

# Calgary Girls' School

Dear Families of the Calgary Girls' School:

I want to extend my appreciation to everyone for the generous welcome I've experienced. I also want to thank the many volunteers including school supervisors, parent council, parents, dedicated teachers and support staff for the focus and dedication to the girls attending our school. In my short time here I want to recognize staff who spend countless hours before and after school doing extra-curricular activities with our students. Each and every one of us is important and collectively we make a huge difference.



I want to thank the teachers and the students in grade 6 and grade 9 who are vigorously preparing for the PATs. I am extremely confident that the teachers at CGS have prepared the students for success on the PATs.

We are entering the "home stretch" as we move into June. This means we are all working even harder and we are even more focused on finishing this school year strong. We have completed student "speak outs" with every grade level, right from grade 4 to grade 9. We are gathering student suggestions and looking carefully at student ideas. We are well into planning for the 2017-18 school year.

Finally, I want to say I have been extremely impressed with the school. The Calgary Girls' School is an extraordinary educational system that is pushing the boundaries and seeing tremendous success. The girls in our school have found their voice and are compassionate thinkers and problem solvers.

Please do not hesitate to drop in and introduce yourself. My door is always open.

Sincerely,

Yvonne DePeel  
Acting Principal



## Upcoming Events

**June 9**

PD Day

**June 15**

Spring Choral Concert

**June 27**

Brianne's Run/Rhythmic Wishes

**June 28**

Celebration of Learning/  
Grade 9 Graduation

## PATs.....

- June 19<sup>th</sup> – Gr 6 & 9 ELA Part B
- June 20<sup>th</sup> – Gr 6 & 9 Math
- June 22<sup>nd</sup> – Gr 6 & 9 Social Studies
- June 23<sup>rd</sup> – G 6 & 9 Science



**Women's Eve Gala 2017**

*A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination. But when you add to that a literate tongue or pen, then you have something very special" ...Nelson Mandela*

## Grade 4 News

The Grade 4's were thrilled to wrap up their mystery machine projects and they presented their hard work to the CGS community at the final assembly. They were excited to share how much they learned about simple machines, cooperative teamwork, and even the courage it takes to learn how to use power tools.

We have begun our unit on plant growth and change. We will be discovering what it takes for a plant to survive. We are currently germinating seedlings and will conduct experiments in different environments, including a greenhouse, to see how they grow in different conditions. We are also developing plans to reinvigorate the Bel Aire garden, learning about shape, space, 2D, and 3D objects as we plot out their beautiful green space.

## Grade 5 News

- Pink Tea Celebration of the many women who influenced Canada on June 16<sup>th</sup>;
- Explored Outdoor challenges at Camp Horizon;
- STEM Challenge 4 students placed 3<sup>rd</sup>;
- Grade 5's attending 2017 Induction of Inspiring Canadians in Sport and Life at Canada Sports Hall of Fame - June 14<sup>th</sup>;
- Spring Choral Concert June 15<sup>th</sup>;
- French Plays on June 8<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>.

## Grade 6 News

- The Grade 6's wrote their first Provincial Achievement Test in May, which included writing a narrative story and a newspaper article. It was a pleasure to read their creative ideas and great to see their growth as writers.
- In May students explored our role in the solar system, as we studied Sky Science. We began our topic of inquiry with a visit from the Astrodome and concluded by creating our own videos inspired by Bill Nye, the Science Guy.
- We are excited to build our skill set as forensic scientists and put our skills into action in the event of a crime.
- Students learning to be engaged and active citizens working with local and provincial governments.
- We are continuing to develop and practice transformations on the Cartesian plane, and form strong connections between all mathematical concepts explored this year.



**Grade 4 & 5 Hand Bells**

### Message from Vice Principal,

**Oliver Fisher....**As Vice Principal of the Bel Aire campus I want to thank all students and parents for what has been a highly successful year to this point. The grade 4's and 5's are finalizing programming and remain engaged with the rigorous educational opportunities presented to them daily. On any given day excitement permeates the halls and authentic learning is taking place. Keep an eye open for a mural completed by Bel Aire students to be hung on the parking lot entrance doors. The students collaborated on the project with local artist, Dean Stanton, and we're very much looking forward to seeing the final product. We are now in the midst of planning for another exceptional year at the Bel Aire campus for the 2017–18 school year. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. My door is always open.

*"The mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be kindled" ...Plutareh*

## Grade 7 News

June will be a busy month for Grade 7 as we wrap up our inquiries into Immigration in Humanities and Plants for Food and Fibre and Patterns, Relations and Linear Equations in Math/Science, through the conceptual lens of Growth.

To support the learning we have done this year, we will be participating in some very exciting opportunities. We will be heading out on an overnight trip to experience Southern Alberta with stops at Frank Slide, Head Smashed-In Buffalo Jump and an overnight stay at Lethbridge Community College. On June 6th, Dr. Allan Donsky will be joining us for a day of reflection and mindfulness. Finally, we will conclude our Go Girls program for the year by working with Colour Me Mine to create some beautiful pottery representing our beliefs and values.

## Grade 8 News

- Grade 8 OED option will be heading to an overnight camp June 12-14 in Waterton Lakes NP.
- Grade 8 Camp is June 1-2.

## Grade 9 News

Final days of our study of immigration trends, patterns, requirements and impacts

- Poetry study and spoken word;
- Circle Geometry and Chemistry wrapping up;
- Discovery Maker Time where students engage in their own projects;
- Preparation for graduation ceremony;
- Review in each curricular area and preparation for Provincial Achievement Tests.



**Grade 7 Eco-Tracks**

## BP Grant



- Leith Monaghan wrote this year's winning BP A+ for Energy Grant, Empowering Women through Renewable Technology
- Next year, the Grade 5 & 7's will be working with Nuru Energy ([www.nuruenergy.org](http://www.nuruenergy.org)) exploring how pedal power generators can empower women to become entrepreneurs in rural Rwanda.
- Students will follow two female entrepreneurs starting a pedal power business and they will learn about issues of poverty, environmental degradation, and how renewable energy can be a solution for the future.

## Fine Arts News

### Drama

A year in review in Drama:

Honk! The Musical began rehearsals on October 5<sup>th</sup> and performed March 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> at Central Memorial High School with over 80 students participating in the production.

CGS had 10 assemblies this year with each grade team taking on the challenge of curating, planning and hosting an entire assembly. The Grade 9 Drama students put on a rousing production of William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

Our Variety Show this past May had over 50 students participating with a wide variety of acts including acrobatics, spoken word, jump rope and dance mash-ups.

The Drama Department is celebrating Abby Storrow from Grade 8 and Isabel Parent from Grade 9 who both had winning entries for their monologues with the US based website: Drama Notebook.

### French

Le français

- Grade 4s and 5s will be performing their French plays on June 8<sup>th</sup> (except 5D, which will be June 13<sup>th</sup>). Families welcome. See Grade 4 and 5 wikis for details.
- Grade 6 is completing work on endangered animals and saving the environment. We will continue the year with work on emotions and physical feelings (feeling sick, for example).
- Grade 7 has just discovered the weather and customs of the Francophone world and students are now writing a letter to an imaginary friend in one of those countries.
- Grade 8 is completing restaurant skits where rich *bouillabaisse* or delicious *boeuf bourguignon* has been ordered. Most customers seem to leave without paying!
- Grade 9 is rewriting the ending of *Blanche Neige* (Snow White). To Go Girls the happy boring ending of a Prince Charming arriving to solve all her problems just doesn't fly.



**HONK! The Musical**

### **Summer Computing**

**Agreement...**Grade 4, 6 & 7 due to homeroom teachers by **June 15<sup>th</sup>**. Agreement can be found on the grade wikis or IT page of website.

For **Technology news**, please go to:

<http://calgarygirlsschool.com/it-services/>

### **2017-2018**

**Complementaries...**selection for complementaries will happen mid-June; watch for more information coming soon.



**Grade 5 Heritage Park**

## Music

The CGS Music program has had another successful year with many wonderful performances in the school and the Calgary community. We took part in many festivals including the Calgary Performing Arts Festival, Alberta International Band Festival and Choral Fest.

More recently, student's band program just completed their Spring Band Concert which was held at the University of Calgary at the Rosza Centre. It was a wonderful evening of music ending with a celebration of Canada's 150th. The Gr. 8 and 9 bands combined to perform the "Hockey Night in Canada" Theme along with a new composition written by Mr. Le entitled "Portrait of Terry Fox". It was also announced at the concert that next year's Gr. 8 and 9 band will be traveling to Whistler, BC for the Cantando Music Festival.

Our last concert of the year will be Spring Choral Concert at Knox United. This concert will feature all of our choirs including our handbell choir. See Music Wiki for more details.



**Grade 4 & 5 Music**

## Physical Education News

For PE the Gr 6 to 9 girls have been working on:

- Racquet ball skills by playing badminton and pickle ball;
- Developing their track and field skills by participating in long and short distance running, javelin, shot put, discus, high jump, and long jump;
- Jenna Martin-Evans, 2012 Olympian from Bridgewater, Nova Scotia will be joining us in PE to work and inspire us in Track and Field.



**Grade 9 Band Class**



**Sofia Ali, Grade 5**

Four students from 5D (Kathryn Schuster, Taylor Tough, Hafsah Adnan and Sofia Ali) were entered in the following poetry contest:

### Lieutenant Governor's Upper Elementary Canada 150 Poetry Contest

They all received certificates and Sofia Ali received honorable mention for her poem on "Mary Schaffer". They are publishing her poem with the school's name on the website.

*"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all" ...Aristotle*

## [Learning Strategists...how to maintain academic momentum during the summer](#)

In our experience, parents have often asked what it is that they can do over the summer months to maintain some academic momentum. Extra math sheets, academic apps, and reading booklets might help in this regard, but perhaps focusing energy towards developing a reflective and engaged learner could have greater impact. As students move from formal and structured environments of learning into their summer adventures, there is much opportunity for learning and personal growth. Parents can support their daughter's development, whether their daughter is enrolled in camp, engaging in recreational or arts programs, embarking on babysitting or having the chance to slow down and appreciate the relaxed days of summer break. Providing your daughter with opportunity to dialogue and reflect upon her experiences through conversation can be powerful. Giving space for talk and room for her own realizations to materialize is important. Find ways to honour her frustrations, the mistake making or failed attempts with a light heart and with shared laughter, knowing how integral these missteps are in our development. Find and share the numeracy involved in the real life experiences of grocery shopping and making cookies. What happens if she is given \$30.00 to build a grocery list for a meal of her choosing? Comment on the beauty of lyrics in music or note interesting plot twists available in movies viewed together. See how she fairs when asked her opinion of the political topics your friends or family discuss. Find a novel that you both will love to read each night. Available to you, is the wonderful landscape of learning that happens outside of the classroom that teachers cannot easily access from the context of a school. As her parent, you are most equipped to share the hidden curriculum of the summer with your daughter. Enjoy!

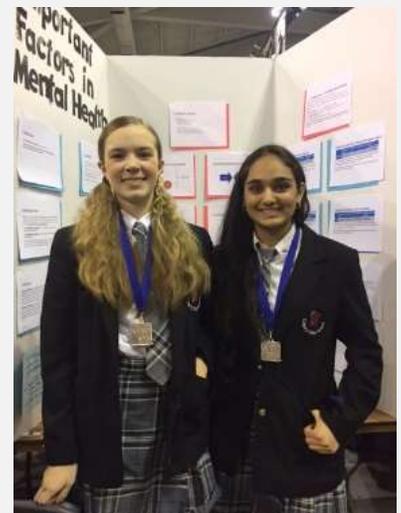
## **Events**

Lots of exciting field studies and events are happening during the month of June! Check out the CGS Events calendar <https://wiki.calgarygirlsschool.com/events/month.php>.



**Grade 7 Eco-Tracks**

**Message from Vice Principal, Valda Harris...** Reading is one of the most important things our children can do that directly correlates to academic success. Reading over the summer helps to ensure that learning is continuous. If you have not yet done so, please sign your daughter up with a Calgary Public Library card. Once into the website, have her sign up to Hoopla. Hoopla is a site in which your daughter can 'sign out' three books a month to read on her technology. There are also videos and music available – all for free! Keep reading, everyone!



**Science Fair 2017**

## A Message from your Parent Council

As we head into the summer break, we would like to thank all families and the CGS admin team for their support of council activities this year! The strength of our council really comes from the support we receive from everyone in the school community!

We would also like to thank our current executive team and committee chairs for their hard work and dedication this year. A special thank you goes out to Sian R. for organizing an amazing Women's Eve Gala and Leslie M. for organizing another seamless casino!

If you would like to know more about getting involved next year, please join us at our final meeting on **June 2nd at 9:30 am** at Lakeview. We have a variety of council opportunities available, including Co-Treasurer, Fun Lunch Coordinator(s), Volunteer Coordinator, and many more.

Amy Care & Nova MacIntosh  
Co-Chairs, CGS Parent Council  
[council@calgarygirlsschool.com](mailto:council@calgarygirlsschool.com)



**Free Fruit Program at Both Campuses**



**Bunnies - sweaters made by Parent Raffle prize at Women's Eve**



**Candy Cake made by Parent Raffle prize at Women's Eve**



**Used Uniform Sale 2017 – Run by Volunteers**

## Your Feedback Matters!

To help us with planning for next year, please take 5 minutes to fill out our parent survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8HGLK3Z>

## Looking to stay informed?

Join our [Parent Council Facebook Page](#) (search: Calgary Girls' School Parent Page)

## Save the Date!

### June Council Meeting & AGM

June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017, 9:30 am  
Lakeview Campus

### Back-to-School BBQ

September 7<sup>th</sup>, 4-7 pm  
Lakeview Campus

### September Council Meeting

Sept 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 6:30 pm  
Lakeview Campus

"Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence"...Robert Frost