

# Willowdale Middle School



## Gr.8 Trip to Montreal

The time has finally come for our Grade 8 trip to Montreal! Students and staff will be leaving on **Wednesday, May 28** and **returning on Friday, May 30**. See below for the details. We are so excited to make new memories with our students while in Montreal!



### Wednesday Departure from Willowdale MS

- Students going on the trip should **arrive at Willowdale MS by 7:00AM** on Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, to board the coach busses.
- Students will go on the bus that is assigned to them (there will be 3 busses).
- Anyone bringing in medication (including Advil, Tylenol, Benadryl, Gravol or prescribed medication) must have it in a Ziplock bag, **clearly labelled with their first and last name**. Please bring the medication to Ms. Stoikos on Wednesday morning before you board your bus.
- We will be stopping in Kingston for lunch. Students are reminded that they will need to bring their own lunch, or money/debit card to purchase their lunch.

### Friday Departure from Montreal

- We will be stopping along the way for lunch. Students are reminded that they will need money/debit card to purchase their lunch.
- Our estimated return time to Willowdale on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, will be approximately 8:00PM. We will provide a more up to date arrival time upon our departure from Montreal.

### Other important information:

- **Students are responsible for purchasing their own lunch on each day of the trip.** A debit card is suggested. Breakfast and dinner are provided.

- There is only one venue on the itinerary that requires cash only purchases. This is the Bagel shop on our last day.
- All students will receive an envelope with \$30.00 cash. This is the refund for the cost of the trip, as the cost was lowered from its original price.
- We are asking all parents/guardians to ensure that your child has filled out the emergency cell phone document. Students are asked to fill out the [Student Cell Phone - Montreal](#) Google Form with their own cell phone number before Monday.

**We wish all our staff and students who are going on the Montreal trip, a safe and enjoyable experience!**  
**Bon Voyage!**

For students not attending the Grade 8 trip to Montreal, classes will be combined, and regular programming and learning will take place at Willowdale MS.

## Gr.8 Co-ed Flag Rugby

On Wednesday, our Gr. 8 Co-ed Flag Rugby team played at Don Mills in the conference tournament. Winning 5 straight games against Northlea, Woodbine, Don Mills team 1 and 2 and Don Valley team 2, our Wildcats qualified and played the conference finals against a very experienced Don Valley team 1. After a hard-fought game in cold and rainy weather, Willowdale came short 1 point short of winning the North Conference championship.

Congratulations for your great achievement in a new sport at Willowdale. Your performance is an inspiration for the future Willowdale Flag Rugby players. A special thank you to our coaches Mr. Batkay and Ms. Dolce for preparing our athletes! Great job, Wildcats



## Grade 7/8 Slo-Pitch



On Wednesday May 21, the Grade 7/8 Slo-Pitch Team claimed victory at their recent tournament at Bayview Village Park, showcasing exceptional skill and determination. Despite facing bad weather conditions, the players remained focused and gave their best performance on the field. Their teamwork, perseverance, and resilience were evident in every inning, ultimately leading them to advance to the conference finals next week. A big thank you to our coaches Ms. Teplitz and Ms. Chantzis! Way to go, Wildcats!

# Wet Fields and Soaring Spirits: Grade 7 Ultimate Frisbee Shines!

Our Grade 7 Ultimate Frisbee team showed incredible resilience and skill at their recent tournament, battling not only their opponents but also challenging weather conditions! The overcast skies and damp fields made it difficult for our players to find their usual rhythm, as the wet grass presented a unique challenge to their footing and disc handling.

Despite the slick conditions, our team dug deep and made some truly outstanding plays. Their determination to secure possession, even in the face of muddy landings, was truly inspiring.



Our Grade 7 team also exemplified the core values of Ultimate Frisbee. Their positive attitude and unwavering commitment to fair play earned them well-deserved Spirit Points, a testament to their sportsmanship and respect for the game and their opponents. This recognition is just as valuable as any win, highlighting the integrity and character of our young athletes.

The team will be moving on to the Conference Finals on **June 2<sup>nd</sup>**. We encourage everyone to come out and support our amazing Ultimate Frisbee team as they aim for victory!

A huge thank you goes out to our dedicated coaches, Mr. Persic and Ms. Prugo, for their invaluable guidance, support, and tireless efforts in preparing the team. Your commitment has truly made a difference!

## Upcoming P.A. Day



A reminder to parents/guardians and students that on **Friday, June 6**, it is a **P.A. Day**, therefore, there will be no school for students. School will resume on Monday, June 9. Elementary teachers will be engaged in Assessment and Reporting activities.

## Grade 6 EQAO

The EQAO dates for our Grade 6 students to write the EQAO tests are June 2-11, 2025. The tests measure student performance in reading, writing and mathematics based on the expectations set out in The Ontario Curriculum.



TDSB EQAO Guide for Parents- Click [HERE!](#)

## Morning Meal Program

Please note that we are no longer able to sustain the morning meal program, therefore, snacks will not longer be provided to classrooms. Students may bring their own snacks to school, but please remember that they must be peanut and nut free.

## Pizza Day Dates

Our new block and final days of pizza will be on the following days:

- May 27
- June 11
- June 17 (N.B.- date changed)



If you have any questions, please feel free to send an email to [sc.willowdalemiddleschool@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:sc.willowdalemiddleschool@tdsb.on.ca). Thank you to our parents for their ongoing support, and a special thank you to our School Council volunteers for their hard work and commitment!

## Churchill Public School's Annual Fun Fair



Churchill Public School will be hosting their annual Fun Fair on Saturday, May 24, 2025, from 11:00AM to 3:00PM.

Rain or Shine!

Please see the flyer attached on our website for more information.

All are welcome to attend!

## 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.




# Black Girl Boss Academy

**Save the Date for Black E.S.T.E.E.M's Black Girl Boss Academy:  
*Black Girls Take Flight!* Summer Academy (Aviation Focus)**

This immersive, aviation-themed experience will empower girls aged 11-14 to explore the world of flight through hands-on learning, STEM-based activities, and real-world industry insight. It's more than a program—it's a launchpad for leadership, confidence, and bold dreams in the skies and beyond.

## Event Details:

 **Dates:** August 18-22, 2025 (August 23 is a trip backup day)

 **Time:** 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM daily

 **Location:** University of Toronto Scarborough Campus

 **Who:** Black girls, ages 11-14

## Why attend?

- Discover the science and wonder behind aviation
- Meet inspiring Black women in aviation and STEM
- Develop leadership, confidence, and teamwork skills
- Engage in hands-on STEM activities and flight simulations
- Build a sisterhood of support and encouragement
- Learn how big dreams can take flight—with you at the controls!

**Registration opens soon**—but for now, mark your calendars and get ready for takeoff. More details and the registration link will follow soon.

Have questions in the meantime? Reach out at [info@blackesteem.org](mailto:info@blackesteem.org).

# Student Drop-Off

We are asking parents for their co-operation when dropping off students in the early morning for music practice. Please do not drive into the north side parking area, nor the back of the school (school yard) when dropping off your child for music practice. This becomes a safety issue with students coming to school and for staff driving in the lot to park. Please drop off your child in the loop, or on the East side of the parking lot. We thank you for your co-operation in helping to ensure our students' and staff's safety

# Jewish Heritage Month

When the Province of Ontario passed the *Jewish Heritage Month Act* in 2012, it recognized the important contributions that Jewish Canadians have made to Ontario's social, economic, political, and cultural fabric.

Since its inception in 2015, the [TDSB's Jewish Heritage Committee](#) (JHC) aims to do just that. The Committee aims to celebrate Jewish heritage and culture in impactful, innovative, and inspirational

ways for students - with the fight against antisemitism and all forms of hate providing the core goal of this work.

The JHC is pleased to present two educational programs for May 2025 that have been vetted and approved by TDSB staff.

### Being Jewish in Ontario

This brand-new collection for middle and high school educators contains a 10-minute short film and lesson plans with supporting materials in English and French. It explores what it means to be Jewish today through the voices of youth and their family members.

Students learn how Jewish immigrants throughout Ontario built a sense of community, belonging, and opportunity during the early 20th century, despite facing societal exclusion. Through stories of individual and collective action, this history not only educates youth about a specific heritage, but also highlights a universal connection to the generational efforts that foster positive, lasting legacies for vibrant community life and contributions to all Canadians today.

Please visit the [Being Jewish in Ontario](#) website to access the film and learning resources. Being Jewish in Ontario is a partnership between [Facing History and Ourselves](#) and the [Ontario Jewish Archives, Blankenstein Family Heritage Centre](#).

### The Children's Republic

This play is written by Canadian playwright Hannah Moscovitch and produced by the Harold Green Theatre Company and Koffler Arts. It casts local Toronto actors, including high school students, and relays the heartfelt and inspirational tale of [Dr. Janusz Korczak's](#) selfless journey to bring safety to Polish-Jewish orphans within the Warsaw Ghetto. His struggle to advocate for children's rights and shelter his orphans from the horrors of the Holocaust ended with his death in 1942. The Children's Republic is a powerful and true story of beauty, heroism, and legacy in a world devoid of freedom and even the necessities of life.

[Please see the play's flyer for locations, dates, and times.](#) The JHC is offering complimentary tickets for TDSB secondary school students. Seating is very limited, so please register as soon as possible. For more information, please contact Shari Schwartz-Maltz at [shari.schwartz-maltz@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:shari.schwartz-maltz@tdsb.on.ca).

## Asian Heritage Month

Asian Heritage Month has been proudly recognized by the TDSB every May since 2007. The Province of Ontario celebrates it with the Asian Heritage Act in 2005, and it has been officially designated across Canada since May 2002.

This year's Asian Heritage Month theme, *Asian Canadians Up and Rising*, celebrates the strength, resilience, and achievements of Asian Canadian communities. It recognizes individuals and groups who have contributed to shaping Canada's past and present, while also highlighting emerging voices and future leaders.

For students and staff in the TDSB community, this theme serves as an opportunity to explore stories of perseverance and embrace the unique identities that contribute to both the school community and to

the diverse Asian diaspora in Canada. By learning about and celebrating these diverse perspectives, schools can promote inclusivity, equity, and a deeper appreciation for Asian Canadians.

The TDSB is the largest and one of the most diverse school boards in Canada. Nearly one-quarter of students were born outside of Canada, and collectively, we speak more than 120 languages. According to the 2023 Student Census, 46% of TDSB students self-identified as Asian.

## 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!

Monday	Mr. Greek
Tuesday	Hero Burger
Wednesday	Osmow’s
Thursday	The Basil Box
Friday	Boston Pizza

## Important Upcoming Dates

SAVE THE DATE	
Mon., May 26	Grade 6 All-gender Slo-Pitch at Rolph Road Elementary S.
Tues., May 27	Pizza Day
	Gr. 8 Ultimate Frisbee at Don Mills MS
Wed., May 28 - Fri., May 30	Grade 8 Graduation Trip to Montreal
Wed., May 28	Gr. 7 & 8 Slo-Pitch Conference Finals at Goulding Park
Thur., May 29	Grade 6 All-gender Ultimate Frisbee at Don Mills MS
Mon., June 2 to Wed. June 11	Gr. 6 EQAO Writing
Mon., June 2	Gr. 7 Ultimate Frisbee Conference Finals
Wed., June 4	Conference Finals for Track & Field at Esther Shiner
Fri., June 6	P.A. Day (No School)
Mon., June 9	Music Festival at Wonderland
Tues., June 10	Track & Field City Finals at Birchmount
Wed., June 11	Pizza Day
	Ms. Douglas’ (7/8F) class trip to The Village at Black Creek
	Gr. 6 Trip to Aga Khan Museum (6A, 6B, 6C)
Thurs., June 12	Gr. 6 Trip to Aga Khan Museum (6D, 6F-Kerney, 6F-Silis, 6I)
	CODA Concert at 6:30PM in Gymnasium
Mon & Tues., June 16 & 17	Gr. 7 Dental Clinic
Tues., June 17	Pizza Day - <b>NEW DATE</b>
Fri., June 19	Staff vs Students Slo-Pitch Game
Mon., June 23	Gr. 6 & 7 Trip to Cineplex (How to Train a Dragon 2)
Tues., June 24	Gr. 8 Graduation Ceremony and Celebration
Wed., June 25	Report Cards sent home
Fri., June 27	Last Day of School

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.

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.