

# Willowdale Middle School



## Daylight Savings Time

We would like to remind our families that on Sunday, November 3, 2024 at 2:00AM, daylight savings time ends and clocks move back one hour.



## Halloween @ Willowdale MS

Halloween was celebrated in a big way at Willowdale this past week! Our students created the Haunted Walk, created class masks, and decorated their classroom doors. Below are a few pictures highlighting our creative and fun-filled festivities. Click [HERE](#) to see a video of our haunted walk!



## Mono Cliffs- Grade 6 Overnight Trip

Mono Cliffs Outdoor Education Centre is owned and operated by Toronto District School Board. Our Grade 6 students will be going on an overnight trip, supported by our TDSB Outdoor Education resources. The cost of the trip is \$150. This will be posted to SchoolCash Online this coming week. A parent information night will be announced shortly as well.



Date	Classes
December 9 to 11, 2024	6C, 6D, 6/7F, 6I (Group 1)
December 11 to 13, 2024	6A, 6B, 6F (Group 2)

If you have any questions, please contact, Ms. Wyman.

## November is Hindu Heritage Month at the TDSB

"The Toronto District School Board (TDSB) is proud to recognize Hindu Heritage Month during the month of November. This heritage has been celebrated by our students, staff, and the community since April 2018 as a result of a motion passed by the Board of Trustees.

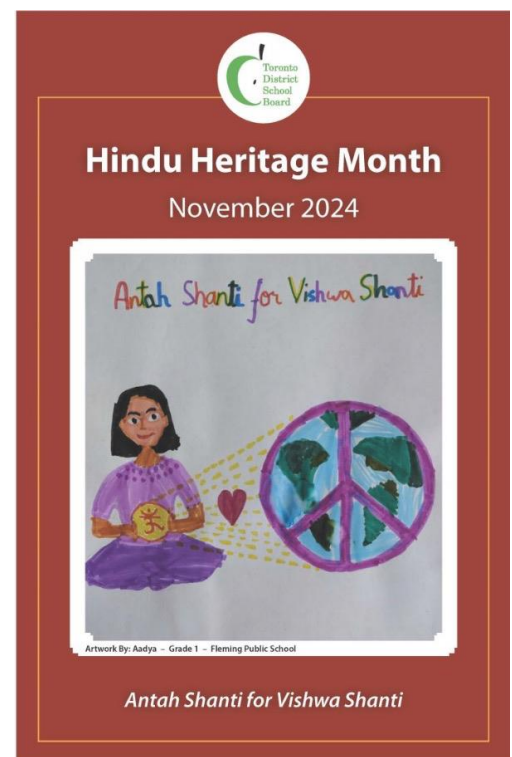
This year's theme is ***Antah Shanti for Vishwa Shanti***. This Sanskrit phrase conveys that to foster World (Vishwa) Peace (Shanti) we need to have Inner (Antah) Peace (Shanti).

Hindu dharma recognizes three levels of peace. The first level is inner peace: that in the mind of a person. The second level is peace in our immediate environment: in our family, neighbourhood, school, and community. The third level is peace in the world, between nations. That is why, at the end of prayers, Hindus chant OM Shanti, Shanti, Shanti.

Inner peace is the foundation to build peace in our immediate environment. A peaceful state of mind is essential for the courage, confidence and compassion required to act for the greater good of humanity.

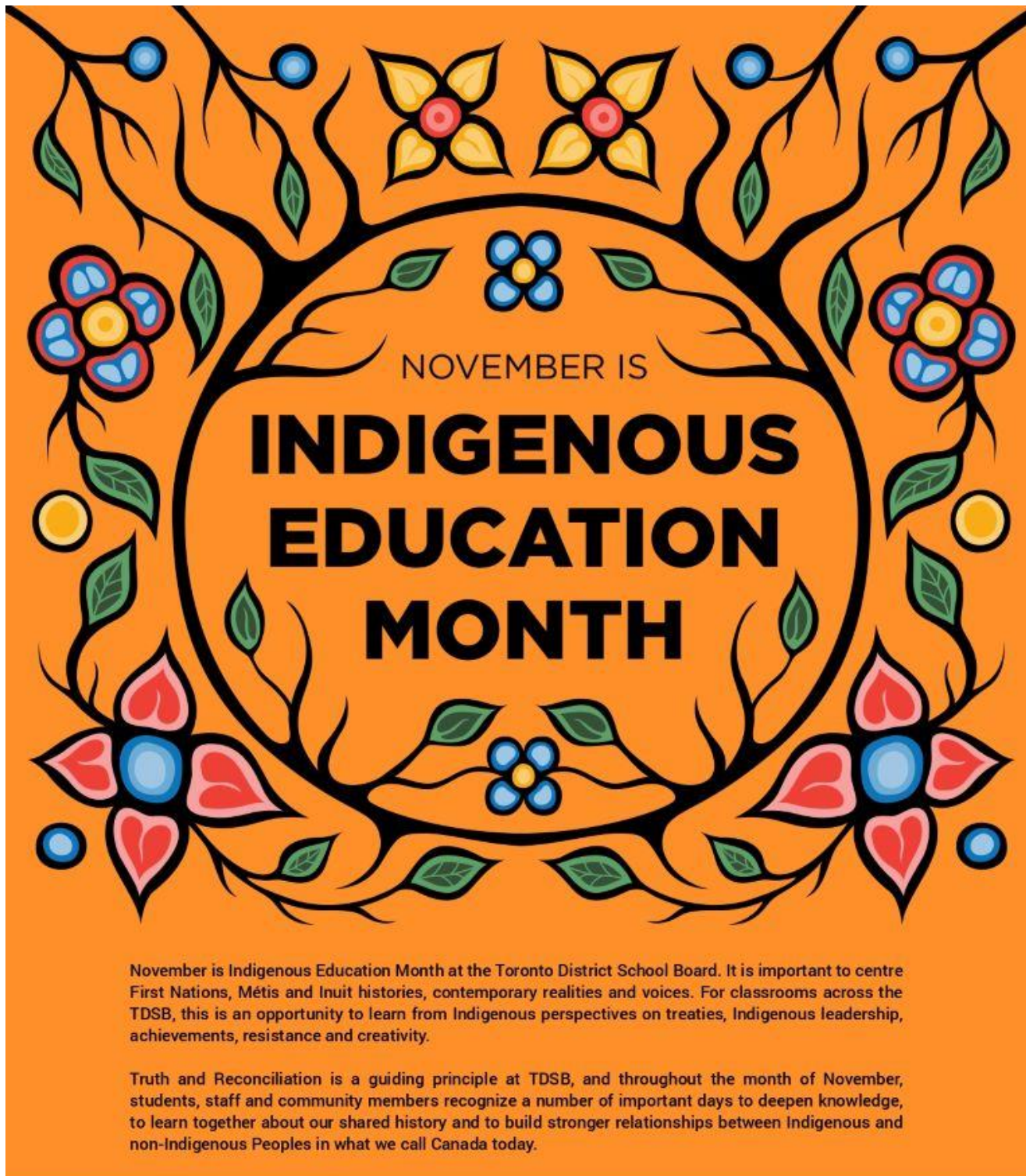
When we feel peace within us, the journey towards Vishwa Shanti or World Peace has begun."

Please follow TDSB Hindu Heritage Month on X for daily messages throughout the month of November: [@tdsb\\_HHM](https://twitter.com/tdsb_HHM)





# November is Indigenous Education Month



[CLICK HERE](#) for resources to support Treaties Week, Inuit Day, Indigenous Veterans Day, Louis Riel Day

**INDIGENOUS EDUCATION IS ALL DAY EVERYDAY**



## Grade 8 High School Information

### Grade 8-9 Transition Information Night Hosted Virtually by WMS

We will be hosting a parent/guardian information session for our Grade 8 parents on **Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30PM. The session will be held virtually, and a link has been provided.

LINK TO THE VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION - [CLICK HERE!](#)

### Northview Heights Open House Information for Central Interest Programs

Northview Heights Secondary School will be hosting their “Central Interest Programs” information night on **Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from 6:30PM - 8:30PM**. Please see the information poster [here!](#)

### Secondary School Open Houses - Grade 8's

To our Grade 8 families, we want to make you aware of the upcoming Grade 9 Open Houses and Information Nights. These dates are fast approaching. Please find more information by clicking on this link: [Secondary School Open Houses](#)

### TDSB Secondary Central Student Interest Programs - Grade 8's

TDSB students have access to programs that offer unique opportunities and focus on a variety of interests. Check out the elementary Central Student Interest Programs [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](#)

## Preparing for High School

For the Top 10 Tips and Considerations in the Transition to High School, please visit the [TDSB Beyond 8 website](#).

The TDSB offers over 50 programs with a particular focus. These programs are for anyone who demonstrates an interest and passion in a particular program area. Some examples of these programs are as follows:

- Arts Focus Programs/Schools
- Exceptional Athlete Program
- Integrated Technology School
- International Baccalaureate Programs
- Leadership Pathway Program
- Math, Science & Technology Programs

For more information on Central Student Interest Programs (CSIP), please click on the link: [Student Interest Programs](#)

**Application for CSIP programs opens on November 4 and closes on November 22, 2024, at 4 p.m.**

To further support students and families with the application process, TDSB staff will host two Central Student Interest Program Application Support Sessions to answer questions that students or families may have about the application. Live, online support will be available on the following dates:

- November 12 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. ([Click here to join](#))
- November 18 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. ([Click here to join](#))

## Students with [Special Education](#) Needs

Students with an exceptionality for whom a change in setting or program is being considered for Grade 9 will be discussed at the Annual IPRC Review. Students with an *Individual Education Plan (IEP)* and no formal identification will be discussed at the School Support Team (SST) meeting. Please note this meeting will occur with the parent(s)/guardian(s)/caregiver(s).

# Elementary Central Special Interest Programs

Applications for elementary Central Student Interest Programs open soon. At the elementary level, we offer arts-focused programs at four different schools in the TDSB. Application for these school programs open on November 4, 2024 and closes on November 22 at 4 p.m.

Learn more about each of these programs on the [elementary central student interest programs](#) website. You can also review program and application requirements, get dates for upcoming open houses and webinars and all application timelines.

To further support students and families with the application process, TDSB staff will be hosting two Central Student Interest Program Application Support Sessions to answer questions that students or families may have about the application. Live, online support will be available on the following dates:

- November 12 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. ([Click here to join](#))
- November 18 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. ([Click here to join](#))

Families are encouraged to attend [Open Houses](#) for school- and program-specific information.

## Parent/Guardian Learning Session: Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

**Date:** November 27 Day (AM)

**Date:** November 28 Evening (PM)

**Time:** 10:00am - 11:30am

**Time:** 6:30pm - 8:00pm

For more information, and the meeting links, please click [here!](#)

 Special Education and Inclusion  
presents  
Parent/Guardian/Caregiver Sessions  
Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

## WMS Picture Re-Take Day



**SMILE!** 😊

Our school picture re-day will take place on **November 8, 2024**. Please note this is only for students who missed picture day.

## Progress Reports & Parent-Teacher Interviews

On Tuesday, November 13, 2024, Willowdale students will receive their Progress Report.

Parent-Teacher interviews will take place in-person on Thursday, November 14, 2024 between 4 pm - 7 pm, and on Friday, November 15, 2024 between 9 am-12 pm. Teachers will be sending out information soon on how to schedule an interview and select a time.

If you wish to discuss your child's progress with one of their rotary teachers, you are encouraged to reach out to them.

All families are reminded that Friday, November 15, 2024 is a PA Day, therefore, there will be no school for students.





## Connecting with Willowdale Teaching Staff

Teacher	Responsibilities	E-Mail Address
Suzy Romeiro	6A	<a href="mailto:Suzy.custodio@tdsb.on.ca">Suzy.custodio@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Vincenza Clarino	6B	<a href="mailto:Vincenza.clarino@tdsb.on.ca">Vincenza.clarino@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Michele Stevenson	6C	<a href="mailto:Michele.stevenson@tdsb.on.ca">Michele.stevenson@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Naomi Wyman	6D	<a href="mailto:Naomi.wyman@tdsb.on.ca">Naomi.wyman@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Alexa Kerney	6F	<a href="mailto:Alexa.Kerney@tdsb.on.ca">Alexa.Kerney@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Michelle Silis	6/7F	<a href="mailto:Michelle.silis@tdsb.on.ca">Michelle.silis@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Dana Teplitz	7A	<a href="mailto:Dana.teplitz@tdsb.on.ca">Dana.teplitz@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Lukrica Prugo	7B	<a href="mailto:Lukrica.prugo@tdsb.on.ca">Lukrica.prugo@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Emma Dolce	7C	<a href="mailto:Emma.dolce@tdsb.on.ca">Emma.dolce@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Jason Persic	7D	<a href="mailto:Jason.persic@tdsb.on.ca">Jason.persic@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Tiberiu Batkay	7M	<a href="mailto:Tiberiu.batkay@tdsb.on.ca">Tiberiu.batkay@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Karrie Douglas	7/8F	<a href="mailto:Karrie.douglas@tdsb.on.ca">Karrie.douglas@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Kendra Yama	8A	<a href="mailto:Kendra.yama@tdsb.on.ca">Kendra.yama@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Eric Isaacman	8B AM / Phys. Ed	<a href="mailto:Eric.isaacman@tdsb.on.ca">Eric.isaacman@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Laura Klunowski	8B PM	<a href="mailto:Laura.klunowski@tdsb.on.ca">Laura.klunowski@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Mathew Weidenfelder	8C	<a href="mailto:Mathew.weidenfelder@tdsb.on.ca">Mathew.weidenfelder@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Joshua Harwood	8D	<a href="mailto:Joshua.harwood@tdsb.on.ca">Joshua.harwood@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Konrad Adamski	8G	<a href="mailto:Konrad.adamski@tdsb.on.ca">Konrad.adamski@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Milos Mitrovic	8E	<a href="mailto:Milos.mitrovic@tdsb.on.ca">Milos.mitrovic@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Réda Talbi	8F	<a href="mailto:Reda.talbi@tdsb.on.ca">Reda.talbi@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Victoria Miller	6,7,8I	<a href="mailto:Victoria.miller@tdsb.on.ca">Victoria.miller@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Brooke Sadler	Resource/Spec. Ed	<a href="mailto:Brooke.sadler@tdsb.on.ca">Brooke.sadler@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Angeliki Chantzis	ESL	<a href="mailto:Angeliki.chantzis@tdsb.on.ca">Angeliki.chantzis@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Troy Jones	Music Gr. 7 & 8	<a href="mailto:Troy.jones@tdsb.on.ca">Troy.jones@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Gary Sahsuvar	Music Gr. 6/ Prep Coverage	<a href="mailto:Gary.sahsuvaroglu@tdsb.on.ca">Gary.sahsuvaroglu@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Melody Hamdule	Core French	<a href="mailto:Melody.hamdule@tdsb.on.ca">Melody.hamdule@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Lauren Ziebell	Library/Guidance/Gym/Resource	<a href="mailto:Lauren.ziebell@tdsb.on.ca">Lauren.ziebell@tdsb.on.ca</a>
Michael Soriano	Phys. Ed./Health/Resource	<a href="mailto:Michael.soriano@tdsb.on.ca">Michael.soriano@tdsb.on.ca</a>

## 2024/2025 WMS Spirit Wear ON SALE NOW!



We still have a few hoodies for sale. Hoodies cost \$45 for the screenprint version and \$60 for the embroidered version. Please see Ms. Ziebell or contact her at [Lauren.ziebell@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Lauren.ziebell@tdsb.on.ca) if you are interested to buy one. You can also purchase one on School CashOnline!

**[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE NOW!](#)**

## Going Outside and the Weather

Fall has arrived - the weather is changing, and winter is approaching. Daily, each student has a 35-minute lunch break that will be outside. As well, some gym classes will be outside weather permitting.

With all this in mind we encourage families to ensure their child is properly dressed for the weather. A light rain and below zero temperatures will not cause us to remain inside during these times.

As the winter approaches families are encouraged to ensure that their children have the appropriate clothing (boots, hats, mittens/gloves etc.) for the weather.



## WMS Wildcats Sports Teams Update

### Grade 6 Flag Football

Congratulations to the Grade 6 All-Gender Flag Football team on their amazing season. On October 18, they captured the North Conference championship with a perfect 6-0 record. The team advanced to the City Championship this past Monday, at Northview Secondary School, and lost a thrilling back and forth game 27-26 in overtime. Congratulations on being crowned city finalists!

Thank you to Mr. Soriano for all of his hard work with the team!

Great job, Wildcats! We are so proud of you!





## Grade 7/8 Girls Soccer



Last Friday the Grade 7/8 girls' soccer team played at Don Mills Collegiate in the playoffs. After winning the semi-final game against Windfields in penalty shots, Willowdale moved on to the final against Glenview. Our Wildcats fought hard until the last minute of the game when a lucky shot by Glenview turned out to be the heartbreaking difference maker. Willowdale ended in second place adding another banner to our Willowdale Athletic Wall of Fame. Be proud of your achievement Wildcats; you made us proud!

Thank you to Mr. Batkay and Ms. Prugo for their dedication and commitment to the team!

## WMS Wildcats Sports Calendar - November

Please click the link [HERE](#) to take you to our NEW weekly sports calendar! We will update this calendar each week to reflect known practices, games, and tournaments for our sports teams. If you have any specific questions, please reach out to the coach of the specific team you are inquiring about.



## Upcoming Sports Season Offered at WMS

WMS is proud to announce that the following late fall sports that will be offered to our students. Please ensure that your child listens to announcements, checks the weekly update, and uses the sports calendar above.



### Late Fall Sports:

Grade 6 Boys Volleyball

Grade 7 Boys Volleyball

Grade 8 Boys Volleyball

Grade 6 Girls Basketball

Grade 7 Girls Basketball

Grade 8 Girls Basketball

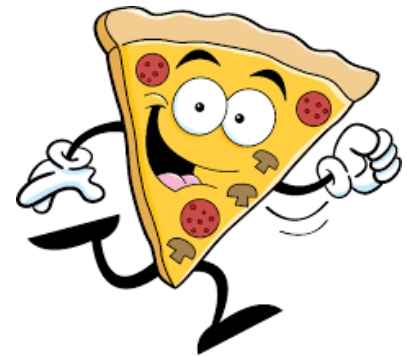
## Pizza Lunches - Late Orders ONLY

This week, we successfully had our first pizza lunch of the school year. Thank you to our Parent Council for making this possible.

**FOR STUDENTS WHO MISSED THE ORIGINAL PIZZA DAY SIGN UP**, we have opened the [School Cash Online](#) system for students to purchase pizza for the remaining two pizza days. This is **ONLY** for late orders for the remaining two dates - if your child received pizza at the last pizza lunch, you do NOT need to order again! Please order now **ONLY** if you missed the last deadline. Refunds will not be given for duplicate orders; your child will just receive a double lunch on each day. If you are unsure if you have already ordered, in School Cash Online, please click on "HISTORY" at the top right of the screen to check.

\$10.00 per pizza day (Total \$20.00), for 2 slices of pizza (pepperoni or cheese), a juice box and bag of chips.

If you have any questions, please email [djarczyn@sympatico.ca](mailto:djarczyn@sympatico.ca).



### Pizza Days:

Tuesday, Nov. 19th

Thursday, Dec. 19th

## 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

## Locker Use and Backpacks



We would like to remind students that backpacks **MUST** remain in their locker for the duration of the day.

It is **NOT** optional and backpacks are not allowed in classrooms. Backpacks must be in a locker. We are still selling locker locks for \$10 if any student needs one.

Not having a lock is not a valid excuse for backpacks not being in lockers. It is a safety issue and we ask that all students ensure they are following this guideline.



## TDSB Mobile Device Policy



Many students travel to and from school with mobile devices. However, the province and TDSB now require that all students turn OFF their personal mobile devices and **STORE** them ***"Out of sight during instructional time."*** This means that mobile devices (including cell phones, watches, tablets, video game devices and other items connected to the Internet) are **NOT** permitted during school hours, including lunch time, so that this does not interfere in academic and social time at school.

We are asking parents and guardians to review the mobile device policy with your child, as we are noticing a slight uptick in the number of cell phones being collected in the office each day.

## Upcoming Parent Council Meetings

Our next Parent Council meeting will be taking place on **Wednesday, November 27, 2024**, beginning at 6:30PM in our school library. We hope to see you there!





## Important Upcoming Dates

SAVE THE DATE	
Tuesday, November 5, 2024	ROM Trip - Grade 7 Students
Wednesday, November 6, 2024	8C Field Trip - Walk T.O. Kensington Market
Friday, November 8, 2024	Photo Retake Day
Monday, November 11, 2024	Remembrance Day assembly
Wednesday, November 13, 2024	Progress Reports go home
Thursday, November 14, 2024	6C Trip to the North York Public Library (AM)
Thursday, November 14, 2024	Parent-Teacher Interviews 4:00PM - 7:00PM
Friday, November 15, 2024	Parent-Teacher Interviews 9:00AM - 12:00PM
Friday, November 15, 2024	P.A. Day (No school for students)
Monday, November 25, 2024	Grade 7 Immunization Clinic
Thursday, November 28, 2024	Prologue Performance "Sultans of Strings"
Friday, November 29, 2024	P.A. Day (No school for students)
Thursday, December 5, 2024	Presentation by Paul Davis on Social Media Safety
Mon., Dec. 9 to Wed., Dec. 11	Group 1 Grade 6 overnight trip to Mono Cliffs
Wed., Dec. 11 to Fri., Dec. 13	Group 2 Grade 6 overnight trip to Mono Cliffs
Dec. 23, 2024 to Jan. 3, 2025	Winter Break
Monday, January 6, 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, or to 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.