

Willowdale Middle School



WMS Annual Winter Carnival

Willowdale's third annual Winter Carnival is fast approaching! Our entire school community is welcome to join us on the evening of **December 4th**, for a night of community and fun!

Families are encouraged to come play carnival games, and to enjoy each other's company to kick off the start of winter! All games will be played via the donation of canned goods (no money). This year, we will be supporting our local food banks.

The Winter Carnival will take place in our gymnasium, from 6:30PM - 8:00PM.



2025/2026 **NEW** WMS Spirit Wear

We are excited to announce that our 2025-2026 WMS Spirit Wear Hoodies are now available! After last year's overwhelming popularity, we've expanded our colour options to give students even more choice.

Online Sales:

Hoodies can be purchased through [SchoolCash Online](#) starting Tuesday, November 18, 2025. Students who order online will receive their hoodies by December 2, 2025.

In-Person Sales:

We will also be selling hoodies at our Winter Carnival on December 4, 2025. Please note: **CASH ONLY** for in-person purchases.

Prices are listed below. If you have any questions, please contact lauren.ziebell@tdsb.on.ca

We can't wait to see our Wildcats proudly wearing their new spirit wear around Willowdale!

SIZES AVAILABLE:

YOUTH SMALL, YOUTH MEDIUM, YOUTH LARGE, YOUTH XL;
ADULT SMALL, ADULT MEDIUM, ADULT LARGE, ADULT XL, ADULT 2XL.

*Add \$3 for XXL items | visit imprintableclothes.com/proudnation and use style codes below for more details

YOUTH SIZING GUIDE:

YOUTH SMALL = 6/8
YOUTH MED = 10/12
YOUTH LARGE = 14/16
YOUTH XL = 18



ATC® 50/50 PULLOVER HOODIE - NAVY, SANGRIA or BLACK

(Style ATCF2500/ATCY2500)

With 2 colour front screenprint **\$45**

ATC® 50/50 PULLOVER HOODIE - OATMEAL

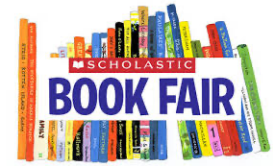
(Style ATCF2500/ATCY2500)

With 2 colour front twill cresting/Embroidery **\$60**

© 2025 PROUDNATION CLOTHING & PROMOTIONS | WWW.PROUDNATION.CA | PAGE 1 OF 1

Scholastic Book Fair: December 1-5, 2025

WMS will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair from December 1-5, 2025. All classes will have the chance to attend, and a schedule will be provided. Students will also have the opportunity to purchase before school from 8:30AM - 8:55AM and from 3:00PM - 3:30PM each day of the book fair.



We also invite parents and guardians to do some shopping at our book fair on the evening of December 4th (during our Winter Carnival), between the times of 6:30PM - 8:00PM.

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

WMS Snack Sale Fundraiser: November 21, 2025



We're excited to share that our popular Friday Snack Sale is back on **Friday, November 27th!** All students will have the opportunity to visit the sale during lunchtime. **Please note: this will be a CASH ONLY event.**

Students can choose from a variety of treats, including chips, candy, chocolate, and soda.

All proceeds will support subsidizing school trips, helping ensure these experiences are accessible to all students.

Literacy and Numeracy After School Support Program @ WMS

Our Numeracy and Literacy Program is off to a great start! This program supports students in Grades 7 and 8 in strengthening their math and reading skills through fun, engaging activities and small group support. Sessions take place after school on Mondays and Wednesdays, with an additional numeracy session on Wednesdays during lunch.



It's not too late to join! We encourage students to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to build confidence and enhance their learning in a supportive environment.

For more information or to get involved, please contact Ms. Hamdule (melody.hamdule@tdsb.on.ca) for numeracy or Ms. Chantzis (angeliki.chantzis@tdsb.on.ca) for literacy. Classes run until January 26, 2026.

Grade 6 Overnight Trip to The Etobicoke Outdoor Education Centre

[CLICK HERE](#) for the slides from our information night.

Parents are encouraged to fill out the EMA forms and [School Cash Online](#) payment (\$150).

Dates and Classes:

Trip 1: **Dec. 1-3** 6C Wyman, 6E Beaubien, 6I Miller

Trip 2: **Dec. 8-10** 6F Douglas, 6F Cooper, 6D Kerney

Trip 3: **Dec. 10-12** 6A Romeiro, 6B Clarino

We would really like each student to attend. Please reach out to your child's teacher for support.

For more information please look at the following links: [EOEC Website](#).

Muskoka Woods - Grade 7 Overnight Trip Parent Information Night

We will be hosting a VIRTUAL Parent Information Night for our Grade 7 parents/guardians on **Tuesday, November 25th, beginning at 6:30PM**, relating to the Muskoka Woods overnight trip.

The link to the information night will be provided next week.



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.



TRIP DATE: February 4-6, 2026

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 8-9 Information Slides

[CLICK HERE](#)

Upcoming Key Dates

Specialized Programs - Application OPENS	November 24 th , 2025
Specialized Programs - Application CLOSES	December 12 th , 2025 @ noon

Virtual Specialized Programs Sessions including Application Information

Learn more about the Specialized Programs application process and program-specific information and tips!

Arts Programs

November 19 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. (*Link to come*)

- Tips for preparing a visual arts portfolio or audition video

Leadership Programs

November 20 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. (*Link to come*)

- Strategies for writing a Leadership focused reflection piece

Math, Science, and Technology (MST) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Programs

November 20 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. (*Link to come*)

- Strategies for answering multiple choice format questions
- Interactive demonstration for approaching problem solving questions in Mathematics
- Strategies for writing an opinion paragraph (IB only)

[Check here](#) for the links mentioned above when they become available.

IMPORTANT LINKS FOR APPLYING - Please see below!

[Specialized Programs Q & A for Website](#)

[Form Submission-Specialized Programs 26/27](#)

[Specialized Programs Sharing Video Files](#)

[Specialized Programs Turning Pictures and Documents into PDFs](#)

[Important Timelines](#)

TDSB Elementary and Secondary Specialty Programs

The TDSB offers a variety of Specialized Programs focused on the Arts, Math, Science & Technology, Leadership and more! Specialized Programs (formerly Central Student Interest Programs) are available at both the [elementary](#) and [secondary](#) level and are located within several schools across the system.

Based on direction from the Supervisor appointed at the TDSB by the Minister of Education, the decision has been made to change the application and admission process for Specialized Programs. Applications will be open during the week of November 24, 2025 and will remain open for three weeks.

Elementary

Applicants will be admitted based on an evaluated portfolio or audition video submitted with their application.

Secondary

Applicants must meet a report card benchmark (based on their 2024-25 report cards) to be eligible to apply. Applicants will be seated based on their overall applicant score; a combination of select report card marks connected to their program of choice and an evaluated demonstration of knowledge and skills.

Please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/specializedprograms to learn more about program entry points, eligibility requirements, minimum report card benchmark, the required demonstrations of knowledge and skill, and the application and admission process.

All TDSB schools with Specialized Programs also host open houses in November, and we encourage you to take this opportunity to visit, learn more and ask questions about specific schools and programs.

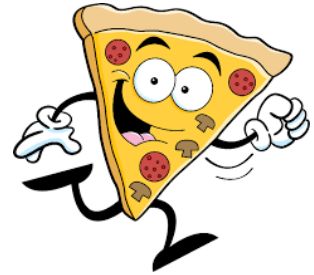
If you have any questions about applying to a Specialized Program, please contact the Central Program Admissions Office at CentralPrograms@tdsb.on.ca.

Upcoming Pizza Lunches

Our final Pizza Lunches of 2025 will be on Tuesday, November 18th, Thursday, December 4th, and Tuesday, December 16th.

The deadline has passed to order pizza for the above date. New pizza day dates will be shared in the New Year!

Thank you to our parent volunteers for making pizza days possible at Willowdale MS!



WMS Picture Re-Take Day



Edge Imaging Photography apologizes for the postponement of our photo retake day this week. Our school picture re-take day will now take place on November 18, 2025.

Please note this is only for students who missed our first picture day.

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!](#)



Grade 6 Trip to The Village at Black Creek

This past week, several of our Grade 6 classes (6A, 6B, 6C, and 6D) attended **The Village at Black Creek Pioneer Village** for an engaging, hands-on learning experience. Students explored what life was like in 19th-century Ontario by participating in interactive workshops, touring historical buildings, and learning from costumed interpreters. The trip connected directly to their Social Studies unit on heritage and identity, helping students better understand early settler life and how communities have evolved over time. It was a fun and educational day filled with discovery, teamwork, and curiosity!



Upcoming Grade 6 Trip to The Village at Black Creek

Thursday, November 20th, 2025

Our Grade 6 students will be visiting The Village at Black Creek this November to experience life in early Ontario through interactive and hands-on activities. This engaging trip supports their learning in Social Studies and History, giving students a glimpse into what life was like in the 19th century.

- Beaubien (6E)
- Cooper (6F)
- Douglas (6/7F)
- Miller (6/7/8I)

Mental Health Support for Students

Mental Health and Well-Being is essential to student success. The TDSB is committed to improving the mental health and well-being of students. This includes their physical, psychological and emotional well-being. Please explore the attached mental health supports that may be of benefit to you or someone you know.

[Mental Health Resources](#)



Suicide Prevention

Talking to Your Kids About Suicide

It's important to talk openly and honestly with your kids about mental health, including suicide. Let them know that it's okay to feel sad or down sometimes, but that it's important to talk to someone if they're feeling overwhelmed or hopeless.

If your child hears a friend talking about suicide, encourage them to:

- **Listen actively and non-judgmentally.** Let your friend know you're there for them and that you care.
- **Encourage them to seek help.** Suggest they talk to a trusted adult, such as a parent, teacher, counselor, or therapist. Ask your child who are the adults they feel comfortable with speaking to at school.
- **Offer to go with them to get help.** This can show your friend that you're serious about helping them.
- **Don't keep it a secret.** If your friend is in immediate danger, call 911 or a crisis hotline.

Remember: You're not alone. There are many resources available to help you and your child.

Here are some resources:

- **988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline:** Call or text 988
- **Kids Help Phone** 1800-668-6868 or Text 686868
- Adults can call 741741
- There is a Social Worker assigned to Willowdale and can help you navigate and answer questions if needed.

Lunch Box Program



The Lunch Box program continues to be a success! 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

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.

Upcoming Parent Council Meetings

Our next Parent Council meeting will be taking place on **Thursday, November 20, 2025**, beginning at 6:30PM in our school library. We hope to see you there!

Please see the agenda for the upcoming November 20th meeting: [Click Here](#)



Important Upcoming Dates

SAVE THE DATE	
Monday, November 17, 2025	Grade 7 Trip to Little Canada Museum (7A, 7B, 6/7F, 6/7/8I)
Tuesday, November 18, 2025	Photo Re-take Day (for students who were absent the 1 st day)
	Pizza Day Lunch
	WMS Hoodie Sale Opens on SchoolCash Online
Thursday, November 20, 2025	Gr. 6 Make-Up Trip to Black Creek (6E, 6F, 6/7F, 6I)
	School Council Meeting at 6:30PM in the Library
Friday, November 21, 2025	WMS Snack Sale Fundraiser @ Lunch
Monday, November 24, 2025	Specialized Program Application Process Opens
Tuesday, November 25, 2025	Gr. 7 Muskoka Trip Parent/Guardian Info Night (Virtual) at 6:30PM
December 1 to 3, 2025	Gr. 6 (6C, 6E, 6I) to Etobicoke Outdoor Education Centre
December 1 to 5, 2025	Scholastic Book Fair @ WMS
Thursday, December 4, 2025	Pizza Day Lunch
	Winter Carnival Night & Scholastic Book Fair Night
December 8 to 10, 2025	Gr. 6 (6/7F, 6F, 6D) to Etobicoke Outdoor Education Centre
December 10 to 12, 2025	Gr. 6 (6A, 6B) to Etobicoke Outdoor Education Centre
December 12, 2025	Specialized Programs Application Closes at Noon
Tuesday, December 16, 2025	Pizza Day Lunch
Friday, December 19, 2025	Last Day of School
December 22 to January 2, 2025	Winter Break (No School)
Monday, January 5, 2026	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

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.