

# Willowdale Middle School



## Passover Holiday



Passover begins April 12 at sundown and ends at nightfall on April 20, 2025. We wish all our students, staff and families observing Passover this weekend, a Happy Passover. We hope you enjoy quality time with loved ones.

## Grade 8 Photo Graduation Day

**FINAL REMINDER** - Grade 8 students will have their graduation photo day on **Tuesday, April 15, 2025**. If students miss this day, students can have their photo taken on April 19 at Senator O'Connor School (60 Rowena Drive). Parents may book an appointment by visiting [www.bookmygrad.ca](http://www.bookmygrad.ca).



## Pizza Day

Our last pizza day for April is on Tuesday, April 29.

Our new block and final days of pizza will be on the following days:  
May 13, May 27, June 11, and June 23.

Registration for these fun-filled, delicious days opens on **April 29 and closes on May 7**. The cost is \$40.00 for all four pizza days (May & June) which includes: 2 slices of cheese or pepperoni pizza; 1 Juice box; and 1 small bag of chips.

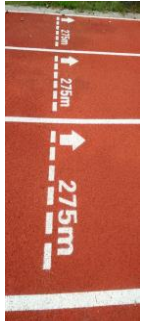
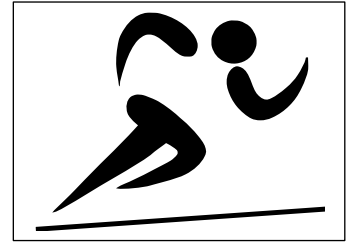
This initiative is proudly organized by the School Parent Council, and all funds raised will go toward enhancing the students' learning experiences at our school. Don't miss out on the opportunity to enjoy pizza while supporting a fantastic cause! If you have any questions, please feel free to send an email to [sc.willowdalemiddleschool@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:sc.willowdalemiddleschool@tdsb.on.ca). Thank you to our parents for their ongoing support, and a special thank you to our School Council volunteers for their hard work and commitment!



## WMS Track & Field Day

Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> is our big Track and Field Day at Willowdale! Together, the whole school, all grades will take part in many different Track and Field activities for a day of fun in the sun (hopefully we get some sun). We will start in the morning and will go until the end of the day, breaking for lunch at our regular time. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately. Students

will need loose fitting clothing appropriate for outdoor active games and running shoes. Based on our recent weather, it could be a cool day, so a sweater is needed as well. As this will be an active day, please also ensure students have enough snacks and water for the day, in addition to their regular lunch.



Our WMS Track and Field Day is also used to select our Track and Field team that will compete at Esther Shiner Stadium on May 7<sup>th</sup>. All students will have the opportunity to participate and try all the events, with the hopes of finding our next Track and Field stars who will proudly represent Willowdale on May 7<sup>th</sup>. LET'S GO WILDCATS!

## ECO Club Conference



The members of Willowdale Eco Council had a chance to participate in the TDSB Youth Leadership Conference at Downsview Park on Thursday, April 10. They had an opportunity to be part of some exciting and inspirational conversations about climate action and had a chance to wear their leadership hats by facilitating an activity to with other schools. Thank you to Ms. Hamdule for allowing our students to take part in this conference!



## WMS Speech Competitions

Willowdale hosted our in-school speech competitions this week. Congratulations to all our participants in Grades 6, 7 & 8! The speeches were very well done and we are proud of our students. Great job!

Winners of our WMS competition will be representing Willowdale at the "TDSB Speech Arts Festival" on April 23<sup>rd</sup> for Grade 6 & 7 students, and April 24<sup>th</sup> for Grade 8 students at Don Valley Middle School. Good luck to all our students participating! A special thank you to Ms. Stevenson and Ms. Dolce for organizing our WMS speech event, and for preparing our contestants!



# Yearbook Cover Contest

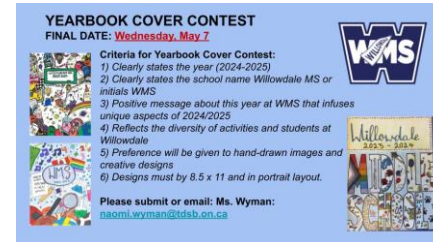
Are you interested in participating in our annual WMS yearbook cover contest? If you are, please ensure you meet the following parameters

**DUE: Wednesday, May 7th**

## Criteria for Yearbook Cover Contest:

- 1) Clearly states the year (2024-2025)
- 2) Clearly states the school name Willowdale MS or initials WMS
- 3) Positive message about this year at WMS that infuses unique aspects of 2024/2025
- 4) Reflects the diversity of activities and students at Willowdale
- 5) Preference will be given to hand-drawn images and creative designs
- 6) Designs must be by 8.5x11 and in portrait layout.

Please submit or email Ms. Wyman at [Naomi.wyman@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Naomi.wyman@tdsb.on.ca)



# Grades 7 & 8 Co-ed Volleyball Teams



On Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup> our Grade 7 and Grade 8 Co-ed Volleyball teams played in the Conference Finals at Pleasant View MS after qualifying from their regular season with exceptional performances. In the semifinals, after both teams fought hard games against very strong teams, Pleasant View Grade 7 and Don Valley Grade 8, our Wildcats fell short in their attempt to the championship titles. We are extremely proud of their great season full of challenges and successes. Way to go, Wildcats! Never stop your athletic endeavours! A special thank you Mr. Batkay for coaching our amazing athletes!

# Upcoming School Council Meetings

Our next School Council meeting will take place on **Wednesday, May 7, 2025**, beginning at 6:30PM in our school library.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view our approved school council meeting minutes.





## Virtual Math Workshops

Families with students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 are invited to attend a virtual workshop hosted by the community of schools of Eastview, Galloway, George B Little, Joseph Brant, St Margaret's, and West Hill Public Schools. These workshops will provide parents with practical strategies to support their child's math learning at home, building confidence, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. For more information, please see the flyer attached on our website.



## Oral Health Month



April is Oral Health Month in Canada. School children across Canada from Junior Kindergarten to Grade six are going to brush their teeth. Willowdale Grade 6 students are participating in the **Brush-A-Mania** program. This program is run by the Scarborough Rotary Passport Club. They generously donated to each Grade 6 student a toothbrush and toothpaste. This is to encourage students to learn about proper oral health techniques. The Canada-Wide Brush-off started April 4. Teachers are asked to track their students' brushes on the Brush-a-mania classroom charts for the month of April. Ten classes in Toronto will be randomly drawn for a Pizza Nova lunch.

*Parents and students who want to enter online for elementary students up to Grade 6, and who brush and/or floss their teeth 100 times within any 30-day period will be emailed a Brush-a-mania certificate of achievement. Their name may be entered into a draw to win a Nintendo Switch or one of fifty Android tablets. For more information, please visit <https://brushmania.ca/>*

## Indoor Shoes

**Spring is here!** This means that our field is very muddy, as the ground continues to melt. It is essential that all students bring indoor shoes to wear while inside the school. We thank you for your assistance with this.



## Reach Ahead Program

The Grade 8 to 9 Reach Ahead credit course is available only in person. If your child is interested in applying, please see the link for more information: [Conedsecondarycreditprogram](#)

Please see under the **Continuing Education Summer School 2025** heading.

## Lunch Box Program



We are excited to offer “The Lunch Box” program for the 2024/2025 school year! A reminder that Parents/Guardians may purchase their child’s lunch through this program by ordering on-line. **Orders must be in by Sunday at noon for the upcoming week.**

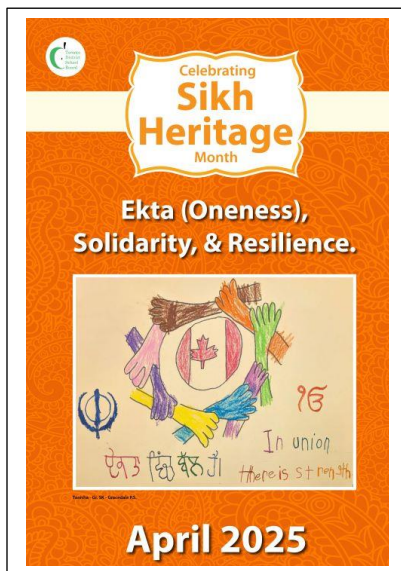
You can choose to participate for all five days (Monday to Friday), or you may choose any day/days of your choice. Please [click here](#)

for information on how to order!

The restaurants are as follows:

Monday	Mr. Greek
Tuesday	Hero Burger
Wednesday	Osmow’s
Thursday	The Basil Box
Friday	Boston Pizza

## Sikh Heritage Month - April

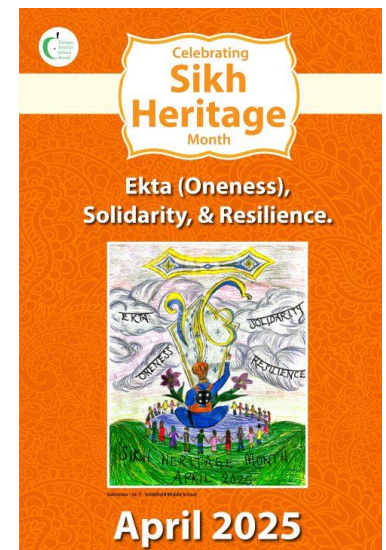


Since 2016, the TDSB has proudly recognized Sikh Heritage Month every April, becoming the first school board in Canada to do so. This aligns with the Province of Ontario's Sikh Heritage Month Act in December 2013 and the Government of Canada's recognition on April 30, 2019.

This theme for Sikh Heritage Month 2025 is **Ekta (Oneness), Solidarity, and Resilience.**

Educational offerings for students, staff, and the community are inspired by Guru Nanak's teachings on justice, equality, and community. These principles challenge discrimination, combat bullying, and promote inclusivity.

By celebrating Sikh diversity and shared humanity, we foster dialogue, learning, and collective action. Through storytelling, workshops, and school-wide initiatives, we highlight how Sikh teachings inspire unity and empower students to stand against injustice with courage, compassion, and Chardi Kala (relentless optimism).



# Elementary Summer School 2025



The Elementary Literacy and Numeracy Summer School Program offers the opportunity for students to continue learning in the summer.

Programs are offered in-person at various locations to students in Kindergarten to Grade 8, from **July 2 to July 25, 2025**. A remote program is available for students in Grades 6 to 8.

## **Registration Information:**

- Program Dates and Hours - Monday, July 2 to Friday, July 25, 2025, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- Registration is online. To fill out an application, please click on the school registration form link: [Elementary-Summer-School](#)

## **Afternoon Jays Camp RBI Summer Edition**

[RBI Summer Edition](#) is a free afternoon baseball-for-development program for Grades 3 to 8 hosted at 13 schools. Throughout July, students registered for half-day morning summer school can opt to join the RBI Summer Edition program for the afternoon. Please note that spaces are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

In the afternoon, students will engage in a wide range of recreational activities including cooperative games, arts and crafts, team-building, and inclusive baseball training. Throughout July, the program runs from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm, with the opportunity to extend to 5:30 pm for aftercare. After TDSB summer school ends, students can register for a full-day program from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm during the first two weeks of August. **Please note** – students enrolled in the afternoon program must bring their lunch.

**Note:** Jays Camp RBI Summer Edition is a distinct and separate program from the TDSB's Elementary Summer School program. The registration link for Jays Camp is provided at the end of each participating elementary summer school's form. We encourage everyone to review the specific details, procedures, and policies for both programs in the registration requirements before enrollment.

Please note that limited spaces are available for all programs.

## Important Upcoming Dates

SAVE THE DATE	
Tues., April 15	Gr. 8 Graduation Photo Day
Thur., April 17	WMS Track & Field Day
Fri., April 18	Good Friday (No school)
Mon., April 21	Easter Monday (No school)
Tues., April 22	Superintendent Morgan visiting Willowdale MS
Wed., April 23	Gr. 6 & 7 TDSB Speech Art Contest at Don Valley MS
Thur., April 24	Gr. 8 TDSB Speech Art Contest at Don Valley MS
Fri., April 25	Student Vote for the Federal Election
Tues., April 29	Pizza Day
Wed., May 7	Final School Council meeting for the year- 6:30PM in Library
	Region Track & Field Day at Esther Shiner
Thur., May 8	Staff Appreciation Breakfast hosted by School Council
Fri., May 9	Gr. 5 Visits to Willowdale MS
Tues., May 13	Pizza Day
Wed., May 14	Junior Achievement Day
	GAUSS Math Contest
Fri., May 16	Gr. 7 School Vaccination Clinic
	Gr. 8's visiting Northview Heights SS (PM)
Thur., May 22	Junior Council Art Exhibit in Cafeteria
Tues., May 27	Pizza Day
Wed., May 28 - Fri., May 30	Grade 8 Graduation Trip to Montreal
Wed., June 4	Conference Finals for Track & Field at Esther Shiner
Fri., June 6	P.A. Day (No School)
Mon., June 9	Music Festival at Wonderland
Tues., June 10	Track & Field City Finals at Birchmount
Wed., June 11	Pizza Day
Thurs., June 12	CODA Concert at 6:30PM in Gymnasium
Mon., June 23	Pizza Day
Tues., June 24	Gr. 8 Graduation Ceremony and Celebration
Wed., June 25	Report Cards sent home
Fri., June 27	Last Day of School

If your child is going to be away or late, please call the **Safe Arrival Program** (School Messenger) at

**1-833-250-2290**

If you are signing your child out during the school day, you are required to come into the office, and send a written note, or email to [willowdale@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:willowdale@tdsb.on.ca)

We acknowledge that Willowdale MS is hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognise the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples.