

Willowdale Middle School



Muskoka Woods - Grade 7 Overnight Trip



TRIP DATE: February 4 to 6, 2026

We would like to wish our Grade 7 students and staff going to Muskoka Woods next week an amazing trip, filled with fun and lasting memories.

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.



Parking Lot & Drop Off/Pick Up Reminders

**PARKING
LOT**

We continue to experience traffic congestion during drop-off and pick-up times. To ensure everyone's safety, **please do not park in the school parking lot BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL** – spaces are reserved for staff and buses only.

If you're driving, **use the car loop for drop-off and pick-up**. Park on the **right side of the loop** if space allows, or along **Ellerslie Avenue**. Please drive slowly and watch for students and staff crossing.

Students: Upon arrival in the morning, please go directly to the **back field**, not the front of the school, as there is no supervision and it poses safety risks.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school community safe!



Grade 8 Graduation Trip Information - Ottawa

This is a friendly reminder to register ASAP for our Grade 8 graduation trip to Ottawa. We are very excited to offer this meaningful and memorable experience for our students, and we don't want anyone to miss out on the chance.



If you were unable to attend our parent/caregiver information night, the presentation slides can be found [HERE!](#)

Please also review our registration information letter [HERE](#) for full trip details.

Trip Dates:

 **June 10 – June 12, 2026**

REGISTRATION IS PAST DUE, BUT WE STILL HAVE SOME SPACES AVAILABLE. REGISTER TODAY! So far, we have 100 students registered to attend!

Please visit: <https://portal.brightsparktravel.ca/>

**Tour Web Code:
EQZ26PL**

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

Thank you for your support—we look forward to an amazing graduation experience for our Grade 8 students!

Social Media and Online Safety Presentation

**SOCIAL MEDIA AND ONLINE SAFETY
AN EVENING FOR PARENTS WITH
PAUL DAVIS**

TOPICS INCLUDE
SOCIAL MEDIA
SMARTPHONES
DIGITAL TRAILS
CYBERBULLYING
SNAPCHAT
SEXTING
ONLINE GROOMING
& PRIVACY

WILLOWDALE MS
Feb 24th @ 6:30 PM

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.

Willowdale Middle School Big Box Fundraising



Dear Families,

We are thrilled to kick off a new fundraiser at our school – **The Big Box of Cards!** This campaign is a fun and simple way to support our school, and each box offers great value your family and friends will love.

Card boxes sell for \$35 each and the Candles box sell for \$40 each:

- 35 **All Occasion** cards
- 35 **All Birthday** cards
- **Holiday Box** cards
- Big Box of **Candles**

Our campaign will run from **January 23rd, 2026**, to **February 13th, 2026**. Below are product video links which are perfect to share with friends, coworkers, and extended family to help boost your sales!

All orders and payments should be submitted by **February 13th, 2026**. Payment for orders are now available on [School Cash Online](#).

Prizes!

- If we sell 75+ boxes, the top-selling class will win a pizza party
 - If our school sells 150+ boxes, for every 3 boxes your family sells, you'll be entered into a draw to win one of four \$25 gift cards
 - If we hit 400 boxes, we'll also draw for a Samsung 8" Tablet
- There's no limit – the more boxes you sell, the more entries you get!

Product Preview Links

- [All Occasion Box](#)
- [Holiday Box](#)
- [Candle Box](#)
- [Full Collection Overview](#)



All funds raised from the *Big Box Fundraising* will go towards subsidies for school trips, sustaining our nutrition program, and other school initiatives. Thank you for supporting our students through this exciting fundraiser. Your participation makes a difference, and we hope you enjoy sharing these beautiful card sets and/or candles with your friends and loved ones!

WMS Winter Olympics Day - February 12



This February marks the start of the 2026 Winter Olympic Games, taking place in Milan-Cortina, Italy, from February 6 to 22, 2026. The Olympic Games celebrate athletic excellence, perseverance, and the powerful way sport brings countries from around the world together 🌐

This year's Games are especially meaningful for the Willowdale Middle School community. We are incredibly proud to share that Luka Stoikos, son of our Principal, Ms. Stoikos, is a member of Team Canada's four-man bobsled team 🇨🇦🚀 Having such a close connection to the Olympics makes this year's celebrations even more exciting, and our school community will be cheering extra hard for Luka and Team Canada!

Willowdale Middle School is excited to join in the Olympic spirit! **On Wednesday, February 12th**, students are encouraged to wear the colours of their home country or a country they are excited to cheer for during the Games 🇨🇦🇨🇦. Willowdale MS will proudly host our own WMS Winter Olympic Games. Each grade will compete outdoors in a variety of cooperative activities and challenges designed to promote teamwork, sportsmanship, and fun.

Students are reminded to dress warmly and wear appropriate footwear, as activities will take place outdoors in winter conditions 🧣🧤👢

We look forward to celebrating the Olympic spirit together as a school community! 🇨🇦

Grade 8 Graduation Hoodie

We are pleased to share that **Class of 2026 Graduation Hoodies LAST CHANCE** now on [SchoolCash Online](#) until **January 30th**.

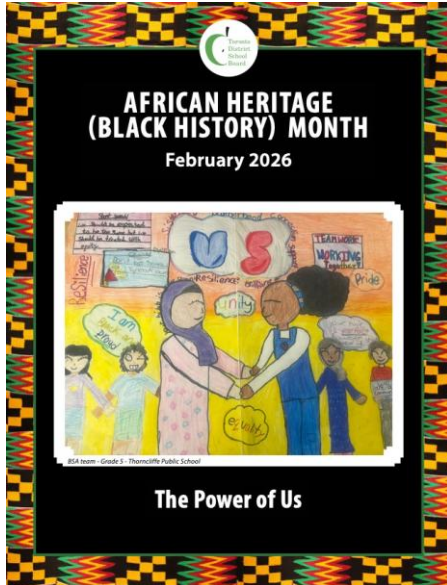
This will be the **last chance** to purchase a Grade 8 graduation hoodie, as the ordering window will be open for **three weeks only**. We encourage families who may have missed the initial sale to take advantage of this opportunity.

Additional details regarding delivery will be shared once the ordering window closes.

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



African Heritage (Black History) Month - February



“African Heritage (Black History) Month is recognized during the month of February at the Toronto District School Board. Two motions were raised and carried by TDSB elected Trustees in January 2002 and reaffirmed again in January 2004. African Heritage (Black History) Month is recognized across Canada thanks to former Member of Parliament, The Honourable Jean Augustine who introduced the motion in the House of Commons, and it officially took effect in February 1996. Further, in the province of Ontario, the [Black History Month Act](#) passed in 2016.

This year’s theme for African Heritage (Black History) Month is: *The Power of Us*. This theme focuses on Black Student Well-being, building a sense of belonging and celebrating Black Brilliance: inviting all to participate in building community and supporting Black Mental Wellness.

To kick off African Heritage (Black History) Month, TDSB is excited to extend an invitation to all students, staff and the TDSB community to join in marking this important month with performances by Black artists, students, and noteworthy speakers. Details are shared with you below.”

African Heritage (Black History) Month Virtual Launch Celebration

- Monday, February 2nd, 2026
- 10:45 am – 11:30 am
- [Join the Microsoft Teams stream here](#)
- Target Audience: All TDSB students, staff and community members

Chinese Heritage Month at the TDSB - February

“The TDSB proudly recognizes Chinese Heritage Month in February each year. This year, we celebrate the *Year of the Horse: Play, Progress, Prosper*.

The Lunar New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is one of the most significant holidays of the Chinese heritage. The date is determined by the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar, and the celebration lasts 16 days. This year, the first day begins on Tuesday, February 17. Festivities can include family gatherings, decorations, and of course, a feast!

An in-person Chinese Heritage Month celebration will be taking place at Highland Middle School that will include traditional performances, presentations, and speakers to recognize the month. The event will be videotaped and posted after the event that captures highlights of the celebration for all to enjoy!”



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](#)

Other Important Grade 8-9 Transition Information

- [TDSB Beyond 8 Website](#)
- [Out-of-Area Admissions](#)
- [Secondary Schools without a Boundary](#)
- [Grade 8 Transition Year - At a Glance](#)

Out-of-Area Admission Applications - [NOW OPEN!](#)

Please follow the instructions on this link if you are interested in applying.

[CLICK HERE!](#)

Important Upcoming Dates for Grade 8 Students

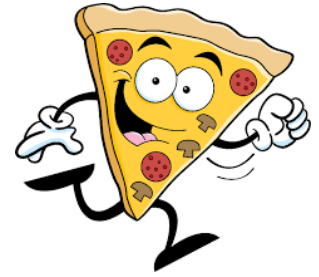
February 9, 2026	myBlueprint Course Selection opens
February 27, 2026	myBlueprint Course Selection deadline

Upcoming Pizza Lunches

Our next block for pizza day lunches for the new year will be as follows:
February 9, February 26, March 10, March 25.

The deadline to order has already passed.

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 **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!



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	
February 4 to 6	Gr. 7 Overnight Trip to Muskoka Woods
Monday, February 9	Pizza Day Lunch
Tuesday, February 10	Superintendent Morgan visits WMS
Wednesday, February 11	Report Cards are sent home
Thursday, February 12	Willowdale Winter Olympics Day
	Parent-Teacher Conferences (4:00 to 7:00PM)
Friday, February 13	P.A. Day (No school for students)
	Parent-Teacher Conferences (9:00AM to 12:00PM)
Monday, February 16	Family Day (No school)
Wednesday, February 18	TDSB Day at the Marlies
Thursday, February 19	Grade 6 Civil Liberties Presentations in the Library
Friday, February 20	Grade 8 Science Fair
Tuesday, February 24	Social Media Presentation by Paul Davies -Student Assembly at 1:00PM -Parent Presentation at 6:30PM

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.