

# Willowdale Middle School



## Grade 8 Photo Graduation Day

Grade 8 students will have their graduation photo day on **Tuesday, April 15, 2025**. There will be no photo re-take day.

For additional information, please see the flyer attached to the website.



## U of T Science Fair

At the end of January WMS hosted our own Grade 8 Science Fair. We had over 100 projects from 8 different categories and all classes walked through our lower hallway to see the displays. It was a great morning for science. From that we selected six winners that would represent us at the city-wide University of Toronto Science Fair. We flash forward to this past weekend March 29th and our students spent the day not only competing in the Science Fair, but also taking workshops and making friends. The following students attended this weekend: Clara C., Lisa S., Yunus M., Daniel M., Deyondre P., Daniel K., Joshua W., Avery S., Julian J., Colton B., Imran P.



Special mention to Daniel M., Yunus M., and Deyondre P., who placed and received bronze medals and Colton B who received a gold medal.

Thank you to all our Willowdale participants for representing our school so positively. We are very proud of you! A special thank you to Mr. Harwood for overseeing this wonderful opportunity!

## Marlies Game

On Wednesday, April 2nd, students from Willowdale went to the Marlies game at the Coca-Cola Colliseum. It was a fun event. Students from all grades cheered on the Marlies as they battled and lost against the Utica Comets 1-2. It was a great day filled with lots of exciting moments. Remaining students at Willowdale rotated through four stations, art, gym, games and computers and enjoyed watching a movie in the afternoon. Despite the April snow and rain, it was a great day for the Willowdale community.



## International Day of Pink

[International Day of Pink](#) is honoured every year at the Toronto District School Board in support of creating a more inclusive and diverse world by encouraging young people to challenge social norms, and to stand up against bullying towards their 2SLGBTQIA+ peers.

This year, TDSB is honouring the 35th anniversary of the coining of the term “Two-Spirit” at the 3rd Annual Intertribal Native American, First Nations, Gay and Lesbian American Conference in Winnipeg (1990).

This live production from TDSB’s boardroom (and broadcast to all middle and high school classrooms who wish to view) will feature student performances from Kapapamahchakwew - Wandering Spirit School, remarks from the Director, Chair, Mayor Chow, and Superintendent for Indigenous Education Tanya Senk, and Indigenous leaders John Sylliboy and Lyndon George. For more information, please visit this link: [TDSB International Pink Day](#)

This year, the International Day of Pink is on Wednesday, April 9. We encourage all students at Willowdale to come to school **wearing pink** to raise awareness and to stop discrimination, gender-based bullying, homophobia, and transphobia.



## Pizza Day

A reminder that our next Pizza Day lunch is on Tuesday, April 8, 2025.



# WMS Speech Competitions

Willowdale will be hosting our in-school speech competitions on the following dates:

Grades 6 & 7	April 9, 2025 (PM)
Grade 8	April 11, 2025 (AM)

After all the speeches have been presented, a winner from each grade will be selected to represent Willowdale at the "TDSB Speech Arts Festival". The "TDSB Speech Arts Festival" will take place 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! We look forward to hearing your speeches.

## 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://brushamania.ca/>*

## Co-Ed Badminton



The Grade 8 team played a fun and challenging tournament at Milne Valley this week. After some amazing wins and hard losses, WMS placed 3<sup>rd</sup>!

A special thank you to our coaches, Ms. Prugo and Ms. Hamdule!

Congratulations to the team and to an amazing season!



# 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)



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# Upcoming School Council Meetings

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

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



# 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.

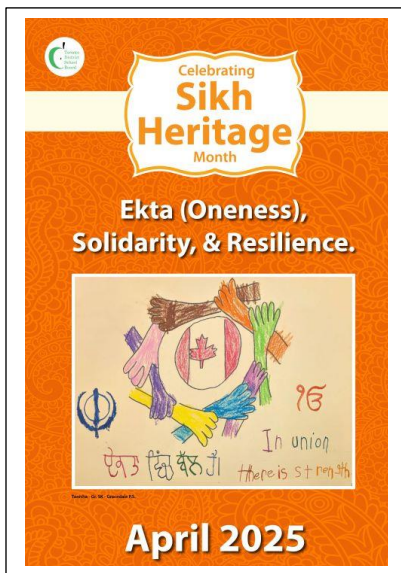


# Reach Ahead Program

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.

# Sikh Heritage Month - April



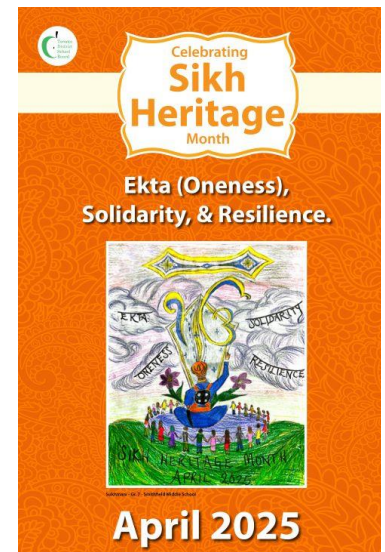
Since 2016, the TDSB has proudly recognized Sikh Heritage Month every April, becoming the first school board in Canada to do so. This aligns with the Province of Ontario's Sikh Heritage Month Act in December 2013 and the Government of Canada's recognition on April 30, 2019.

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).



## 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

# 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	
Mon., April 7	School Council meeting at 6:30PM in Library
Tues., April 8	Pizza Day
Wed., April 9	Grades 6 & 7 Speech Competition at WMS (PM)
Fri., April 11	Grade 8 Speech Competition at WMS (AM)
Thur., April 10	ECO Council Conference
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
May 7	Final Parent Council meeting for the year- 6:30PM in Library
May 16	Gr. 7 School Vaccination Clinic
	Gr. 8's visiting Northview Heights SS
Wed., May 28 - Fri., May 30	Grade 8 Graduation Trip to Montreal

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.