

Willowdale Middle School

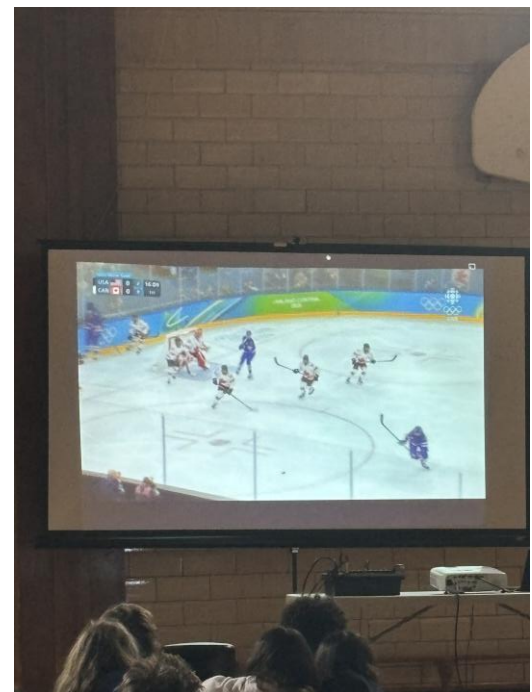


Watching the Winter Olympics @ WMS

To mark the excitement and significance of the Winter Olympics, WMS came together as a school community to cheer on Team Canada. Students gathered to watch the men's hockey quarterfinals, celebrating an exciting Canadian victory, and later reunited to watch the women's hockey team compete against the USA in the gold medal game. Although the game ended in a heartbreaking overtime loss for Canada, the energy and school spirit throughout both events were incredible.

It was inspiring to see our students enthusiastically cheering, supporting our athletes, and experiencing such a strong sense of pride and togetherness as a school community.

We would like to say congratulations to Luka Stoikos, who finished 20th in the 4 man bobsled! We look forward to having Ms. Stoikos back at Willowdale this week after supporting her son in Cortina at the Olympics!



Grade 8 High School Course Selection



Students will be completing their course selection with our guidance counsellor, Ms. Ziebell, at school between February 18 - 26th. Each class will have a designated time and will be provided with course selection sheets for the high school that they will be attending. So far, 8F and 8M have completed their course selection.

We remind students and parents/caregivers that students **MUST** attend their home school (by address) unless they have been accepted into a specialty program or via out-of-area attendance. We ask that you provide your child with your email address, as all course selections must be approved by parents/caregivers before they are considered final.

If you have any questions, please contact Lauren.ziebell@tdsb.on.ca

Specialized Programs Offer Acceptances

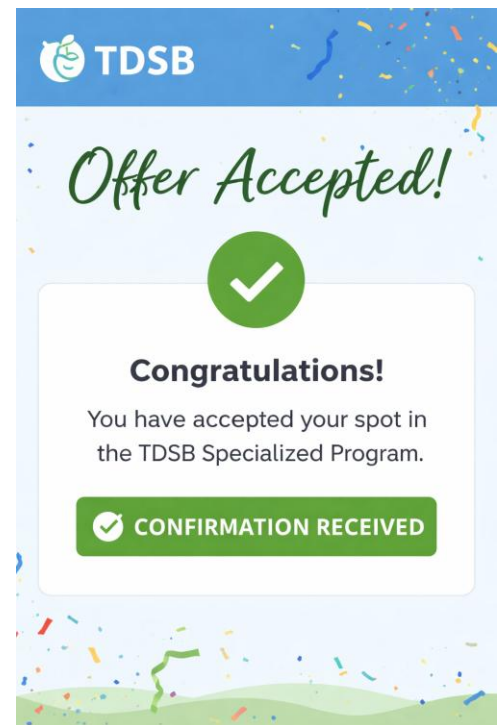
TDSB Specialized Program Round 2 offers were sent out on February 18th. Families who applied are asked to carefully check the email account that was used during the application process, including junk or spam folders, to ensure the offer has not been missed.

If you have received an offer, please note that acceptances must be submitted by **Tuesday, February 24th**. It is very important that families respond by the deadline. Once the deadline has passed, schools are not able to reinstate or extend expired offers, as unaccepted spaces are automatically released and offered to other students.

As spaces become available, additional offers may continue in subsequent rounds until February 25th. No offers will be made after this date.

Please continue to monitor your email for updates.

If you have any questions, please contact Lauren.ziebell@tdsb.on.ca



Important Upcoming Dates for Grade 8 Students

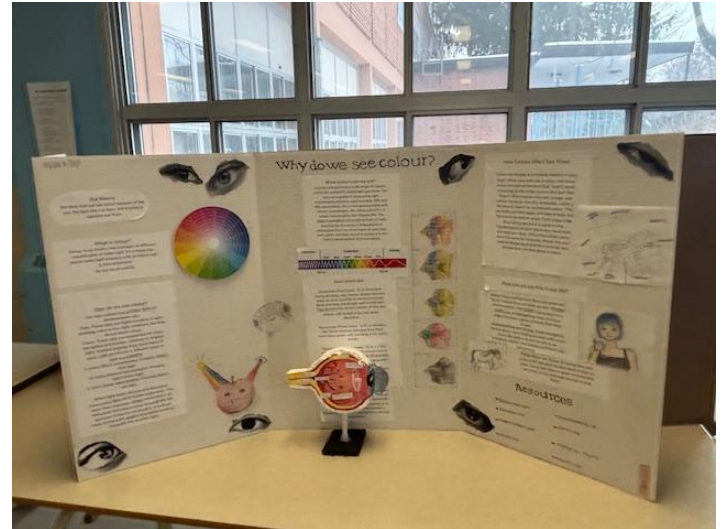
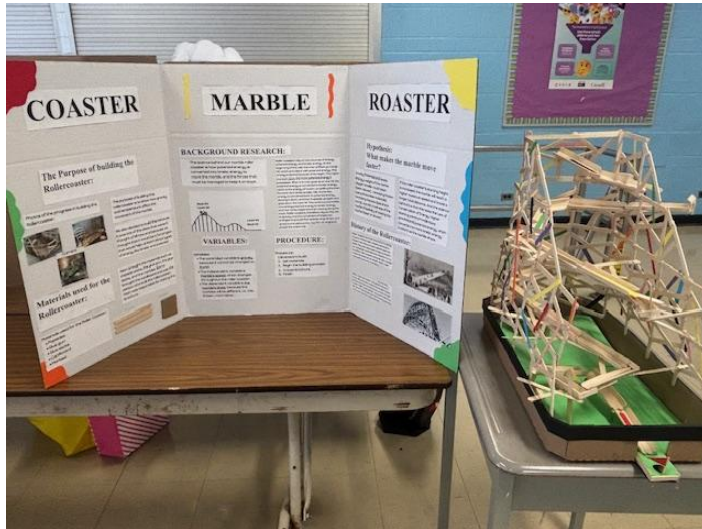
February 9	myBlueprint Course Selection opens
February 18, 25, 26	We will be doing Grade 8 Course Selection at WMS
February 27	myBlueprint Course Selection deadline

Grade 8 Science Fair

Our Grade 8 Science Fair was a tremendous success! With over 100 outstanding projects displayed throughout the north end of the basement hallway—including the cafeteria, Mr. Isaacman and Mr. Soriano's room, and Mr. Talbi's classroom—our school was buzzing with curiosity, creativity, and scientific thinking.

Thank you to all of our parents and guardians who joined us to view the projects and support our students. A special thank you to our Grade 7 student greeters for welcoming families and helping everything run smoothly.

We would also like to extend a sincere thank you to Mr. Harwood for his leadership and organization of this incredible event, as well as to all of our dedicated Grade 8 students for their hard work, innovation, and perseverance. This experience will help prepare eight of our finalists as they move on to represent Willowdale at the University of Toronto city-wide Science Fair on March 28, alongside students from over 78 schools.



Pink Shirt Day - February 25th! WEAR PINK!!



Pink Shirt Day serves as a powerful reminder of the impact of bullying on individuals and communities. Bullying is often intertwined with issues of power and privilege, and these imbalances are based on factors such as, but not limited to, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, faith or creed, language, immigration status, disabilities, body image and socio-economic status.

Let us unite on February 25 to raise awareness of bullying and the underlying power imbalances that fuel it. By wearing pink and engaging in meaningful conversations with our students and colleagues, we can demonstrate our commitment to creating schools where everyone feels safe, supported, and empowered to thrive. [Read the full Pink Shirt Day 2026 message for additional resources.](#)

Social Media and Online Safety Presentation



We are VERY excited to announce that we will be hosting Paul Davis, a social media and online safety expert, to discuss smartphones, digital trails, cyberbullying, snapchat, amongst other topics of interest!

Paul Davis will be leading a student assembly during the day on February 24th, at 1:00PM in our gym for all Willowdale MS students.

WE INVITE OUR PARENT/CAREGIVER COMMUNITY to an evening in-person presentation, on February 24th, from Paul Davis, hosted at Willowdale Middle School starting at 6:30PM.

This invitation is open to all of our feeder schools, so please pass the message along to family and friends.

Grade 6 Boys Basketball Update

Yesterday, the Grade 6 boys basketball team competed in the conference tournament at Highland Middle School and delivered a strong showing. The team opened the day with a big win over C.H. Best, 33-26. In their second game, the boys battled hard against the host school, Highland, narrowly falling 22-16. Needing a win in their final game, the team rose to the challenge, showcasing their hard work and commitment at practice with a dominant 38-18 victory over Donview—advancing them to the quarterfinals next week.

A special thank you to Coach Kelvin for the countless hours of dedication, volunteering, and leadership in taking this team to the next level. Thank you, Mr. Lee and Mr. Soriano, for your leadership with the team!

Great job, boys—and good luck in the quarterfinals!

Grade 6-8 Math Contest



Thirty-nine of our students proudly participated in the Grades 6, 7, and 8 Math League Contest this year. Students put their problem-solving skills to the test as they completed challenging mathematical questions designed to extend their thinking and deepen their understanding.

We are incredibly proud of their focus, perseverance, and willingness to take on such a rigorous academic challenge. Thank you to all of the students who represented our school so well!

Thank you to Ms. Prugo for leading this initiative.

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 **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 March!



Social Media and Online Safety Presentation

tdsb
Mental Health & Well-Being

LIVINGWORKS
safeTALK

"Free" SafeTalk Trainings For Parents & Caregivers

- TDSB Trained safeTALK Trainers
- Provide half day (3-4 hrs) Suicide Alertness Training for Staff, educators, Parents and Caregivers
- Understand the principles of Suicide Alertness and learn to recognize signs to respond to potential need for help

Upcoming Dates for Parent Trainings:
Saturday March 7th
150 Borough Drive
10am - 1:30pm

Click the Link or scan the QR code to register

We are pleased to share that TDSB-trained facilitators are offering **free LivingWorks safeTALK training sessions for parents and caregivers.**

safeTALK is a half-day (3-4 hour) suicide alertness training designed to help participants understand the principles of suicide alertness, recognize signs that someone may be struggling, and respond in ways that connect individuals to the support they need. This important learning opportunity empowers families and caregivers with practical tools and increased confidence to help keep our community safe.

Saturday, March 7th
10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
150 Borough Drive

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to register using the provided link or QR code.

We strongly encourage members of our community to take advantage of this valuable and impactful learning opportunity. Together, we can continue working to support the well-being and safety of all students and families.



Toronto Raptors 905



As you are aware, our field trip to the Toronto Marlies game was cancelled due to bus cancellations. Unfortunately, all future Marlies games are sold out, but we were able to make the switch for our school to attend the Toronto Raptors 905 at the Paramount Fine Foods Centre in Mississauga on March 4th. The Raptors 905 are the D-League team to the Toronto Raptors in the NBA.

This field trip is only for those students who previously bought tickets to the Toronto Marlies as MLSE only has the number of tickets available that we previously purchased.

An EMA and more details will follow soon.

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	
Monday, February 23	ESL Assessments
Tuesday, February 24	Social Media Presentation by Paul Davies -Student Assembly at 1:00PM -Parent Presentation at 6:30PM
	Hockey Tournament
Wednesday, February 25	Hosting Ball Hockey Tournament at WMS
Thursday, February 26	Pizza Day Lunch
Monday, March 2	Gr. 6 Trip to Holocaust Museum (6C, 6F, 6/7F)
Tuesday, March 3	Gr. 6 Trip to Holocaust Museum (6A, 6E, 6I)
Wednesday March 4	RAPTORS 905 TRIP (<i>Students who have tickets to the Marlies</i>)
Thursday, March 5	Gr. 6 Trip to Holocaust Museum (6B, 6D)
Wednesday, March 11	Gr. 8 ESL Trip to Brick Labs
March 9 to 13	Dance Classes for all classes (Schedule to Follow)
March 16 to 20	MARCH BREAK (No school)
Wednesday, March 25	Pizza Day Lunch
March 31 to April 1	Skills Trade Presentations

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.