

BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER

J. ADDISON CONNECT**IMPORTANT DATES FOR January & February**

Jan 5 - First Day of School after Winter Break

Jan 22-27 - 1st Term Exam (High School)

Jan 28 - High School Exam Review

Jan 29 - PA Day for High School

Jan 30 - PA Day

Feb 2 - First Day of 2nd Term

Feb 16 - Family Day

Feb 21 - Open House

Feb 23-26 - Elementary Parent-Teacher Interviews

Feb 27 - PA Day

Day School

November 24-27, 2025

Fostering Student Success:**Highlights from Parent-Teacher Interviews**

Our Parent-Teacher Interviews this year were wonderfully successful, bringing together parents and teachers through more than 120 in-person and virtual meetings. These conversations provided a valuable opportunity to celebrate achievements, discuss progress, and collaborate on strategies for continued student success. We deeply appreciate our parents' ongoing trust and support, which play an essential role in helping our students thrive both academically and personally. Thank you for being an integral part of our school community.

Open House

November 21, 2025

Our November Open House was a resounding success! Families had a fantastic time connecting with our amazing students, passionate teachers, and supportive admissions team. They also discovered more about our academic programs, scholarships, and the Addison Advantage™, which empowers every student to achieve success. The event reflected the warmth, enthusiasm, and excellence that define J. Addison School.



Student Council Christmas Spirit Week

December 15-18, 2025

Holiday spirit filled the halls as our Student Council organized a fun-filled Christmas Spirit Week packed with exciting festive activities. Highlights included a Hot Chocolate & Candy Cane Sale during lunch periods, a Christmas Scavenger Hunt for elementary students, Winter Wonderland Day, Gym Game Day, Pajama Day, Bake Sale, Spirit Day, and a cheerful Christmas Movie Session.

In a wonderful act of kindness, students also hosted a surprise "Staff Appreciation Day" breakfast for teachers and staff in that week. They prepared scrumptious waffles, muffins, juice, and the most precious, heartwarming handwritten cards. Their efforts beautifully reflected the values of gratitude, teamwork, and leadership that define J. Addison School. Well done to our incredible Student Council for spreading joy and school spirit this season!



Elementary Curriculum Night

November 5, 2025

The Elementary Curriculum Night was a truly wonderful and engaging event that brought our school community together. Parents were warmly welcomed to campus, where they had the opportunity to explore their children's impressive classwork and creative projects. The evening offered an authentic glimpse into students' daily learning experiences, allowing families to better understand the curriculum and teaching approaches that inspire growth and curiosity.

In addition to showcasing student achievements, the event also fostered meaningful conversations between parents, teachers, and staff. Together, we discussed how strong communication and collaboration between home and school play a vital role in supporting every child's academic and personal success. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all parents who attended and thank you for your continued trust and partnership in your children's education.



Wilfrid Laurier University Visit

November 5, 2025

Our Grades 11 and 12 students visited Wilfrid Laurier University (WLU), one of our valued university partners, in November. Situated in the vibrant city of Waterloo, WLU is recognized for its innovative programs that connect academic excellence with hands-on, real-world learning experiences.

During the visit, students enjoyed an engaging campus tour led by WLU's Student Ambassadors, who shared insights about campus life, academic programs, and student support services. They also learned about the exclusive advantages and opportunities available to J. Addison graduates through our partnership with the university.

We express our heartfelt appreciation to the staff and representatives of Wilfrid Laurier University for their hospitality and for making this visit both educational and memorable.

“United Way-Climb Up” Volunteering Activity Natalie C. (Grade 11 - Hong Kong, China)

November 16, 2025

On November 16th, 27 day and dorm students volunteered for the United Way-Climb Up event at CN Tower, Toronto's most iconic landmark. We all woke up at 3:00 AM in the morning, got our volunteer T-shirts, and headed to our assigned positions. There were various jobs, including greeting participants, handing out wristbands, managing registrations, and working at water and food stations. All the high school students contributed throughout the night and into the next day. Imagine starting work early on a Sunday morning!

During the first part of the day, I worked as a wristband helper. I had to make sure the name list was delivered to the right people and cross off names once participants completed their registration. After four hours, when registration closed, I was assigned to help with coat check. Since I did a similar job before, I handled it pretty easily. My task was to receive numbered tags and find the corresponding bags or coats. It was pretty satisfying every time when I successfully found someone's belongings.

In fact, I learned that volunteering isn't just about earning community service hours; it's also a great opportunity to communicate with people and practice problem-solving skills. For example, congratulating runners who finished the climb or solving unexpected problems given by the managers. It may sound challenging, but I believe it's meaningful knowing that even a small contribution helped the event run more smoothly.



“Operation Christmas Child” Volunteering Activity Aneeqa S. K. (Grade 12 - Hong Kong, China)

November 27, 2025

On 27th November, students from J. Addison School had the wonderful opportunity to take part in a truly heart-warming volunteer event in support of Operation Christmas Child, a global initiative dedicated to sending gift-filled shoeboxes to children in need across the world. This meaningful experience allowed our students not only to give back to communities but also to learn firsthand the powerful impact of kindness, teamwork, and generosity.

Throughout the day, each student was assigned a specific role in the packing line to ensure every shoebox was prepared with care and love. My role involved unboxing the pre-made gifts, checking that each item included was appropriate, and adding extra presents so that every child would receive a box filled right to the top. Once completed, the shoeboxes were passed along to the next volunteer, who carefully wrapped them with tape to keep everything secure. Finally, we placed the finished shoeboxes into larger cartons, preparing them for their international journey.

The entire activity was not only enjoyable but also incredibly meaningful. Knowing that the gifts we prepared could brighten a child's day made the experience deeply rewarding. It served as a powerful reminder to all of us that even the smallest actions, like packing a simple shoebox, can make a big difference in someone's life.



Residence Council Leaders

Cristiano (Grade 9/10), Howard (Grade 9), and Jackie (Grade 9)

Being a part of the Residence Council is a great experience for us. It gives us an opportunity to learn how the dorm life functions and helps us build up the responsibility. It's very fun to help out the dorm students and dorm staff, and I enjoy being a Residence Council Leader too. - **Cristiano**

Residence Council teaches us a lot of leadership and self development skills. It shows us how to be a part of a team, and how to work effectively. We also get to know every dorm student and dorm staff, and create a homey environment for everyone. - **Jackie**

Living away from home teaches me independence. I share a room with a friend from another cultural background. We study and play together. Though I miss my family sometimes, dorm life makes me stronger and more mature. - **Howard**

Chemistry is FUN! Enthalpy of Neutralization

November 17, 2025



Grade 12 chemistry students engaged in a thermochemistry lab experiment, calculating the enthalpy of neutralization of a hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide reaction. Safety protocols were meticulously followed, with students wearing lab coats and goggles. We were impressed by their skillful use of our new measuring tools and their attention to proper laboratory procedures. “It was a rewarding experience to guide them through this hands-on learning opportunity”, said Mr. Roman, our amazing Science Teacher.

Residence Council Trivia Night Nicky Y. (Grade 12 - Hong Kong, China)

November 6, 2025

On Thursday, November 6, 2025, the Residence Council hosted a vibrant and unforgettable Trivia Night, drawing students together for an evening filled with excitement, teamwork, and plenty of friendly competition. Four eager teams gathered around the stage, all hoping to secure the single microphone placed at the center and be the first to answer a series of diverse multiple-choice questions displayed on the big screen. To keep everyone warm and energized, participants enjoyed steaming hot chocolate, a variety of flavorful teas, and ice cream sandwich bars, treats that were not only delicious but also added to the uplifting, cozy atmosphere of the night.

Each time a new question flashed onto the screen, players rushed forward with such enthusiasm that a few lighthearted collisions occurred, sparking even more laughter. The room buzzed with anticipation, and each attempt to grab the microphone came with a thrill of nerves and excitement. The energy remained high from start to finish, with cheers and smiles echoing throughout the event.

After a series of intense rounds and impressive displays of teamwork, our team emerged victorious, proudly claiming first place. As the winners, we were awarded a Pizza Gift Card, making the celebration even sweeter. Our strong team spirit and collective determination truly set us apart and made the experience all the more memorable.

Trivia Night was not only a competition, it was a celebration of community, collaboration, and joy. Thanks to the Residence Council and all participants, it became an evening that will be fondly remembered.



Triumphant 3-0 Victory in the US: Elite Girls' Basketball Team Shined at She Got Game Classic

December 19-21, 2025

Our Elite Girls' Basketball Team recently travelled to New Jersey, the USA, to participate in the prestigious She Got Game Classic Shore Games. Throughout the tournament, our girls demonstrated remarkable teamwork, determination, and the true spirit of the Jaguars. Their hard work paid off as they achieved an impressive victory, finishing the tournament with a perfect record of 3-0.

This outstanding performance not only highlights the talent of our student-athletes but also reflects the dedication and commitment of our coaching staff. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the players and coaches for their exceptional efforts and achievements. Your dedication to the sport and to each other has made us all incredibly proud. We look forward to supporting you in your future endeavors on and off the court. Go Jaguars!



Girls' Soccer Team Friendly Game

November 24, 2025

Our Girls' Soccer Team shone brightly in their recent friendly game against École secondaire Norval-Morrisseau, delivering an exceptional performance that reflected both skill and team spirit. The players' dedication, effort, and positive attitude were evident throughout the game, making the school proud.

The game also offered a wonderful chance for our students to meet new friends and strengthen community connections through sportsmanship and camaraderie. We sincerely thank all players for their enthusiasm and perseverance, and we express our deepest gratitude to our incredible Gym Teacher, Mr. Amr, for his leadership, encouragement, and unwavering support.



51st Annual Markham Santa Claus Parade

Jackie H. (Grade 9 - Myanmar)

November 29, 2025

On November 29th, 2025, J. Addison students and teachers joined the excitement of the 51st Annual Markham Santa Claus Parade, a cherished community tradition that marks the beginning of the Christmas season. Held along Markham's bustling main street, the parade brings together families, friends, and neighbours to share in the joy and spirit of the holidays.

The streets were alive with laughter, festive music, and colourful decorations. Marching bands, community groups, and performers of all kinds created an atmosphere full of cheer and celebration, delighting spectators of all ages.

J. Addison students took centre stage by dressing up as beloved cartoon characters and walking along the parade route. They connected with the crowd through photos, high-fives, and hugs, spreading smiles and holiday cheer throughout the community.

Volunteering at the parade was more than just fun; it was an opportunity for students and teachers to give back while strengthening teamwork and school spirit. This memorable experience enabled the J. Addison community to contribute to a cherished local tradition, creating joyful memories that will last a lifetime.

The 51st Annual Markham Santa Claus Parade was a shining example of community, celebration, and holiday spirit. J. Addison looks forward to continuing this tradition and participating in more events that bring happiness and unity to our town.



Boys' Basketball Friendly Game

December 15, 2025

Congratulations to our Boys' Basketball Team from the Focus for Success (FFS) session on their excellent performance against École secondaire Norval-Morrissette! The players demonstrated impressive skill, teamwork, and perseverance, reflecting the results of their consistent practice and determination.

Their energy and cooperation on the court were truly inspiring. We could not be prouder of their achievement and the way they embodied the values of discipline and school spirit. Keep up the great work, team! Your efforts continue to make the J. Addison family proud!



Volleyball Friendly Games

December 17, 2025

A huge round of applause to our Boys' and Girls' Volleyball Teams for their excellent showing in the friendly games against École secondaire Norval-Morrissette! Both teams demonstrated outstanding skill, great teamwork, and determination throughout the games. Their dedication and unity on the court truly captured the essence of the J. Addison spirit.

We are incredibly proud of their effort and enthusiasm. A special thank-you goes to our dedicated coaches, Ms. Keisy and Mr. Walter, for their guidance and commitment in helping our students continue to grow and excel.



Roller Skating & Eaton Centre Shopping Trip Sarkis C. (Grade 12 - Hong Kong, China)

December 6, 2025

Our dorm students went on an exciting trip to downtown Toronto, and I had the chance to try roller skating for the very first time! Our day began at Union Station, where TD Bank was hosting a festive winter roller skating event. Walking into the station, I was amazed by the colourful decorations, the upbeat music, and the buzz of people skating and laughing around the rink. I felt a mix of nerves and excitement. I couldn't wait to step onto the rink and experience it for myself.

Lacing up my skates, I immediately felt the thrill of the moment. At first, I clung nervously to the edge, unsure of how to move. But the encouragement from the skaters around me gave me the confidence to let go. Slowly, I found my balance, and soon I was gliding across the floor, wobbling but smiling the whole time. The music, the cheers, and the festive atmosphere made the experience unforgettable, and I realized how much fun roller skating could be, even for a beginner like me. After a few hours on the rink, we were tired and hungry, so we headed to the Eaton Centre for some shopping. The energy from skating stayed with me as we explored the mall. I found some cute accessories, discovered unique gifts, and enjoyed the bustling holiday atmosphere. Shopping after skating felt like the perfect way to wind down while still soaking up the city's excitement.

On the bus ride back to school, I couldn't stop replaying the day in my mind. My first roller skating adventure in downtown Toronto was filled with laughter, small victories, and joyful memories, a perfect way to kick off the winter season before the break.

Annual Dorm Secret Santa (Gift Exchange) Social

December 11, 2025

Vanessa L. (Grade 12 - Hong Kong, China)

On December 11th, 2025, our dorm was filled with laughter, excitement, and holiday spirit during the annual Secret Santa Gift Exchange. This event brought every student together for a night of giving, guessing, and festive fun.

In the weeks leading up to the celebration, each student submitted a Google Form listing three gift ideas, giving their Secret Santa helpful hints while keeping the \$20 limit in mind. I was thrilled to draw my friend's name and carefully selected a Sephora gift card from her wishlist. I wrapped it with care, added a cheerful card that read "Merry Christmas," and decorated the package with a bright, festive sticker to make it extra special.

The night of the exchange was nothing short of magical. The dorm team had set up a holiday spread of candies, cupcakes, and steaming hot chocolate, making the room feel cozy and cheerful. As gifts were unwrapped, everyone tried to guess their Secret Santa, sparking laughter and playful surprises. I was delighted to receive a game gift card from my Secret Santa, who, to my surprise, turned out to be my roommate! It was also hilarious watching my friend guess I was her Secret Santa almost immediately. The Secret Santa Gift Exchange was more than just presents; it was a chance to connect with friends and roommates, share laughter, and create lasting holiday memories before winter break. With joy, surprises, and plenty of festive cheer, this tradition reminded us all of the true spirit of the season: generosity, friendship, and fun.



Residence Council Christmas Caroling Lily Y. X. (Grade 12 - Peru)

December 16, 2025

In the month of December, as the Christmas spirit filled our school, the Residence Council organized a joyful Christmas Caroling activity for the entire school community. We visited elementary and high school classes, singing cheerful Christmas carols and spreading holiday happiness everywhere we went.

One of the most special parts of the experience was visiting the elementary classes. The younger students were extremely excited and happy to see us, especially when one of our members dressed up as Santa Claus. Their smiles, laughter, and excitement made the moment unforgettable. After singing, we shared candies with them, which made the little ones even more joyful and engaged. We also sang for teachers and staff around the school, who truly appreciated the festive surprise. This activity was meaningful because it was not just about singing songs, but about bringing people together and sharing kindness. The warm and joyful atmosphere could be felt throughout the school, making everyone feel more connected.

This experience showed me that simple acts, such as singing Christmas carols and sharing candies, can create lasting memories and spread a positive Christmas spirit to students of all ages.



Students of the Month (NOVEMBER)



Serena Raine F. C.
Grade 7
Elementary School



Sarah H.
Grade 11
High School



Lily Y. X.
Grade 12
Dorm

November's virtue is Justice with the following traits:

- I will treat others in a just, equitable and unbiased manner
- I will play by the rules, take turns and share
- I will be respectful of others
- I will seek peaceful solutions to problems

Students of the Month (DECEMBER)



Cynthia C.
Grade 6
Elementary School



Yesenia X.
Grade 12
High School



Aneeqa S. K.
Grade 12
Dorm

December's virtue is Self-discipline with the following traits:

- I will show self-control
- I will do things in moderation
- I will show patience
- I will develop effective habits

Character Education Virtue:
JUSTICE

Character Education Virtue:
SELF-DISCIPLINE

Fun Times







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