



Willow Park Junior Public School

45 Windover Drive, Toronto, Ontario M1G 1P1

• Tel: (416) 396-6665 • Fax: (416) 396-6755

Principal: Sherron Grant Vice Principal: Paul Charles

April 19, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you may have heard through media reports, 5 men were injured in a violent, random incident in our community over the weekend following a midnight Ramadan prayer service. Our thoughts are with them and their families and we hope for a speedy recovery. Some of our students – particularly those in the Muslim community - may have heard about the event and are understandably upset. When a serious incident happens so close to home, many children may experience feelings of fear, uncertainty, anxiety or even anger. As a school, we want you to know that we are supporting our students.

TDSB support workers (social workers, psychologists, Child and Youth Workers, etc.) will be available at our school to offer support and counselling to our students to help them deal with any thoughts or questions they may have. They will be available for as long as they are needed.

We encourage families to discuss this situation in whatever way is appropriate for each family. Below are some tips for speaking with your child. If you feel your child needs additional support, please contact the school.

- Allow children to express as much concern as they wish.
- Listen carefully to what your child is saying and respond appropriately.
- Use straightforward language when speaking with children.
- If you don't know the answer to a question, simply admit – "I don't know."
- Be empathetic. Remember your child's responses and concerns may be different to those of an adult.

For more information, including culturally-responsive resources, please see the [Mental Health and Well-Being](#) section of the TDSB website.

The safety and well-being of our students is a top priority. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the school.

Sincerely,

Ms. S. Grant
Principal