

BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER

# J. ADDISON CONNECT



## IMPORTANT DATES FOR March & April

- March Break - March 10-11/2025
- St. Patricks Day - March 17/2025
- Persian New Year's Day - March 21/2025
- OSSLT Test - March 26/2025
- PA Day - March 28/ 2025
- Easter holidays - April 18-21/ 2025

This thoughtful gesture allowed everyone to indulge in flavors from different cultures while honoring the significance of the holiday. The celebration was a wonderful opportunity for the school to embrace diversity, foster inclusivity, and learn more about the customs and traditions that make Lunar New Year such a meaningful occasion for many around the world. The event was filled with laughter, smiles, and a shared sense of joy as everyone came together to usher in a prosperous new year.

## Day School

### Lunar New Year

January 29, 2025

J. Addison School hosted a vibrant and festive Lunar New Year Celebration, bringing together students, faculty, and staff to celebrate this important cultural event. The school community embraced the spirit of the holiday by wearing traditional red or gold clothing, symbolizing good fortune, joy, and prosperity for the year ahead. The vibrant colors filled the hallways, creating an atmosphere of excitement and unity. In addition to the colorful attire, the celebration featured a special lunch, showcasing a variety of delicious and traditional dishes that are commonly enjoyed during the Lunar New Year.



**York Federation of Students Cultural Explosion Performance Trip  
Andrew Djeumen (Grade 12 - USA/Cameroon)**

January 29, 2025

York University Federation of Students hosted their annual Cultural Explosion on Thursday, January 30th, 2025. This vibrant event celebrated global diversity through dance, music, and art. As a Grade 12 student from the USA/Cameroon, I was captivated by the big the audience and phenomenal performances being displayed by a multi-faceted group of students from York University. I can attest that this event fostered inclusivity as well as showcasing the rich cultural heritage of York University's diverse student body.



**Downtown Chinatown (Toronto) Lunar New Year Celebration Volunteer Activity  
Owen Kwok (Grade 12 - Hong Kong)**

February 1, 2025

On Saturday February 1st, 2025, day and dorm students of J. Addison School took part in volunteering for Toronto Chinatown Business Improvement Area Lunar Celebration in downtown Toronto. This volunteer experience showcased traditional performances alongside live calligraphy, Kung Fu demonstrations and lion dances throughout the festivities. Also, the festival took place at Dragon City Mall and Chinatown Centre where visitors had the opportunity to explore Chinese heritage through music, Sichuan's face-changing act and witnessing festive decorations to celebrate the new year with enthusiasm.



**STEM EDUCATION**

February, 2025

At J. Addison School, elementary students engage in exciting and hands-on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education, which fosters curiosity and a passion for problem-solving. Through interactive lessons and activities, young learners are encouraged to explore the world around them, using critical thinking and creativity to understand complex concepts in a fun and engaging way. Whether designing simple machines, experimenting with scientific principles, or building projects using technology, STEM education helps students develop essential skills such as teamwork, perseverance, and innovation. These experiences not only support academic growth but also prepare students for future challenges by nurturing their ability to think analytically and approach problems with a solution-oriented mindset. The school's commitment to STEM ensures that elementary students are well-equipped to excel in a rapidly changing world, fostering a love of learning that extends beyond the classroom.



**Residence Council-Lunar New Year Celebration (Dress Down Day & Cupcake Distribution)  
Elaine Zhang (Grade 12 - China)**

January 29, 2025

On Wednesday Jan 29th, 2025, Residence Council organized a Lunar New Year Celebration by having a "Dress Down Day" to wear stylish clothes and distributing beautiful cupcakes to every dorm student. Indeed, students felt happy to have such well-decorated cupcakes while celebrating together. Not to mention, while seeing each others' exquisite outfits. In conclusion, I would like to thank residence council's careful planning and hope that everyone had a great time like I did!

**Lunar Fest (Varley Art Gallery) Volunteer Activity  
Natalie Chan (Grade 10 - Hong Kong)**

February 29, 2025

On Sunday February 2nd, 2025, my friends and I volunteered at the Markham Varley art Gallery where we had the opportunity to set up an arts and craft station for kids in celebration of Lunar New Year. During this volunteer experience, we taught and guided the kids on how to make paper snakes with the use of various materials such as scratch paper, string, markers and aluminum foil. Additionally, my dorm peers and I watched a Taiwanese movie and enjoyed Chinese instrument performances. In summary, the kids that took part in making arts and crafts left with joy while holding their artwork proudly.



## Winter Activity Trip

### Bryan Tran (Grade 12 - Hong Kong)

January 31, 2025

Going on the ski trip to Lakeridge Ski Resort was a fun experience. I got the chance to learn how to ski and also try skiing with my friends. I had no experience of skiing at first, but the coaches at Lakeridge were very patient and helpful. They helped me learn the basics of skiing and then I was able to ski with my friends. It was exciting to try out the cable car and ski on a higher hill. The ski trip also provided ski equipment rentals, so I did not have to worry about not having any equipment. Overall, the ski trip was a wonderful and memorable experience for me and I am grateful to the dorm department for organizing this event.

*The ski trip was a memorable experience that allowed students to connect with nature, develop new skills, and create lasting memories with their classmates—all while gaining independence, resilience, and teamwork skills that will benefit them in the future.*



## New Students

February 3, 2025

We warmly welcomed new students, creating a sense of excitement and community for everyone involved. The day was filled with a series of introductions, orientations, and activities designed to help the new students feel at home. Teachers and staff were eager to make the newcomers feel comfortable and supported as they began their journey at the school. Existing students were also enthusiastic, offering friendly smiles and guidance to help their new classmates settle in. The school organized a variety of interactive sessions, where the new students had the chance to learn about J. Addison's values, academic programs, and extracurricular opportunities. This event not only marked the beginning of a new chapter for the new students but also reinforced the inclusive and welcoming atmosphere that J. Addison School is known for. It was a day of new beginnings, friendships, and excitement, with the promise of many shared experiences and growth in the days to come.



## Black History Month

February, 2025

Throughout the month of February, J. Addison School celebrated Black History Month with a series of educational and meaningful activities designed to honor the contributions and achievements of Black individuals throughout history. Students and staff engaged in discussions, lessons, and projects that highlighted the importance of Black culture, history, and the ongoing fight for equality. The school organized special events, including presentations, art exhibits, and performances, that allowed students to learn about influential figures like Martin Luther King Jr. Rosa Parks, and other trailblazers who made significant impacts in various fields. These activities provided an opportunity for the entire school community to reflect on the struggles and triumphs of the Black community, fostering a deeper understanding of diversity and inclusion. By celebrating Black History Month, J. Addison School reinforced its commitment to promoting cultural awareness, empathy, and respect, helping students appreciate the importance of diversity in shaping a more just and equitable society.

## Souper Hot Pot Restaurant Trip Sarkis Chan (Grade 11 – Hong Kong)

February 8, 2025

On Saturday February 8th, 2025, my dorm peers and I enjoyed a satisfying lunch at a restaurant called "Souper Hot Pot" in downtown Toronto. Based on my personal opinion, it is not the traditional hot pot you can experience in Asia but a street food called "Malatang" in Mainland China. Personally, I like that there were many variety of food items you can select to be placed in your pot at "Souper Hot Pot", such as different types of meat, veggies, seafood, noodles, meatballs and fish balls. Equally important, there were a wide range of different broths you can choose, such as the original spicy mala beef broth. From my personal experience, I picked so many meat and veggies with a tom yum soup base. One of the most fun aspects of this dining experience was that I was able to get a free drink and ice-cream by guessing the correct total cost for my food based on the weight of my hot pot. In summary, it was an amazing experience visiting this new restaurant in downtown Toronto in celebration of Lunar New Year!



**Chinese New Year Celebration  
Souper Hot Pot Restaurant in Downtown Toronto**



## A Taste of Learning with Grades 9 and 10

January 18, 2025

Our Food and Nutrition students recently put their skills to the test in a hands-on session. Working in groups, they prepared a variety of meals, salads, and desserts, bringing their classroom knowledge to life. Under the guidance of Mr. Amr, students applied what they had learned, showcasing teamwork, creativity, and enthusiasm. This hands-on experience not only reinforced their understanding of nutrition and meal preparation but also built confidence in their cooking abilities. Opportunities like these highlight the value of experiential learning, making education both practical and enjoyable.



## Grades 3 and 4 Honoring Black History Through Poetry

February 28, 2025

Our students proudly recited Ruby Bridges' First Day at School, showcasing their learning and appreciation of Black History. This experience allowed them to connect with history in a meaningful way, helping them understand the importance of diversity, inclusion, and standing up for what is right.

By engaging in activities like this, they develop a deeper appreciation for equality and the strength of those who paved the way for change. Stay tuned for the video of their recitation on our social media, where you can see their hard work and progress in action!



# Fun Times











# Students of the Month



**Crisden Z.**  
Grade 4  
Elementary School



**Tina C.**  
Grade 5  
Elementary School



**Khloe L.**  
Grade 8  
Elementary School



**Nini L.**  
Grade 10  
High School



**Djibril D.**  
Grade 12  
Dorm

February's virtue is WISDOM with the following traits:

- I will use my conscience as my guide.
- I will use my creativity and gifts for the good of all.

Character Education Virtue:  
**WISDOM**



## Contact Us

2 Valleywood Drive  
Markham, ON L3R 8H3

info@jaddisonschool.com  
Tel. 905 477-4999

[jaddisonschool.com](http://jaddisonschool.com)

[j.addisonschool](https://www.facebook.com/j.addisonschool)

[JAddison2002](https://twitter.com/JAddison2002)

[JAddisonJAS](https://www.youtube.com/JAddisonJAS)

It all comes together in the fifth... that's the Addison Advantage™



**Early Learning**  
Ages 3.8 to 6 years of age



**Elementary School**  
Grades 1 to 8



**Secondary School**  
Grades 9 to 12



**Boarding Program**  
Grades 7 to 12

