we will be exploring new topics, including mechanical devices and energy transformation in science, algebraic expressions in math, editing and grammar in language arts and Canadian governance levels in social studies. We are eagerly awaiting our overnight Connect Camp adventure!

## Guidance Counsellor Update

Our Guidance Counsellor, Ms. Rachel, has been actively connecting with our Year 4 to 12 students through informal chats and check-ins, as well as individual sessions. These one-on-one meetings, which generally last 30 to 60 minutes, are purpose-driven and solution-focused. To schedule an appointment, students can fill out a paper slip and place it in the wooden box at the reception area, visit the guidance counsellor's office directly or ask a teacher for assistance.





## Physical Education 10/20/30 News



October was an action-packed month in Physical Education. With perfect fall weather, we continued exploring outdoor games, highlighted by an exciting session of Goat Yoga with the dance students. It's impossible not to smile as goats prance on and around you - their joy is infectious! Studies show that even five minutes with animals can reduce stress by lowering cortisol while boosting serotonin and dopamine, the "happiness" hormones. Goat Yoga provided a wonderful chance to release tension, reconnect and feel refreshed.

We also wrapped up our basketball unit, where we honed shooting, ball handling and passing skills

through games like bump, 21 and HORSE, showing great determination and enjoying the friendly competition. For Halloween, we transformed into zombies, witches and wizards for spooky warm-up games. October was a month of excitement, learning and fun for everyone!

## High School News

October was an exciting month filled with creativity and learning! Our Student Showcase was a highlight, where students shared their incredible talents in live music, video making and editing, poetry, visual art, dance, and creative writing. The showcase was a fantastic display of community support and marked a successful first fundraiser for our Student Council.



In Social Studies 20, we have been exploring Canadian contributions to World War 1, gaining a deeper understanding of the themes of nationalism within the curriculum. A recent field trip to the Military Museums provided a hands-on experience with authentic uniforms and equipment, offering a tangible connection to the lives of Canadians during that historic period. Building on this experience, we will collaboratively create our Remembrance Day assembly, using various art forms—including music, drama, and visual arts—to honour and commemorate this significant part of Canadian history.

This project will allow us to engage with our insights on nationalism and the sacrifices made by those who served.

Our dance students also had a fantastic month, venturing out to Decidedly Jazz Danceworks for a Latin dance workshop.

In Year 10 CTS, the final photography session was wrapped up with an exciting project in light painting! Working collaboratively, we used flashlights to spell out “CAA” in the air, while a peer captured the moment using one of our DSLR cameras. This hands-on experience allowed us to experiment with long-exposure techniques and creativity.



Our Spooky Spirit Week included Pun-Day, dress like a student/teacher and Closet Cosplay Day. The week culminated in a bake sale featuring delicious treats made by our very own Foods students, adding to the festive atmosphere!

# Calendar



## November 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday					
					Day 2	1 2					
3	Day 3 Year 4 Connect Camp Overnight	4	Day 4 Year 5 Connect Camp Overnight School Council - AGM	5	Day 5 Healthy Hunger (KH & RC) Year 7 Connect Camp Overnight	6	Day 1 Volleyball Finals Parent Conferences (PM)	7	8	Parent Conferences - No School	9
10	Remembrance Day - No School	11	PD Day - No School	12	Day 2 Year 6 Connect Overnight Camp Boys Basketball tryouts Healthy Hunger (KH & RC)	13	Day 3 Year 8 Connect Overnight Camp Kindy Rose Ceremony	14	15	Day 4 Year 2/3 Connect Camp Boys Basketball tryouts	16
17	Day 5 Year 9 Connect Camp Overnight	18	Day 1 Year 10 Connect Camp Overnight CAAS Board Meeting	19	Day 2 Year 11/12 Connect Camp Overnight Girls Basketball tryouts Healthy Hunger (KH & RC)	20	Day 3 Year 2/3 Connect Camp High School Information Session	21	22	Day 4 Girls Basketball tryouts	23
24	Day 5	25	Day 1	26	Day 2 Healthy Hunger (KH & RC)	27	Day 3	28	29	Day 4	30

## Links

[Calendar](#)

[Family Zone](#)

[Record Your Volunteer Hours](#)

[CAA Foundation Website](#)

[CAA Adult Choir](#)

