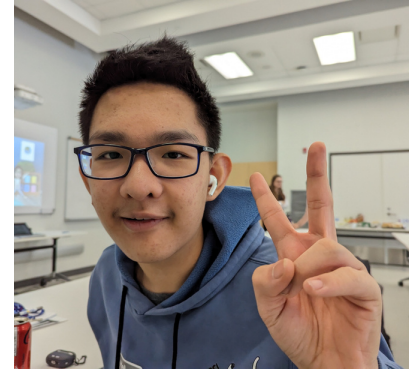


WELCOME TO THAMES VALLEY!

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION



On February 3, 2023, Thames Valley District School Board's International Education office was proud to host our student orientation to welcome new international students for the upcoming academic term. The event was attended by 70% of our new students! The students were given an overview of the services and support available to them, such as health and safety, academic support, and student clubs. The orientation also included a discussion about the various cultural differences that international students might experience. The orientation concluded with a Q&A session and great conversations between students and our staff. It was especially lovely to see students from different backgrounds getting acquainted and becoming friends. Our international education team is always excited to welcome new students to Thames Valley. We hope all students can make meaningful connections with both their peers and the local community. We are confident this group of students will make the most of their stay in London, Ontario!



The orientation is a great way for students to mingle and meet other international students. We also find that those students who attend our orientation feel more prepared and informed for their TVDSB experience.

Ashley Fortin

International Admission Coordinator

HELLO, THAILAND!

TVDSB IN BANGKOK



Thames Valley District School Board participated in Alphe's Study Travel Education Fair in Bangkok last month. The event was a great success, and our team had a productive time showcasing our programs to agents from around Asia.

At TVDSB, we pride ourselves on providing students with a well-rounded education that prepares them for success in their academic and professional careers. With our excellent teachers, strong academic programs, and deep understanding of K-12 education, we are confident that we can offer international students the resources they need to thrive in Canada.

Our international education team is committed to supporting its international students throughout their study in TVDSB, and we look forward to welcoming new students to our community. To our future international students, we hope to see you soon!



We are thrilled to continue working with our partnering agents to bring high-quality education and study experience to international students worldwide.

Jay Zhang

International Programs Coordinator

JAEYOON HWANG

11th grade student at H. B. Beal Secondary School



Tell us a little bit about yourself.

My name is Jen, I came to Canada in December 2019 to study, and it's been a little over 3 years. I'm living in London with my aunt's family and a shaggy white cat. Currently, I'm attending H.B. Beal Secondary School. Since I was very young, my dream has been to be a teacher, and that is still my goal. I feel the greatest happiness when I teach, and I really want to teach students in Canada from the experiences of my own life.

How do you like studying in Canada?

First, it was my best decision to come to Canada. Of course, there are so many difficulties and sometimes I feel lonely, but if I hadn't come to Canada, I don't think I would have gone through all these struggles in Korea. I have my mom and dad who take care of me always in Korea, which makes me comfortable and secure, but I think I would never be an independent person if I stayed there. I'm still trying and putting in a lot of effort, but I learned many ways to accomplish things by myself since being separated from my parents.

What's your favourite thing about your TVDSB school?

It may be true for all high schools in Canada, but I was so glad that I could experience so many various activities by learning in this country. Holidays, Sports events, and especially Christmas activities felt so new and different from Korean schools.

Can you tell us about a course you really enjoy?

The best class I've ever taken in high school is French. I learned French for the first time since coming to Canada. French was an attractive language to learn for me, and I think it sounds very beautiful. I've been taking French classes every year, and the more I learn, the more attractive parts I find.

Have you joined any clubs at school? What do you enjoy the most?

After a very short time, I joined the knitting club. It was the club that perfectly fit me because I wanted to practice knitting or sewing. Every Wednesday during lunchtime, we gathered and had activities. I still remember the scarf that I made that time.



Wherever you go, new things are always unfamiliar and scary. I went without fear at all and went through hard times later, but many international students and immigrants say they were afraid at the beginning. Even if you are not good at English or have bad pronunciation, don't be afraid! Canadians are so much nicer than you think, and no one will make fun of you because you can't speak English well. If you really want to do well here, always be strong and confident! Talk to them first, do not hesitate to ask, try harder and be proactive. That will make no one disdain you ever. When you feel lonely and miss your home, write diaries, or find hobbies that you can do on your own. Even if you're not with someone, you can feel your strong inner self through it. Always remember that your side is yourself.