

# Deer Meadow Academy

## Programs of Excellence

**Philosophy:** When students are engaged in learning something they are passionate about, they achieve their full potential and love learning.

**Academy Foundation Principles:** Programs of Excellence require that students achieve and maintain high standards to remain in the academies. Academies offered will be based on student choice; only viable programs will be offered. Students unable or unwilling to put forth the effort required to remain in an academy may be enrolled in an alternate academy after consultation with parents at the discretion of school administration.

**Academy Streams / Programs of Excellence:** Academies will fall under 4 major categories: Student Leadership Academy, Fine Arts and Languages Academy, Career and Technology Academy, and Sports and Recreation Academy.

**Student Leadership Academy:** Focus will include: fundamental study skills, student leadership projects (community legacy opportunities), community involvement (adopt a street, seniors web surfing, food bank drives), resiliency, school climate initiatives (organizing assemblies, spirit days, intramurals, composting, recycling), school communications media (newspaper/newsletter, video arts, morning announcements), student council, global citizenship (organizing charity initiatives, awareness of issues). Partnership opportunities with Olds High School Student Leadership and Olds College will be explored.

**Fine Arts and Languages Academy:** Offerings may include: Band (traditional woodwind and brass), Jazz Band, Guitar, Choir, STOMP (percussion performance art), Theatre Arts, Visual Arts (painting, sketching, sculpture), French, and Spanish (when staffing allows).

**Career and Technology Academy:** Students will have the opportunity to explore their interests, passions, and skills while making personal connections to career possibilities. Offerings may include Foods, Sewing, Woodworking, Quiltmaking, and Computer Coding.

**Sports and Recreation Academy:** All students will receive instruction and training in the foundations of athletics. Core strength training, agility training, and training principles will be taught and continuously addressed. Sports psychology, ethics and nutrition will also be part of the general sports academy program. While primary instruction will come from Deer Meadow professional staff, partnerships will be explored with various community athletic organizations (Olds Grizzlys, Olds College, Red Deer College) to take advantage of their expertise. Academies may be offered in the following areas: Hockey, Volleyball, Basketball, Soccer, Softball/Baseball. Other offerings may be explored should there be student interest or qualified staff.

**Costs:** There is a General Academy Fee of \$40 for the year. In addition, tuition will be charged on the principle of cost recovery, with some programs costing more than others.

**Transportation:** Students will walk or be bussed to facilities off-site (Arena, CLC)

# **Deer Meadow Career and Technology Academy; Programs of Excellence**

Students interested in the science, technology, resources, business, and human services Academies.

## **Advanced Foods**

**Challenge:** How can we understand and create healthy, nutritious snacks and meals for students?

This class is designed to be an advanced class for students who have already taken their kitchen and food safety in Beginner Foods. More advanced meal prep and recipes will be tackled in this course. Students will be given more responsibilities in the kitchen, and face more difficult cooking tasks.

**\*This class is open to anyone who has completed Kitchen and Food Safety the modules in Beginner Foods.**

**The cost for this Academy is \$30 per semester**

## **Computer Coding**

**Challenge:** How can we use computer science to create usable apps and program-specific tasks?

Computer Science First is a programming course that involves block-based and theme-based coding using Scratch. The skills students learn will then be applied to making their own digital products with code.

## **Cosmetology**

**Challenge:** How can I explore topics related to esthetics and beauty for personal use as well as for a future career option?

This course will focus on developing the basic knowledge and skills in the cosmetology industry. Some topics of instruction will include basic nail care, hair braiding, skin care, and makeup application.

**Course Cost: Students will be charged a \$10 fee to cover the cost of consumables. In order to keep costs as minimal as possible, students will be asked to provide their own cosmetics that cannot be sanitized for class use.**

## **Quilting**

**Challenge:** How can I develop new creative skills using fabric?

You will learn the fundamental basics of how to properly and safely use quilting tools and equipment needed for measuring, cutting, and piecing. In this class, we'll put together basic quilt blocks where you will learn proper piecing, seam allowance, as well as ironing and pressing, squaring and sizing techniques. This class will work its way up to creating a baby blanket quilt.

**There will be a \$40 fee for this academy.**

## **Strategic Games**

**Challenge:** How can I improve my problem solving skills, strategic thinking, and learn to work cooperatively in a team setting?

Students will embark on a journey to design and create their own unique board game! This hands-on course will guide you through the process of conceptualizing, developing, and fine-tuning your game from start to finish. You will have the freedom to invent your own game mechanics, design the game board, create pieces, and craft your own set of rules. Prior to your own creation, you will learn to play a variety of strategy games that will require you to use your critical thinking, decision making, and anticipation skills while working individually and sometimes collaboratively with a teammate. You will challenge others in a competitive setting where fair play and mutual respect are expected.

## **Woodworking**

**Challenge:** How can I learn to build using tools?

In this class students will learn tool safety and about possible future careers. In addition, students will use a variety of tools to complete small building projects.

**Cost: There will be a \$40 fee to cover the cost of materials and tool replacement/maintenance**

## **Yearbook**

**Challenge:** How can we integrate photography and technology to produce a yearbook for Deer Meadow School?

This academy will allow students to plan, design, and publish the 2024/2025 yearbook for “the Meadow”, leaving their personal touches on a piece of EDMS history.

Using digital website planning and design, students will work together and with staff to collect photos and design a memory for Titans to enjoy forever.

## **Deer Meadow Leadership Academy; Programs of Excellence**

Students interested in the Leadership Academy must demonstrate skills in organization, communication, public speaking, problem solving and taking initiative.

### **Homework Help**

**Challenge:** Who am I as a learner? How can I use my strengths to improve my academic performance?

Students will develop and implement a plan, based on learning styles and strengths, to work toward improved core academic performance. A time to focus and have support for completing assignments and tasks assigned in your classes.

### **Leadership**

**Challenge:** How to promote to all students that they can find the courage to be a school leader. To promote discipline and self-confidence.

Cheers and chants, building relationships, organizing sock hops and pep rallies, building connections in the community, activities with the grade 5's and OES, talent show, spirit days, and helping people in our school, the community, and the province. You are required to demonstrate how to be the best person that you can be and to do things that are helpful to others. If this seems to be something that you are interested in then come on out and be a leader at DMS. You need to be ready to step out of your comfort zone and participate in planned activities.

# **Deer Meadow Fine Arts Academy; Programs of Excellence**

Students interested in the Fine Arts Academy must demonstrate skills in music, art, French, theatre, technology, and/or writing.

## **Arts & Crafts**

**Challenge:** How can I demonstrate my creative side using a variety of materials?

In this academy, students will create sketch book designs and craft projects using a variety of materials. They will be working with popsicle sticks, paper rolls, yarn, straws, paint, paper, and much more.

## **Art - Painting**

**Challenge:** How can I explore my creativity through painting on canvas?

Come and explore a fun and relaxing Painting Academy! Perfect for beginners and seasoned artists alike, this academy invites you to unleash your creativity while following a guided design. Choose from a variety of images, and let the colors and numbered sections lead you to a finished masterpiece. Each student will get to take home all their projects, but the main focus is their final 16" x 20" canvas painting that they will paint by number to create.

## **Art - Sketching**

**Challenge:** How am I able to explore my artistic side through sketching, while focusing on the Seven Elements of Art?

This course is designed to introduce students to the foundational principles of art through the practice of sketching and drawing. Students will focus on one or more of the Seven Elements of Art: line, shape, form, value, texture, space, and color.

**Students will need their own sketchbook for this class.** If a student does not have their own sketchbook, one will be provided for them.

## **Band**

**Challenge:** How can I begin to develop my band skills to improve myself as an individual and as a group?

This program is designed to be the 2nd and 3rd year of the middle school band program (building on our Grade 6 program). Grade 7 and 8 students will be combined for both classes of Band A and B. Grade 7 students will be introduced to more advanced music, which will require improved skill and technique on their instrument. Grade 8 students will continue to build on skills and technique learned last year. Requirements: a commitment to practice, to take part in the winter and spring concert, and perform in the concert band. *Students will also have the opportunity to participate in the band trip at Camp Caroline for two nights (in February) for a cost.*

**Band is a full year commitment.**

## **Ceramics**

**Challenge:** How can I use clay to demonstrate my creativity and create functional pieces of art?

Discover the magic of clay in this academy class! Unleash your creativity as you embark on a hands-on journey into the world of pottery and sculpture. In this engaging course, students will learn the fundamental techniques of working with clay, from shaping and molding to glazing and firing. Explore your artistic potential, express your unique ideas, and craft beautiful, functional pieces of art. Join us in this exciting adventure where imagination meets craftsmanship, and where every student becomes a clay artist in the making!

**There will be a \$20 fee for this academy.**

## **Deer Meadow Sports Academy; Programs of Excellence**

All Sports Academy students will receive instruction in the area of fitness and nutrition and how they apply to individual needs, while examining the importance of nutrition for optimal health and sport performance.

### **Badminton**

**Challenge:** How can I improve my athleticism and gain a deeper understanding of the game of badminton through participation in a variety of drills, activities and game situations?

The goal of this class is to introduce students to the fundamental skills and knowledge of the game of badminton. Emphasis will be placed on learning the proper technique for the serve, smash, clear, drop and net shots. As well, participants will acquire knowledge about badminton rules, terminology and strategy related to playing both singles and doubles.

### **Intro to Personal Training**

**Challenge:** How can I improve my personal fitness while also learning the basics of personal training in a fitness facility.

The goal of this class is to introduce students to the basics of fitness so they can confidently perform and assist others in the foundational movements necessary for everyday life. Students will gain an understanding of how to plan a structured workout routine to ensure they are strengthening all aspects of their body. We will also discuss the positive impact fitness can have on both physical and mental strength.

## **Soccer**

**Challenge:** How can I improve and develop my soccer skills and performance?

Come join whether you are a beginner player or a seasoned athlete! Students will participate in skills lessons and drills to further develop their soccer abilities. Students will participate in practices and scrimmage games against each other.

## **Track and Field**

**Challenge:** How can I explore my interest in Track and Field Events while taking my skills and knowledge to a new level?

**Description:** Students will develop fundamental skills to build the foundation for future success as a Track and Field athlete. Students will be introduced to all events and given the opportunity to try each one.

## **Triathlon Academy**

So, do you want to Tri, have fun and exercise at the same time? Then the triathlon academy is for you. In this academy, participants will train in swimming, biking and running. In June you will put all your hard work and training together and complete a final fun triathlon. Participants will also learn about proper sports nutrition, strengthening techniques and stretching exercises.

### **Prerequisites:**

- Swim one full length of the pool without stopping
- Have a fully functioning bicycle with approved bike helmet
- Running shoes in good condition
- Swim suit