

# Willowdale Middle School



## Welcome Back WMS!



We are thrilled to have welcomed back all our students to Willowdale Middle School this week! We hope our students and families had a great summer break!

It has been a smooth first week back to school! We would like to thank all our students, families, and staff for a wonderful start-up to the 2024-2025 school year. We look forward to all of the exciting connections, learning and opportunities for our students, families and community that we have planned for the upcoming school year.

## Student Expectations

This week, we held our first assemblies in the gym to review the Willowdale expectations and routines with our students. In addition, all students received the light green 2024-2025 school handbook, outlining the expectations and other important information. We encourage families to review the handbook and connect with your child's teacher if you have any questions.



## First Day Permission Packages

TDSB has emailed first day permission packages. Please look out for an e-mail to complete the forms electronically. Some of the forms/procedures that will be provided in digital format include [Acceptable Use of Information Technology Resources](#) (PR088), [Walking Excursion - Immediate Community](#) (PR511H), [Medical Information](#), [Student Media Consent Release Form](#) PR529B, [Code of On-line Conduct](#) PR571, [TDSB Digital Learning Tool Consent Form](#) and other information. Parents will be asked to click on the forms to acknowledge they have read the information and to give consent for their child to participate in school activities.

## NEW 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.

All students are required to adhere to the following expectations:

- Mobile devices should be placed in a student’s locker at the start of the academic day and remain in the locker for the duration of the day (including lunch time).
- Students are only permitted to bring their 1:1 Chromebook, provided by the TDSB.
- Mobile devices are not to be used at lunch time while students are on Willowdale property.
- If a student needs to contact their parents, they must come to the office to use the school phone.

These expectations have been reviewed with your child(ren) at school, but we ask that you please discuss this with your child(ren) as well.

## Lockers

This past week, all WMS students were assigned a locker by their teacher. Below are some expectations regarding student lockers:

- Students are required to have a lock for their locker. Teachers will confidentially record the students’ combination code; however, we ask that you remind your child not to share their combination code with their peers.
- Students may bring their own lock, or parents/guardians can purchase a combination lock from the school for \$10.00. A lock may be purchased using [School Cash Online](#) or bringing cash to the office.
- It is imperative that students lock their lockers as they will be required to leave their mobile devices and other personal belongings in them.



## Instrumental Musical Fee



Students will be able to purchase a music package for the music program through [School Cash Online](#). If you have any questions and/or need financial assistance, please contact Mr. Jones at [Troy.jones@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Troy.jones@tdsb.on.ca) or Mr. Sahuvar at [Gary.sahsuvaroglu@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Gary.sahsuvaroglu@tdsb.on.ca).

# WMS Band Rehearsal Schedule

2024 / 2025

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM 7:45 - 9:00	MUSIC COUNCIL (Room 2)	Wind Ensemble (Room 2)	Concert Band (Room 2)	Motown Band (Room 1)	Wind Ensemble (Room 2)
LUNCH 11:30 - 12:30	Open Practice (ROOM 2)	Open Practice (ROOM 2) Clarinet Sectionals (Room 2) Bass Clarinet Sectional (Room 2)	Open Practice (ROOM 2) Alto Sax Sectionals (Room 2) Trombone / Euph Sectional (Room 2)	Open Practice (ROOM 2) Tuba Sectionals (Room 2)	Open Practice (ROOM 2) Flute Sectionals (Room 2) Tenor Sax Sectional (Room 2)
PM 3:15 - 4:30	Jazz Combo (Room 1) Percussion Sectional (Room 2)	Festival Winds (Room 2)	Stage Band (Room 1)	Festival Winds (Room 2)	Stage Band (Room 1)

## Parking at Willowdale

A very important reminder to parents/guardians about taking extreme safety measures while driving to and from school. There are numerous children walking home, and crossing streets, both from Willowdale and neighbouring schools. Please remember there is a pathway at the front of our school which students use continuously by crossing the car loop. It is imperative that parents follow the speed limits in our car loop, on our roads, and to remind their children about road safety measures. We also ask that parents do not park/stop in front of the school entrance, as we have school busses that enter to and from school. We thank you for your help and cooperation with this.



## School Hours

Please ensure your child arrives to school on time every day. Below you will find our daily school day schedule.

TIME	EVENT
8:45 AM	Supervision begins on the yard
8:55 AM	Student entry from the yard
9:00 AM	Instructional Day begins (Announcements) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Students entering after this time are considered LATE</b></li> </ul>
11:30AM - 12:05PM	Lunch recess outside
12:05 - 12:30PM	Students eat lunch in their classroom
3:00 PM	Student Dismissal
3:00 - 3:30PM	Extra support; Extra-curriculars; Student meetings with Teachers
3:10 PM	Supervision ends

## Immunization Forms

Toronto Public Health will be holding a clinic at Willowdale MS for all Grade 7 & 8 students on November 25, 2024, from 9:15AM to 2:45PM. This clinic will provide free vaccinations against three diseases: Meningococcal, Human Papillomavirus; and Hepatitis B. Vaccination packages have been distributed this week to students. Parents are asked to complete the consent form and have your child return it to their homeroom teacher by **September 23, 2024**. For more information about this clinic and/or the vaccinations, please visit the Toronto Public Health website at [www.toronto.ca/SchoolVaccines](http://www.toronto.ca/SchoolVaccines) or call (416) 338-7600.

## WMS Picture Day

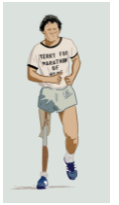


**SMILE!** 😊

Our school picture day, will take place on **October 8, 2024**.

## Terry Fox Run

We will be hosting our annual Terry Fox run on **Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>**. More details to follow in next week's update.



## Lockdown Drill

Our first lockdown drill will take place at **9:20AM on September 18<sup>th</sup>**. Teachers will be going over the proper procedures with their students prior to our first drill.

## Curriculum Night/Meet the Teacher

We will be holding Curriculum Night on **Thursday, September 26, from 6:30 to 7:30PM** at school. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents/guardians to meet their child's homeroom and rotary teachers. Parents/Guardians will find out what their child will be learning this year, the opportunities they will have to participate in extra-curricular activities, and to tour the school. The teachers, support staff and administration look forward to seeing all our parents again, and to meet our parents who are new to our Willowdale community!



## 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. Greek
Tuesday	Hero Burger
Wednesday	Osmow's
Thursday	The Basil Box
Friday	Boston Pizza



## Upcoming WMS Sports Teams

WMS is proud to announce that the following early fall sports will be offered to our students. Please ensure that your child listens to announcements, checks the weekly update, or the screen at the front of our school for tryout details! Tryouts are in full swing and will be announced regularly on the morning announcements. Please note that students should listen carefully, as tryouts and practices will be announced with weather and field considerations in mind. Some tryout dates have been announced below under our key dates section, and more will be added next week.



Early Fall Sports:	Teachers
Grade 6 Boys Soccer	Soriano
Grade 7 Boys Soccer	Mitrovic, Hamdule
Grade 8 Boys Soccer	Mitrovic, Hamdule
Grade 6 Girls Soccer	Wyman
Grade 7 Girls Soccer	Hamdule
Grade 8 Girls Soccer	Batkay, Prugo
Grade 6-8 Cross Country	Weidenfelder, Adamski, Ziebell
Grade 6 Co-Ed Flag Football	Soriano
Grade 7/8 Co-Ed Flag Football	Ziebell, Chantzis
Grade 7/8 Girls Touch Football	Ziebell, Chantzis
Grade 7/8 Boys Touch Football	Ziebell, Chantzis
Grade 6-8 Borden Ball	Batkay

## 2024/2025 WMS Spirit Wear

We are excited to announce that our Willowdale MS Spirit Wear hoodies will be on sale at our Curriculum Night on September 26<sup>th</sup>! Hoodies will cost \$45 for the screenprint version and \$60 for the embroidered version. During the evening, we will accept **cash payments only**.



## Upcoming Parent Council Meetings

Our first Parent Council meeting for the 2024/2025 school year will take place on **Monday, September 30, 2024**, at 6:30PM in our school library. We hope to see you there!



## Important Upcoming Dates

SAVE THE DATE	
Tuesday, September 10, 2024	Grade 7 and 8 Boys Soccer Tryout @ 3:00PM
Wednesday, September 11, 2024	Grade 6-8 Cross Country Tryout @ 8:00AM
	Grade 7 and 8 Girls Soccer Tryout @ 3:00PM
Thursday, September 12, 2024	Grade 7 and 8 Boys Soccer Tryout @ 3:00PM
Monday, September 16, 2024	Grade 7 and 8 Girls Soccer Tryout @ 3:00PM
Wednesday, September 18, 2024	Lockdown Drill @ 9:20AM
Thursday, September 26, 2024	Terry Fox Run - PM
	Curriculum Night - 6:30PM - 7:30PM
Friday, September 27, 2024	P.A. Day - No School for Students
Monday, September 30, 2024	Parent Council Meeting - 6:30PM WMS Library
Tuesday, October 8, 2024	Picture Day
Friday, October 11, 2024	P.A. Day - No School for Students
Monday, October 14, 2024	Thanksgiving Holiday - WMS is Closed

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.