

# Willowdale Middle School



## WMS Spirit Week - February 24 - 28, 2025



The Diversity and Voice Junior Council invites Willowdale to beat the winter blues with our Unity and Strength Spirit Week.

**Each student who participates wins points for their class. The winning class will celebrate with a pizza party!**

### Monday Feb. 24, 2025

- Random acts of kindness day. Do something kind - and show proof!

### Tuesday Feb. 25, 2025

- Inside out day - Wear clothing inside out.

### Wednesday Feb. 26, 2025

- Pink Shirt Day - Wear a pink shirt to promote anti-bullying

### Thursday Feb. 27, 2025

- Character Day - Dress like a character that brings you joy.

### Friday Feb. 28, 2025

- Wear your pajamas and bring your comfort toy day.

## Fana Soro Prologue Performance @ WMS

This past week WMS hosted Fana Soro. "Fana Soro is a musician, dancer and educator who hails from the Senoufo tribe in northern Côte d'Ivoire. He spent 9 years as a member of the prestigious Ballet National de Côte d'Ivoire. Fana is a hereditary master of the balafon, a West African gourd-resonated xylophone. In 1997, Fana moved to Vancouver where he became a cultural ambassador for West Africa, bringing his vast experience of engaging students over a hundred Canadian schools for years. He also formed and became creative director of Masabo, a performance group specializing in traditional West African music, dance and story. In 2009 Fana moved to Ottawa, continuing to spread his knowledge and love for West Africa and its culture." The presentation focused on teaching about focus, listening. Positive attitude.

Thank you to Mr. Batkay for organizing this exceptional experience for our students.



## Tour for Humanity Bus @ WMS



This past week WMS our Grade 8 students had the opportunity to experience the Tour for Humanity bus at Willowdale MS!

In this workshop, students learned about important topics in Canadian history, including the Residential School System, the MS St. Louis and the internment of Japanese Canadians during the Second World War.

Following a review of the past, students then examined and discussed current issues, including cyberbullying, hate crimes and a range of examples of intolerance.

Thank you to Ms. Wyman for organizing this exceptional experience for our students.



## WMS Sports Update

### Grade 6-8 All-Gender Ball Hockey



Congratulations to our Grade 6-8 All Gender Ball Hockey team for their amazing performance at Don Valley Middle School on Wednesday. During round robin play, our team had 1 win, 1 loss, and a tie. In the semifinals, we lost a tight game to Zion Heights by a score of 5-4. Your coaches are very proud of the effort and sportsmanship displayed by our team.

Great job Wildcats!

Thank you to Mr. Jones and Mr. Soriano for giving our ball hockey team an amazing experience this season.

### Grade 6 Boys Basketball

Congratulations to our Grade 6 Boys Basketball team on beating Allenby Junior Public School in North Conference quarterfinal action. While it wasn't our best game of the season, we managed to pull off a close 11-10 win even with the absence of one of our best players. We earned a trip to the semifinals, which will be played at Dublin Heights on February 26<sup>th</sup>. Way to go Wildcats!

Thank you to our coaches, Ms. Wyman and Mr. Soriano for their amazing leadership.



## Grade 8 Boys Basketball



Congratulations to our Grade 8 Boys Basketball team on beating Glenview Senior Public School! The game came down to the wire and the Wildcats pulled it off in a very exciting OVERTIME! This qualifies our team to move on to the conference finals! Way to go Wildcats!

Goodluck in the next round!

Thank you to Mr. Harwood for leading our team to success!

## Pizza Lunch is Back! Sign up for March and April!

Get ready for some deliciousness! The Parent Council is excited to announce that Pizza Lunch is back for March and April!

Mark your calendars for the following dates:

- \* March 5<sup>th</sup>
- \* March 27<sup>th</sup>
- \* April 8<sup>th</sup>
- \* April 29<sup>th</sup>



For \$40.00, your child will receive a combo including two slices of Domino's pizza, juice, and a bag of chips on all four dates mentioned above. It's the perfect way to fuel up for an afternoon of learning and fun!

Registration will be open on [School Cash Online](#) from **February 20th to February 25th**, so don't miss out! This fundraiser helps support our students enhanced learning.

To make Pizza Lunch a success, parent volunteers are always welcome to lend a hand. Even a few moments of your time would be greatly appreciated. We need help with setting up, handing out pizza, and cleaning up afterward. If you're able to volunteer, please let us know! Your support is invaluable.

Have questions? Don't hesitate to contact us at [sc.willowdalemiddleschool@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:sc.willowdalemiddleschool@tdsb.on.ca).



## Toronto Holocaust Museum Visits

Next week, Grade 6 classes from Willowdale MS will be visiting the [Toronto Holocaust Museum](#), at Bathurst and Eglinton. "The Toronto Holocaust Museum is a space for education and dialogue about the vital history of the Holocaust and its ongoing relevance. The Museum serves as a powerful and growing force against antisemitism, bigotry and hatred".

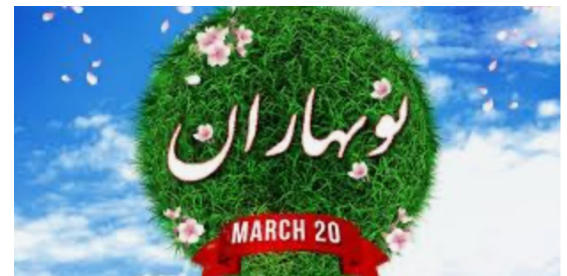
**Please complete the EMA permission form ASAP!**

| Class:       | Date Scheduled to Attend     |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| 6A, 6B       | March 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2025 |
| 6C, 6D       | March 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 |
| 6F, 6/7F, 6I | March 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 |

## Norooz Celebration at WMS

Willowdale will be hosting Norooz/Novroz at Willowdale this year! Norooz, which marks the first day of Spring (March 20 this year) is celebrated by people all over the world.

On March 19, students from various cultures and religions who observe Norooz will be creating a display to talk about their cultural or religious connection to Norooz.



## 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  |

## Upcoming School Council Meetings

Our next School Council meeting will take place on **Wednesday, February 26, 2025**, beginning at 6:30PM in our school library.

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



## WMS Sports Calendar - February



Please see our sports calendar that is being updated for February. [CLICK HERE!](#)

## Special Education & Inclusion Video Series: Guides for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers

The TDSB's Special Education and Inclusion Department is excited to share their Guides for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers video series!

These videos provide an overview of our Guides to Special Education, designed to help families understand the programs, services, and supports available to students.

From learning about Individual Education Plans (IEPs) to navigating the Identification, Placement, and Review Committee (IPRC) process, these resources are here to support you every step of the way.

We encourage you to explore the full guides on the [Special Education and Inclusion website](#), where you'll also find additional Special Education resources for families.





## Important Upcoming Dates

| SAVE THE DATE                      |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Wed., Feb. 26, 2025                | School Council Meeting at 6:30PM in Library     |
| Thurs., Feb. 27, 2025              | Digital Star Lab - Grade 6 Students             |
| Mon., Mar. 3, 2025                 | 6A, 6B Trip to Holocaust Museum (AM only)       |
| Tues., Mar. 4, 2025                | 6C, 6D Trip to Holocaust Museum (AM only)       |
| Wed., Mar. 5, 2025                 | Pizza Day                                       |
| Thur., Mar. 6, 2025                | 6F, 6/7F, 6I Trip to Holocaust Museum (AM only) |
| Mon., Mar 10 - Fri., Mar. 14, 2025 | March Break (No school)                         |
| Mon., Mar. 17, 2025                | 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**

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.