

Willowdale Middle School



Happy Holidays!

Today, we are publishing our final weekly update before the holiday break. There will be no weekly update on December 19, 2025. We look forward to sharing our next weekly update in January 2026!

The entire Willowdale staff would like to wish our community a safe, and happy holiday season! We wish you all a healthy, safe, and prosperous start to 2026!

Willowdale Middle School will close on Friday, December 19, 2025 for the winter break.

School resumes on Monday, January 5, 2026.

Students, families and staff will not be able to access the building for the duration of the break.

Students are reminded to bring all their valuables home on December 19, 2025.



WMS Spirit Week: December 15th - 19th

We are excited to kick off our WMS Holiday Spirit Week next week! We encourage all staff and students to join in the fun and show their school spirit. Let's bring on the holiday cheer and make it a week to remember!

Monday - PJ Day

Everyone wears cozy pajamas or holiday-themed onesies. 🛏️ ❄️

Tuesday - Festive Hat & Sock Day

Santa hats, elf hats, reindeer antlers, or crazy holiday socks. 🧢 🧦

Wednesday - Dress as a Present Day

Wrap yourself in bows, ribbons, tinsel, or even a cardboard gift box costume. 🎁 📦

Thursday - Holiday Colour Competition

- Grade 6: ❤️ Red
- Grade 7: 🟢 Green
- Grade 8: 🟡 Blue

Friday - Ugly Sweater Day

Show off your funniest, flashiest, or most creative holiday sweater! 🧶 ✨

 *Let's fill the halls with holiday spirit, colour, and fun!* 🎉

Holiday Activity Afternoon - December 19th

On Friday, December 19th, 2025, classes will take part in a fun **Activity Afternoon** featuring options such as dancing, movies, games, crafts, and more. Students are encouraged to wear their **ugly holiday sweaters** and join in the festive spirit while enjoying the activity of their choice.

We will also be selling **snacks and treats** during the afternoon. If your child would like to purchase anything, please send them with **cash**.

In addition, **Willowdale spirit wear hoodies** will be available in person for **\$45 and \$60 (embroidered)** each. Students will have the opportunity to **try them on and purchase with cash** on the 19th.



← SNACK SALE →

Activity Afternoon Friday, December 19th

Snacks

CHIPS	\$1
FRUIT ROLL UPS	\$1
2 OF CHOCOLATE / CANDY	\$1

Soda Pop

CREAM SODA	\$2
GRAPE RAISIN	\$2
ORANGE	\$2
ROOT BEER	\$2

ALL FUNDS WILL BE USED FOR OUR SCHOOL TRIPS

CASH ONLY

Gr. 6 Overnight Trip to The Etobicoke Outdoor Education Centre - Highlights of Dec. 8-10

The Grade 6 classes 6A, 6B, 6F, and 6/7F had an exciting visit to the Etobicoke Outdoor Education Centre this week.

On Day 1, students chose from activities like caring for chickens, fire-building, hiking, and nature art/photography. They also enjoyed feeding birds, spotting blue jays, taking in a beautiful sunset, playing in the snow, and relaxing in the lounge.

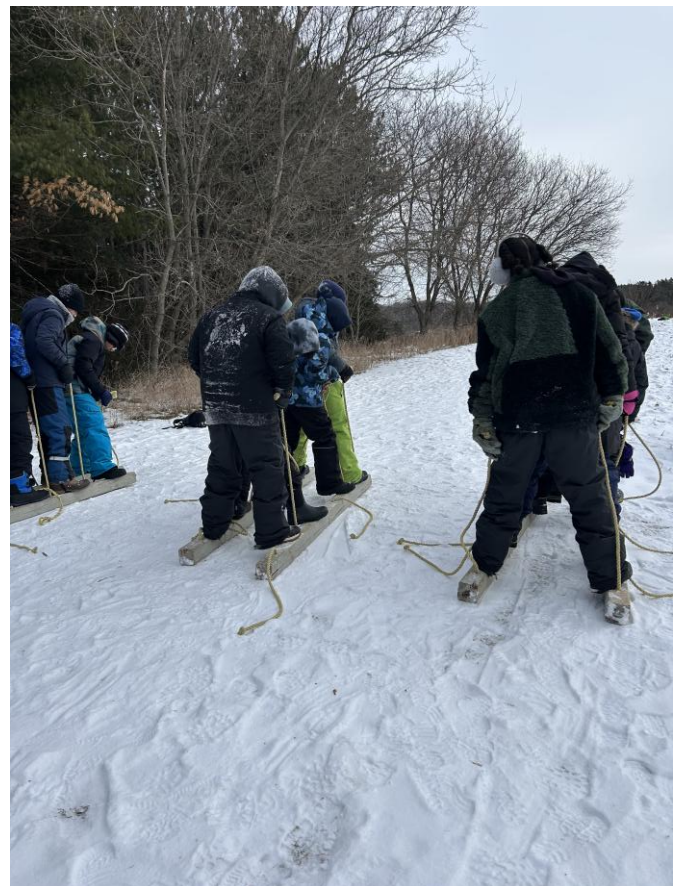
Day 2 included team-building challenges and orienteering. Some groups tackled the low ropes course, others the Whale Challenge, or a ski activity, all requiring communication and cooperation.

Evening programs featured *Finding Frank* and a cozy campfire with singing, storytelling, and marshmallow roasting. The trip wrapped up with *Instincts for Survival*, a game focused on teamwork and ecosystems.

All students represented Willowdale beautifully. Thanks to Ms. Clarino, Ms. Douglas, Mr. Lee, and Ms. Romeiro for helping make the trip a success!

The Centre is also open for weekend and summer bookings and hosts a *Maple Syrup Open House* each April. More info: <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/eoec>

Thank you to Mr. Lee, Ms. Douglas, Ms. Clarino and Ms. Romeiro for making this a wonderful experience for our students!



Muskoka Woods - Grade 7 Overnight Trip Parent/Guardian Information Night



Muskoka Woods is a TDSB approved vendor, offering amazing outdoor education programming. Students participate in activities such as climbing, cross-country skiing, archery, ropes, and much more! Annually at WMS, we offer this trip to our Grade 7 students. Our trip will take place from February 4-6, 2026.

The cost of the trip is \$390 and is now live on [School Cash Online](#).

For more information, please see the slides we shared during our virtual information night: [Muskoka Woods Information Slides](#).

Virtual Information Sessions for Grade 8-9 Transitions for Students with Special Education Needs

FINAL SESSION:

January 15th, 2026 at 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code to register

**Supporting the Grade 8 to 9
Transition for Students with
Special Education Needs**

A virtual session for Parents/Caregivers

*Please choose **ONE** of the following sessions to attend:*

<p>SESSION 1: December 11th, 2025 at 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM click HERE or scan the QR code to register</p>	
<p>SESSION 2: January 15th, 2026 at 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM click HERE or scan the QR code to register</p>	

Secondary School Open Houses - Grade 8's



To our Grade 8 families:

Please note that there are several upcoming Grade 9 Open Houses and Information Nights at our local high schools. These dates are fast approaching. Please find more information by clicking on this link: [Secondary School Open Houses](#)

WMS Grade 8 to 9 Transitions - Information Slides

[CLICK HERE](#)

APPLICATIONS FOR SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS ARE NOW CLOSED!

More details for regular programming and course selection will be shared in the new year!

Toronto Marlies Field Trip - LAST CHANCE!



This message is only for students who have not previously purchased tickets to the Toronto Marlies school day field trip on February 18th.

We have **21 extra tickets** available for the Toronto Marlies School Day Game field trip on **February 18th** for students who **missed the original purchase deadline**. These additional tickets will be sold on a **first-come, first-served basis on School Cash Online only**.

These extra tickets will be available on [School Cash Online](#) starting Friday, December 12th.

Important:

- If you already purchased a ticket, **please do NOT purchase another one**.
- These tickets are **ONLY** for students who did not buy a ticket during the original sale period.
- **No refunds** will be issued for duplicate purchases.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email: lauren.ziebell@tdsb.on.ca

Sunshine Therapy Dogs @ WMS

We had two very special visitors at Willowdale today from **Sunshine Therapy Dogs**! During lunchtime, our Grade 6 students had the opportunity to meet and interact with the service dogs, learn about their important work, and enjoy some calming moments with our furry friends.

It was a wonderful experience for our students, and we look forward to welcoming Sunshine Therapy Dogs back for future visits with additional grades!



Grade 6 and 7 Boys Volleyball

Congratulations to our Grade 6 and Grade 7 Boys Volleyball teams on their outstanding performances this week!

Our Grade 6 team travelled to Highland MS on Tuesday and played three hard-fought matches. All games went to three sets, and our boys came away with wins in two out of the three. Congratulations on an amazing season!

Our Grade 7 team hosted a tournament on Wednesday here at Willowdale MS. After a bit of a slow start, the boys regrouped and won two of their three games. They are now in a strong position heading into their next tournament at St. Andrew's MS on December 5.



More important than the wins and losses was the sportsmanship, teamwork, and growth shown by both teams. The boys played with enthusiasm, supported each other, and consistently demonstrated strong volleyball skills—bumping, setting, and spiking with confidence.

Congratulations, boys! Your coaches are very proud of you. A special thank you to Mr. Soriano!

Grade 6 Girls Basketball



The Grade 6 Girls Basketball Team competed in their tournament at Milne Valley Middle School and played exceptionally well throughout the day. In the semifinals, our team fought hard from start to finish, taking the lead with just 10 seconds remaining. Unfortunately, Donview scored at the buzzer to win in a heartbreaking finish.

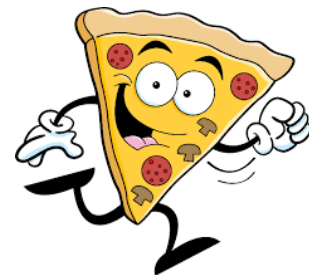
Despite the tough loss, the girls' performance was truly inspirational—they left everything on the court. We are incredibly proud of each player for their dedication, teamwork, and outstanding season.

Thank you to Mr. Lee for his commitment in preparing our athletes!

Upcoming Pizza Lunches and NEW DATES!

Our final Pizza Lunch of 2025 will be Tuesday, December 16th.

Our pizza dates for the new year will be as follow: January 13, January 28, February 9, February 26, March 10, March 25, April 14, April 29, May 14, May 25, June 9 and June 18. Pizza for the above dates will be on sale on **December 18**. Stay tuned!



Thank you to our parent volunteers for making pizza days possible at Willowdale MS!

WMS Sports Teams Practice Schedule

We've created a "Sports Practice Calendar" to help keep students, parents, and guardians up to date with upcoming practices. Please check the calendar regularly for schedules, updates, and any changes. [CLICK HERE!](#)



Upcoming Parent Council Meetings

Our next Parent Council meetings will be taking place on **January 22, March 3, April 21, and June 1, 2026** beginning at 6:00PM in our school library.

We hope to see you at our next meeting in January!



Lunch Box Program



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. Souvlaki
Tuesday	Umami Sushi
Wednesday	bar Burrito
Thursday	Mr. Sub
Friday	Swiss Chalet

Important Upcoming Dates

SAVE THE DATE	
Tuesday, December 16, 2025	Pizza Day Lunch
Friday, December 19, 2025	Last Day of School
December 22 to January 2, 2025	Winter Break (No School)
Monday, January 5, 2026	School Resumes

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

1-833-250-2290

or use the APP



SchoolMessenger
Education

If you are signing your child out during the school day, you are required to come into the office to sign your child out.

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.