



While the droning of bees filled the clear skies of late August, the energetic buzzing of voices returned to the freshly painted rooms of NCA. The students were back for another year and judging by the packed schedule of events since they arrived, 2023/2024 is proving to be epic! All the little worker bees—students and staff—are dizzily drinking in all that NCA has to offer and doing their own part to add vibrancy and sweetness to our community.

The School's Abuzz

August. 28-30

Orientation was full of fun and meaningful activities, giving students much fodder for mind, body, and soul. They engaged in creative icebreakers, including the “Kleenex Box Wobble”, “Pass the Pretzel”, and an off-the-wall relay race. They learned about four learning styles—imaginative, analytical, kinesthetic, and dynamic—and collaborated in groups on artistic posters representing their respective learning styles. They created skits to demonstrate models of leadership and major rules in the school. Finally, they broke into groups to distill and artistically represent the nineteen moral capabilities on which the school is based.



Not all the activities were indoor ones during orientation. The students had the opportunity to set out on a scavenger hunt to become familiar with the beautiful town of Stratford. Each group was given a map to find locations around the city and had to take photos of each location to prove they'd visited it. The students and staff also travelled as a group to the YMCA and toured their weight room, basketball court, healthy cooking space, and exercise room.



A local librarian also helped round out our week by speaking to us about the variety of resources, opportunities to use the 3D printer and other tools, plus other perks available to patrons of the Stratford Public Library.



Theatre at its Best



September. 7, 2023.

Students and staff enjoyed a unique outdoor theatre experience by attending a theatrical version of D. H. Lawrence's novella *The Fox* adapted by Canadian playwright Daniela Vlas-kalic. Upon our arrival at the Stratford Perth Museum, we wove our way through a forest to an open tent that exposed an actual soya bean field as the backdrop to the play's action.



The play's clever set design coupled with its impeccable cast made us believe we were on an Ontario farm in the early twentieth century witnessing an uncomfortable love triangle unfold between the characters, Jill, Nellie, and Henry.



Deepening the Wildfire Experience

September 11-15, 2023

At this year's Wildfire), we took a deep dive into the story of Saw Tu, a young immigrant boy struggling to find joy amidst difficulties in Canada, and we reflected on the lessons we learned in the art we produced in our creative groups. We also threw ourselves into spirited games of spoons and capture the flags, the coffee house, the moral dilemma and more. Truly, the week encapsulated this year's theme of "Wellspring of Joy".







Visit to the World's Seventh Wonder

September 24, 2023

The students visited the seventh wonder of the world, Niagara Falls), taking group photos with new friends and selfies against one of nature's most majestic backdrops. As well as enjoying the formidable rush and roar of the falls, they took in the views atop the Skywheel, one of Canada's biggest ferris wheels. The trip was capped off by some fun at the arcade.





Game On!

September 21

Students embraced a day brimming with friendship, joy, fun, and happiness at Sports Day. They took part in an unforgettable cliff conquering session at Pursuit Climbing. They also engaged in a soccer match that is sure to go down in the NCA history books.







Freak Outs and Farm Animals

On Sept. 22, the students shared smiles, laughter, and unforgettable experiences at the Stratford Fall Fair. Not only did they scream their lungs out on rides like “Freak-Out”, but they also appreciated Perth County’s rural charm by visiting the farm animals on display in the recreation centre.



And the Award goes to...

September 25, 2023

Students received awards for their excellence in life and in school. Many achieved at least one of the following awards: Honour Roll, Principal's Honour Roll, and Light Upon Light (for academic performance).



The Victory Lap

September 28, 2023)

The students ran their hearts out during the Terry Fox Run in a way that would have made our Canadian hero proud. They were told before the race that they could raise \$15 for every lap they ran,

and they took up the challenge with passion. The school raised a whopping \$1070, with Tomas Katunda running the most laps in support of cancer research. Yay team!



National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

September 29 & 30, 2023

Staff and students marked the national day for Truth and Reconciliation (Sept. 29/30) by wearing orange shirts to honour the many children who were forced to attend residential schools from 1885-1996. We watched a video educating us on the many abuses of the system that took away the language, culture, dignity, and many lives of the children who attended. Students and staff also shared prayers and songs devoted to the day and engaged in further discussions in the classroom. After school, we

all headed over to Falstaff Family Centre for an exhibition on Peter Henderson Bryce, a medical officer of health and whistleblower in the 1900s who brought attention to the large numbers of indigenous children dying in residential schools.



Ready, Set, Write

September 27, 2023

First place winner of the grade 7/8 cursive challenge with outstanding scores in both speed and accuracy is Roya Rowhani. The entire class participated with focus and attention to detail and put forth their best efforts.

(En)courage and Let the Creativity Flow

Our coffee houses have been a vibrant experience of trying new things, singing karaoke as a band, performing and pushing through the nerves, being courageous, and sharing dance, not to mention welcoming special guest Bigg Zee from London, Ontario



Upcoming Events

October 7

McCully Hill Farm & Thanksgiving Dinner

October 10

Progress Reports

October 14-17

Jr. Youth and Youth Institute Camp

October 16

Baha'i Holy Day- No School

October 17

Baha'i Holy Day- No School

October 24

United Nations

October 28

Shopping Trip & Canada's Wonderland