

BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER

J. ADDISON CONNECT



IMPORTANT DATES FOR March & April

Mar 16-17 - March Break

Mar 25 - Open House

Apr 3-6 - Easter Break

Apr 24 - PA Day

Apr 24 - High School Parent-Teacher Interviews

Structured Evening Study Support in Dormitory

Our boarding program provides a structured environment that supports students' academic success. Students in Grades 7-9 participate in supervised study hours from 7-8 PM, Sunday through Thursday. During this time, dorm staff maintain a quiet atmosphere while students complete homework and academic tasks. Staff members monitor progress, provide guidance when needed, and communicate with teachers or administration if additional support is required.

Students in Grades 10-12 are encouraged to manage their own study schedules and develop greater independence in their learning. For those seeking a quieter space, the residence study hall can be reserved through a Residence Counsellor.

The residence also promotes peer support, allowing students to learn from one another, while professional tutoring services can be arranged through the school when additional academic assistance is needed.



Day School

Open House

February 21, 2026

Our Open House was a wonderful success, made possible by the dedication of our students, teachers, and staff. We were delighted to welcome prospective families to explore our campus and experience the vibrant spirit of our school community. Guests had the opportunity to meet our passionate teachers, connect with student ambassadors, and learn more about daily school life.

Families also gained valuable insight into our academic programs, scholarship opportunities, and the Addison Advantage™, which emphasizes personalized support, academic excellence, and holistic development. We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to this meaningful event and to the families who joined us. We look forward to welcoming many of them into our community in the near future.



**Black History Month at York University
WORD, SOUND, and POWER Cultural Field Trip
Sarkis C. (Grade 12 - Hong Kong, China)**

February 10, 2026

Attending York's Black History Month celebration this year was a truly meaningful experience. From the moment I arrived, there was a warmth in the room, an energy that felt inviting, vibrant, and deeply rooted in community. The performances were powerful and authentic, with each artist sharing their story in a way that felt personal and heartfelt.

The music shaped the atmosphere of the entire evening. It wasn't simply background sound; it connected people. You could see it in the smiles, the quiet nods, and the way the rhythm moved through the crowd. The food added another layer to the experience. Sitting together, sharing meals, and engaging in conversation transformed the night from a formal event into a genuine community gathering.

One especially memorable moment was seeing Jean Augustine in attendance. Reflecting on her profound contributions to Black history in Canada made the celebration feel even more significant. Her presence was a powerful reminder that Black History Month honours not only the past, but also the individuals who continue to influence and shape our present and future.

Overall, the evening was joyful, empowering, and inspiring. It was more than something I attended; it was something I felt deeply and will carry with me long after the night ended.



**Lakeridge Ski Trip
Aneeqa S. K. (Grade 12 - Hong Kong, China)**

February 23, 2026

On February 23rd, our school organized an incredible ski trip to Lakeridge, and for me, it was an unforgettable experience, especially since it was my very first time snowboarding!

The day began with a mix of excitement and nerves. Snowboarding looked thrilling, but also a bit intimidating. Fortunately, we had a skilled coach who guided us through the basics during our first hour. We learned how to balance on the board, control our speed, and make simple turns. Having an instructor made all the difference, giving me the confidence to hit the slopes.

The highlight of the trip was sharing the experience with friends. Snowboarding together turned every fall into laughter and every small victory into a celebration. By the end of the day, I felt proud of stepping out of my comfort zone and trying something completely new.

Overall, the Lakeridge ski trip was a wonderful experience. I'm so glad I participated, it gave me the chance to try snowboarding for the first time, create lasting memories, and spark a love for the slopes. I can't wait for the next adventure, this is just the beginning of many ski trips to come!



Trent University Presentation

January 13, 2026

We were pleased to welcome a representative from Trent University to J. Addison School for a special presentation. This informative session provided our students with valuable insight into Trent's vibrant campus life, distinctive academic programs, and key admissions information. Opportunities such as these empower our students to explore post-secondary pathways with clarity and confidence.

As a valued university partner, Trent University is recognized for its excellence, ranking No. 1 in Ontario for undergraduate teaching and student satisfaction. Known for its welcoming and supportive community, Trent offers an environment where students can thrive both academically and personally. We sincerely thank Trent University for strengthening our partnership and for continuing to provide meaningful opportunities that support our students' future success.

**Elementary
Flower-making Class**

February 5, 2026



Learning can be both creative and meaningful. Our elementary students recently expressed their artistic talents by crafting beautiful handmade flowers to share with their loved ones. This thoughtful activity not only encouraged creativity but also reinforced the values of gratitude and kindness. At J. Addison School, we are committed to nurturing imagination while fostering respect, compassion, and good manners each and every day.

Celebrating Top 25% Results in University of Waterloo's Canadian Senior Math Contest

January 21, 2026

The school is proud to announce that three students have achieved remarkable success in the Canadian Senior Mathematics Contest 2025, hosted by The Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing (CEMC) at the University of Waterloo. Among over 15,000 participants, Grade 12 students Jason J. and Víctor C. L., along with Grade 10 student Tony C., distinguished themselves by placing within the top 25%, earning the Certificate of Distinction for their exceptional performance.

In addition, Jason J. achieved the medal cutoff and was awarded a Contest Medal, recognizing his exemplary level of mathematical proficiency.

We also extend our sincere appreciation to Mr. Pat A, Principal, for his leadership and steadfast support in guiding our students through contest preparation. Congratulations to Jason, Víctor, and Tony on this distinguished achievement, which exemplifies the academic excellence and scholarly spirit of the J. Addison School community and serves as an inspiration to future learners.



Elementary Little Canada Trip

February 6, 2026

Our elementary students recently embarked on an exciting day trip to Little Canada, where they experienced the beauty and diversity of our nation in miniature form. This immersive attraction allowed students to explore intricately crafted models that represent various iconic landmarks and regions across Canada. From the stunning landscapes of the Rockies to the vibrant streets of Toronto, students were captivated by the detailed displays that brought Canada's history and culture to life. The interactive exhibits provided engaging learning opportunities, sparking curiosity and fostering a deeper appreciation for the rich tapestry of Canadian heritage.

The trip not only reinforced classroom lessons about geography and culture but also encouraged teamwork and collaboration as students navigated the enchanting miniature world together. We are grateful for the support from parents and staff that made this memorable experience possible.

Student Council Lunar New Year Celebration

February 17, 2026

The spirit of Lunar New Year filled the school with excitement as our Student Council hosted an incredible cultural celebration during lunchtime. Students were treated to a variety of refreshing beverages and snacks, including homemade milk tea, non-alcoholic pineapple beer, iced lemon tea, cold Ovaltine milk, and tasty spring rolls. The festive gathering created a warm and welcoming space for students to celebrate together.

Students enthusiastically participated by wearing red, yellow, and pink, as these are the traditional colours symbolizing happiness, prosperity, and good fortune. The celebration provided a wonderful opportunity for students to experience different cultural traditions while deepening their understanding and appreciation of global diversity. Events like these reflect our school's commitment to fostering inclusivity and respect within our vibrant community, making the Lunar New Year celebration both memorable and meaningful for everyone involved.





Lunar New Year Varley Art Gallery Volunteer Activity
Anthony Y. L. (Grade 11 - Peru)

February 22, 2026

Volunteering at the Lunar New Year event was a meaningful and memorable experience for me. As a Grade 11 student, I was excited to support an event that celebrates culture, art, and community. From the moment I arrived, I could feel the kindness of the people who explained to me what I should do.

My role as a volunteer was helping children and adults on how to make their own paper horses in celebration of Lunar New Year. I would have to state that it was a beautiful experience to support and help their creativity, and to witness so many beautiful creations. One of the highlights of the volunteer event was a cardboard theatre show. The performance was creative and engaging, using simple cardboard props to tell a story in a fun and imaginative way. Many children and families gathered to watch, and their reactions showed how much they enjoyed it.

Overall, I must express that volunteering at the Varley Art Gallery was a valuable experience that strengthened my leadership skills and allowed me to give back to the community. I am grateful for the opportunity and look forward to participating in similar events in the future.

Toronto Black Film Festival Volunteer Activity
Cristiano S. (Grade 10 - Trinidad & Tobago)

February 14-15, 2026

The Toronto Black Film Festival at Imagine Cinemas was a vibrant and uplifting event where J. Addison students were proudly selected to help celebrate and highlight Black arts and excellence. Being part of this festival was both an honour and an unforgettable experience.

Throughout the event, our students had the opportunity to welcome guests, assist visitors, and serve as ushers for attendees. In addition to supporting the festival's operations, we were also able to participate fully in the experience, watching films, attending events, and engaging in conversations with talented filmmakers and visitors from diverse backgrounds. Speaking with directors and learning about their creative journeys made the festival even more inspiring.

During the festival, I had the chance to watch two films, one of which quickly became my favourite. The film focused on Caribbean heritage and culture, and its themes felt especially meaningful and close to home. It was powerful to see stories from our communities represented on screen. Volunteers were also treated to a wonderful selection of food and drinks from different cultural backgrounds. On Saturday, we enjoyed delicious Jamaican cuisine, while Sunday featured flavourful Nigerian dishes. These shared meals provided a great opportunity to relax and connect with other volunteers. Many of them had fascinating stories to share, one of my favourite conversations was with a Trinidadian and a Vincentian volunteer who enthusiastically shared their experiences and memories of Carnival.

Overall, the festival was not only entertaining but also educational and empowering. It brought together diverse communities, encouraged meaningful conversations, and showcased the creativity, resilience, and richness of Black culture. I am truly grateful to have been part of such an impactful event and would gladly participate again in the future.



Student Council
Valentine's Day Celebration

February 13, 2026

Our Student Council hosted a wonderful celebration in honour of Valentine's Day, bringing the school community together to share the spirit of kindness and appreciation. Students and staff enjoyed a delightful treat of ice cream and waffles while exchanging thoughtful Valentine's grams filled with warm messages. The festive atmosphere was made even more incredible as students and staff proudly wore red, pink, and white to show the school spirit.

We extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who participated and supported this meaningful initiative. This heartwarming celebration not only spread kindness and positivity but also demonstrated the strong sense of community that makes our school so special.





Lunar New Year Spring Couplets Workshop

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

January 28, 2026

On January 28, 2026, our dormitory hosted a special cultural workshop in the common room titled “Hand-writing Spring Couplets (Fai Chun).” Students from across the dorm participated in the event in small groups. The workshop was organized to celebrate Chinese New Year while also sharing and promoting Chinese culture within our dorm community.

I had the privilege of serving as one of the organizers of this event. In addition, I led the instructional portion of the workshop, where I taught students how to write traditional Chinese Fai Chun using a Chinese calligraphy brush.

During the session, I demonstrated the proper way to hold and control a calligraphy brush and introduced several basic techniques used in Chinese calligraphy. I also explained the meanings behind common Chinese blessing phrases traditionally written on spring couplets, expressions that wish for good fortune, happiness, prosperity, and success in the coming year.

Students began by writing their own blessing phrases on rectangular sheets of red paper. Afterwards, each group worked together to create a square spring couplet representing their dorm room. It was inspiring to see everyone experiment with brush strokes and express their creativity through calligraphy.

At the end of the workshop, students brought their completed Fai Chun back to their rooms to decorate their doors and walls in celebration of the upcoming New Year. The red couplets added a festive atmosphere throughout the dormitory.

I truly appreciated the enthusiasm and creativity shown by all the students who participated. For me, this event was especially meaningful because it gave me the opportunity to share an important part of my culture with others before the arrival of Chinese New Year. Thank you for the opportunity to reflect on and share this memorable experience.



Retirement Farewell of Ms. Cyble

February 27, 2026

Words cannot fully express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to Ms. Cyble, who has been a cherished member of our custodial department and dorm community for many years. Throughout her time at the school, she has demonstrated remarkable dedication, kindness, and professionalism in everything she has done. Her trustworthy nature and warm personality have made her not only a valued member but also a comforting presence for our dorm students.

As she begins this new chapter of life, we wish Ms. Cyble a joyful and well-deserved retirement filled with happiness, health, and wonderful new adventures.



Nourishing Minds and Bodies at Café J

At J. Addison School, we believe that student success begins with a healthy balance between academic growth and personal well-being. Café J plays an important role in supporting our students by providing delicious and nutritious meals that help fuel both their minds and bodies throughout the school day.

Our professional chefs carefully prepare each meal with attention, care, and a commitment to quality. The menu is thoughtfully designed to meet students' nutritional needs while offering a variety of flavours that students enjoy. By combining balanced ingredients with fresh preparation, Café J ensures that students receive the energy they need to stay focused, active, and engaged in their learning.

Student Council Black History Month Celebration

February 26, 2026

Student Council organized an extraordinary Black History Month celebration that truly brought our school community together. During lunch sessions, students had the unique opportunity to indulge in an array of flavourful culinary delights, showcasing the rich traditions of Caribbean and African cultures. From the refreshing Ting Grapefruit Drink to the delightful Coconut Ice Cream, each dish was a testament to the diverse heritage we celebrate. Notably, students enjoyed traditional favorites like Sorrel Ginger Drink and Caribbean Jams paired with Crix Crackers, as well as the sweet treat of Coco Bun. This event not only provided a delicious experience but also served as an educational platform, allowing students to learn about the significance of these dishes and their cultural origins. The enthusiastic participation of students, who donned black, red, green, or yellow attire in honour of Black History Month, further enriched this celebration, fostering a sense of unity and pride within our diverse school community.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Café J for their generous support in making our Black History Month celebration a delicious success. Their festive lunch menu featured a variety of authentic dishes, including Jerk Chicken and Jamaican Beef Patties, which were met with enthusiastic praise from our students. The amazing atmosphere created during lunch allowed students to enjoy these cultural dishes while engaging in meaningful conversations about heritage and history. It is through such collaborative efforts that we can provide our students with enriching experiences that celebrate diversity and foster a sense of belonging. We look forward to more opportunities to celebrate culture and community together in the future!



Celebrating Our Senior Athletes: Girls' Basketball Senior Night

February 27, 2026

Our Elite Girls' Basketball Team recently celebrated a memorable Senior Night, honoring our dedicated Grade 12 players and recognizing their contributions to the team throughout their time at J. Addison School. The event was a meaningful opportunity to thank our graduating athletes for their commitment, teamwork, and leadership both on and off the court.

The evening concluded with an exciting game against Orangeville, bringing the season to a spirited close. We extend our sincere appreciation to our talented student-athletes and our outstanding coaches for their hard work, perseverance, and passion throughout the season. We are proud of the determination and sportsmanship demonstrated by our team and wish our graduating players every success in their future endeavors. We look forward to many more exciting moments and achievements from our basketball program in the seasons ahead.



Elite Boys' Basketball Senior Night and Sweet Sixteen Victory

March 3, 2026

Our school proudly celebrated the Grade 12 players of the Boys' Basketball Team during a special Senior Night celebration, marking the dedication and commitment they have shown throughout their years at J. Addison School.

The evening became even more memorable as the team delivered an outstanding performance in the Trillium Men's Sweet Sixteen matchup, securing a thrilling victory over JCM. With strong determination and excellent teamwork, the players demonstrated the passion and discipline that define our basketball program.

We extend our gratitude to the coaches for their guidance and dedication, and we congratulate the entire team for this exciting achievement. As we celebrate our seniors and this important win, we look forward to continued success for the program and wish our graduating players the very best in their future journeys.

Students of the Month (JANUARY)



January's virtue is Unity with the following traits:

- I will make everyone feel welcomed and appreciated
- I will value all people
- I will use my words to help and not harm

Students of the Month (FEBRUARY)



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:
UNITY

Character Education Virtue:
WISDOM

Fun Times





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