THE WEEKLY



Monday, March 31, 2025

Thoughts from our Principal ...

I have been thinking about this exciting event coming up on Saturday, May 3rd – the 65th Anniversary of Willowdale Christian School. Hopefully many of you have heard or read or seen the promotional posters and/or emails about this grand time! If you haven't, here is something I wrote to my in-laws, inviting them to the celebration. Why my in-laws? Well, my father-in-law was once the Board Chair and my brothers-in-law, including my husband, Tim, all attended WCS a long, long time ago. The video that was sent home weeks ago said it all.

Anyways, if you want a little glimpse into the Schuurman email thread, here's what I sent to Mom and Dad Schuurman...

Dear Mom and Dad, Chris, Dan, Pete and Derek,

I still shake my head a bit when I think about being principal AND being principal in a school that has such deep roots for the Schuurman family. Well, now my worlds are colliding even more so as WCS will be celebrating 65 years and it would be so fun to have you join the party on May 3!

When Tim recently visited the "old school" and walked down the halls, checked out the classrooms and looked at the playground with Maddy and Jacob, we heard a few really good stories from his elementary years (perhaps a bit embellished, as you know Tim might have the tendency to do:) He remembers a skate to the head, meeting his best friend, Dave and later Ann and thinking that the hill was definitely wayyy bigger than it is today.

For me, walking into this community 65 years after its conception is quite incredible. Willowdale CRC is just across the parking lot and there are reminders of the school set up by committed members decades ago. Anyways, all that to say that my job has many layers to it, recognizing history while at the same time anticipating that the building will expand in the future.

The 65th Anniversary Celebration will have a few speeches and tea/coffee/snacks and some fundraising as well (just so you know in advance!). We are spreading the word and hoping that many alumni and parents will join the par-tay! If you know of other WCS grads who might enjoy joining us, please feel free to forward the info:

Saturday, May 3, 2:00-5:00 pm. Please RSVP by April 18 or when you know you are coming -- LOVE TO HAVE YOU!!

We even have a promo vid with yup, me going on and on...however, I wish I looked at the camera a bit more directly. But oh well! Hope it stirs up good memories of a place that has come to mean a lot to me these days.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=hPrPc-WYLDc

Even if you are not part of the Schuurman clan, we would LOVE, LOVE for you to join us in celebrating the past and building for the future! Remember to RSVP by April 18 and maybe you'll get to see my in-laws. I'll be sure to introduce them if they do!

This calendar lists upcoming HIGHLIGHTS only. Refer to 2024/25 School Calendar for ALL events.			
DATE	TIME	EVENT	TAKE NOTE
Mon/Mar/31	LUNCH	E2F LUNCH	For those that have ordered.
Fri/Apr/04	4:00PM	WCS MOVIE NIGHT	In the gym.
Mon/Apr/07	_	P.D. DAY	No School!
Fri/Apr/11	_	SPORTS DAY	Dress Down Day
Tue/Apr/15	7:00PM	OPEN HOUSE	Referrals are best!
Thurs/Apr/17	10:15AM	GRANDPARENTS & SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY	Invitation Attached

Mrs. Patty Schuurman (Principal) - <u>pschuurman@willowdalechristianschool.org</u>
Mrs. Elisa Santiago (Office Administrator) - <u>office@willowdalechristianschool.org</u>

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

LAST DAY for Mrs. Beatrice Maldonado today, March 31. We wish her all the very best as we say, "Good bye!" to a wonderful teacher and colleague. We are thankful for the many ways she cared for our kindergarten students and shared her love for God.

We welcome back Mrs. Allison Diolanda on April 1 and look forward to her arrival on Tuesday. We are especially thankful that Mrs. Rosalie Tsang has been so willing and flexible to work with both Kindie A and B.

WCS MOVIE HANGOUT— Friday, April 4th

Join us for a fun-filled after school movie hangout this Fri, April 4, 2025. We will be showing "Pilgrim's Progress" at 4pm in the gym. Come for some after-school entertainment, snacks, and great company. For parents, there will also be a workshop offered by a school psychologist who will be discussing the connection between behaviour & learning.

RSVP & pre-order food and drinks at https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/wcs-movie-event

We can't wait to see you there! 🖀 🧎

PD DAY ART CAMP — Monday, Apr 7th with Artnection

Last chance to register for PD Day Art Camp for next Mon Apr 7th. Students will be creating 2-3 projects using mixed media and will be continuing with the theme of ARMOR OF GOD. Spaces are limited, so be sure to <u>register</u> your child by *tomorrow* Tues, Apr 1 to secure your spot.

WCS OPEN HOUSE—TUESDAY, APRIL 15

Please invite friends to our Open House that is taking place on Tuesday, April 15 starting at 7:00 pm. This is a great way to tell others about our wonderful school.

GRANDPARENTS DAY—THURSDAY, APRIL 17—Invitations attached to forward.

We are thrilled to announce that our annual Grandparents & Special Friends Day will be held on **Thursday**, **April 17th!** This special day is a beautiful opportunity for our students to celebrate and honour their grandparents.

Here are some exciting activities we have planned:

Showcase Your Talents Together: We encourage grandparents and grandchildren to team up and showcase their talents. Whether it's singing, dancing, storytelling, or any other talent, we would love to see their performances! Please note that each performance should be no more than 1 minute in length.

- Family Photographs: We invite students' families to share a photograph that includes their grandparents. These photos will be displayed during the event to celebrate the special bond between grandparents and grandchildren.
- Tributes and Thank-You Notes: Students are encouraged to write short tributes or thank-you notes to
 their grandparents. Selected students will have the opportunity to read their heartfelt messages aloud
 during the event.

Please note that the **deadline for all submissions is Thursday, April 10th**. Submissions can be sent to mwiseman@willowdalechristianschool.org

We look forward to seeing the wonderful talents and heartfelt messages from our students and their families. Thank you for your support in making this Grandparents Day a memorable event for everyone!

PRINCIPAL FOR THE DAY (addition to the school calendar): On **Friday, April 25**, Zoey, Eli, Jude and Emma Stuart will be the principals for the day! This day includes lots of fun events which they have planned already with their family. It's going to be AMAZING!

PRAYER @ WCS

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

- Wednesday Worship ~ Armor of God: Helmet of Salvation will be led by Ms. Chow
- Staff of the Week: Mr. Gomes (Grade 4 Teacher)
- Families of the Week: Nam (Gr.1), Ng (Gr.7), Ng (Gr.5), Pai (Gr.2), Park (Gr.3/1/SK), Park (Gr.1/JK)
- Contact Person ~ Claudia & Cissy (WCS Parents) wcsprayerbox@yahoo.com.
- Please feel free to email your prayer requests throughout the year.

COMMUNITY BOARD

YOUTH UNLIMITED (YOUTH FOR CHRIST TORONTO) GAINING GROUND SPRING 5K WALK-A-THON

- Saturday, April 12, 2025.
- https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/youthunlimitedgta/p2p/gainground/team/i-love-walk-n-roll

2025 NATIONAL MINISTRY MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT — May 20-22, 2025

Join Christians from across Canada at the 2025 NATION-AL MINISTRY MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT where we will be gathering to equip those in our community impacted by mental illness, allowing them to experience belonging. You will leave equipped, encouraged, inspired.

Hosted at Tyndale University, 3377 Bayview Ave, North York, ON M2M 3S4

REGISTER FOR 1, 2 or all 3 days!

More info here: ministrymentalhealthsummit.com or

shalemnetwork.org



[WCS Fundraiser] 65th Anniversary Celebration: Forward Together on May 3, 2025 at 2pm

Are you coming? We have the 65th Anniversary Celebration: Forward Together on May 3rd which begins at 2:00pm here at WCS! We can't wait to see you here!

There will be a beautiful high tea, speeches, performances, silent & live auctions, and memorabilia for everyone to see and reminisce. You will also get the chance to hear alumni stories, share your own experiences of WCS, and help shape our future aspirations.

This is an adult only event. However, childcare (JK-Grade 8) is available and should be reserved in advance. Please see the RSVP link below. While there is no cost to the event, there will be an opportunity to give a freewill offering.

Please RSVP today, latest by April 18th, to help us plan and prepare for the food: RSVP Link.

We are seeking donations for our silent and live auctions, with items or services valued at \$40 or more if possible. Proceeds from the auction will directly support the school's programs and initiatives.



If you are able to contribute, please fill out the form and drop off the items to the school office: Donation Form

P.S. If you did not receive our previous invites, please check your spam/promotions folder. It was sent through the E2F email (e2f@willowdalechristianschool.org).

Blessings,

Forward Together Organizing Committee