

THE WEEKLY

Monday, December 2, 2024



Thoughts from our Principal ...

Where is 2024 going? This past weekend, we flipped our calendar from the month of November to the month of December. We recognize that some things change as we head into the last month of the year.

Although it makes us sad, we say, “Good bye” to a few students who are moving out of the GTA. We earnestly pray for God’s blessings to Oore (Grade 3) and Biyi (Kindie) leaving this week, as well as Joy (Gr. 1) who left last Friday, and Oliver (Gr. 6) who will be leaving next week, all for different cities. The Grade 3’s wished Ethan well as he left earlier in November. We have really enjoyed their families as part of the WCS community and will genuinely miss each of these students. May God continue to go with you, wherever He directs your paths.

December also reminds us that we await greater things to happen. The season of Advent started yesterday. Some of you may have cracked open your (chocolate) Advent calendar, or may be lit the first candle at church yesterday. Advent compels us to wait and to be eagerly expectant of Christ’s return so that the world’s brokenness will be repaired and redeemed.

What do you wait for during this season of Advent? What changes or longings do you experience during the month of December? While some of us miss loved ones and others might be busy with buying presents or planning special meals, let’s take time to prepare our hearts for Christ’s return. In Him, all our sadness turns to gladness, our darkness into light, and our weeping into joy. A devotional (Lectio 365) said it best in a prayer that went like this, “Lord, in the busyness of this season, please help me (us) to slow down and encounter Emmanuel – God with us.”

This calendar lists upcoming HIGHLIGHTS only. Refer to 2024/25 School Calendar for ALL events.

DATE	TIME	EVENT	TAKE NOTE
Mon/Dec/02	3:30PM	LUNCH ORDER FORMS DUE	Payments must be received on time.
Wed/Dec/04	LUNCH	PASTA LUNCH	For those that have ordered.
Fri/Dec/06	LUNCH	PIZZA LUNCH	For those that have ordered.
Wed/Dec/11		WORKSHOP: “WHAT MAKES A HEALTHY FRIENDSHIP”	Visit to each classroom.
Wed/Dec/18	8:40AM & 7PM	WCS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION	In the Gym
Thu/Dec/19		RED & GREEN DAY	Dress down Day
Fri/Dec/20		SKATING @GOULDING ARENA	More details to follow from teachers

Mrs. Patty Schuurman (Principal) - pschuurman@willowdalechristianschool.org

Mrs. Elisa Santiago (Office Administrator) - office@willowdalechristianschool.org

PRAYER @ WCS

Weekly Parents Prayer Zoom Meeting: Tuesdays @ 8:00 pm

- Wednesday Worship ~ will be led by Mrs. Schuurman & Mrs. Santiago with reflection of the start of Advent.
- Staff of the Week: Mr. Wong (Grade 3)
- Families of the Week: *Bell (Gr.4), Bezsmertny (Gr.8/5/2), Bowma (Gr.7), Carrasco (Gr.1), Cha (Gr.4)*
- Contact Person ~ Claudia & Cissy (WCS Parents) wcsprayerbox@yahoo.com.
- *Please feel free to email your prayer requests throughout the year.*

SAVE THE DATE!

FOOD DRIVE — DECEMBER 11-18, 2024

For our service event for the winter we will be hosting a Food Drive for Neighbourhood Link. They are an organization in our immediate community who provides services for the vulnerable. Please see the [attachment](#) for the list of requested items.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION—Wednesday, December 18 @8:40AM & 7PM

Please add this special date to your calendars! The students continue to prepare for the Christmas presentation of singing and band playing. There will be 2 performances to accommodate all attendees. Bring an item for our Food Drive as your entrance “fee”!



THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

LUNCH ORDERS—DEADLINE DECEMBER 2—TODAY!

Please see the two links to order lunch for your children for the second half of the year (January-June, 2025). The first link is in support of the Grade 6, 7, and 8 field trips and the second is to support our E2F (Equipped to Flourish) building campaign.

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/5d17368b-7757-4849-a4b3-41d91b75df62>

<https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/b320082a-8fec-41cf-9131-cb79cc4c217c>

WCS GIFT CARDS PROGRAM —DEADLINE DECEMBER 6

Get a head start on your Christmas shopping and buy the gift that fits all your Christmas gifts. 5% of all purchases will go towards supporting WCS. This year, we're offering Tim Hortons, Starbucks, Indigo, Amazon, and Esso gift cards. Perfect co-worker/client/teacher gift, stocking stuffers, or treat yourself.

Order before **THIS FRIDAY** Dec. 6 at <https://tinyurl.com/wcsgiftcards>. All gift cards will be distributed by Fri, Dec. 13.

SEEKING PARENTS HELP!

The school wishes to refresh the stage with a new coat of paint before the Christmas Concert as well as reupholster the two stage stair cases and to replace the bleacher cover with new material. We are asking for parent volunteers to help us in any of these areas, thank you! Office@willowdalechristianschool.org

TUTORING AT WCS

We are pleased to announce that we are offering tutoring on Monday through Thursday after school for students in Grade 4-8. This is coordinated by Eric Pai who has plenty of experience in this area. A number of former WCS students are sharing their academic gifts and time to support our students with extra practice or homework support. We have a limited number of spaces available, but if you are interested in more information about the subjects, times, and cost please contact Mrs. Wells pwells@willowdalechristianschool.org



SCHOLASTIC BOOKFAIR—THANK YOU!

Our Scholastic Book Fair was a success! Thank you to all families, teachers, and students who participated by supporting our school while enhancing home libraries. Our total sales came to \$3,769 (7% over our target!), giving our school a total of over \$1,400 Scholastic Dollars to purchase new books for our classroom libraries as well as supplies and Education Resources to benefit our students.

Thank you for participating in our Scholastic Book Fair, and a big thank you to Ellen Tannous for organizing the event and all the parent volunteers who made this year's fair such a success!

WCS BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE:

- The Gr. 4 class continues to seek out a Gr. 4 teacher for January as Miss Ross' contract comes to completion.
- The financial audit is complete and showed a "clean bill of health."
- Action items in the "feedback" spreadsheet were reviewed, related to policies for teachers, parking lot safety, and transportation for class trips.
- E2F project update found in [attached](#) slides.