

# THE WEEKLY

Monday, April 17, 2023



## *A Few Thoughts from our Principal ...*

One of the many privileges I have as the principal of WCS is meeting with prospective families that are prayerfully considering what is the best school option for their family. I take this very seriously because I remember that feeling of being quite overwhelmed with all the educational options that are available and not wanting to make a mistake. Many of the families I met over the past 2-3 months have already narrowed down their search to Christian schools - either as their first experience with school for their little one or as a negative reaction to what they have experienced in the public school system. In these instances, one of the most important questions they ask me is, "How is WCS different from the other Christian school options I am investigating?" Let me share with you how I answer them.

We are a non-profit charity. We are not a profit making business for any one person/family. That results in a tax receipt for part of their tuition and creates a very different feeling in the school. This means that all school decisions are made collectively - by a duly elected Board and not just one persons.

We still require at least one parent from every family to be a believer and for that family to be attending a church. Although there is nothing inherently wrong with a Christian school wanting to have a more evangelistic approach to enrolment, that is not who we are as a school. Our belief is that it takes the home, the church, and the school to surround a child and work together towards the same goal - that they will grow to love and serve Jesus in every aspect of their lives and to make an impact for the kingdom wherever God leads them in the future.

All of our teachers have university degrees in education and are registered with the Ontario College of Teachers. They could work at any school (public or otherwise) in Ontario, but choose to work at WCS. The fact that this is not necessarily true in all Christian schools comes as a surprise to many parents.

We do not accept only academically strong students. We believe that every child is uniquely and wonderfully created by God with their own set of gifts and talents. We believe that if a parent genuinely wants a Christian education for their child, and we have the resources and facility to accommodate their child (and we can't always accept every student), they should be able to enroll their child. Parents often share with me stories of Christian schools that will accept only one of their children and not the other because of different educational needs. We also do not charge extra fees for children that need the assistance of our Student Support Services Department.

We require our families to contribute Volunteer Hours each year. On the surface, this is to help offset some of the costs that we would incur without this program, but the reality is that it creates community. Parents working together serving pasta, helping out at the Christmas Bazaar, painting faces at the Fun Fair, going along on field trips, and bringing in baked goods for Grandparents/Special Friends Day, and helping out with Options (to name a few volunteer opportunities ) get to know each other and friendships are formed.

I'll stop here because I could list a few more. As I say to all prospective families, these differences don't make us 'better' - they make us who we are - Willowdale Christian School - and have done so since 1959!

**Mrs. Cathy Sallows (Principal) - [csallows@willowdalechristianschool.org](mailto:csallows@willowdalechristianschool.org)**

**Mrs. Miriam Venneri (Office Administrator) - [office@willowdalechristianschool.org](mailto:office@willowdalechristianschool.org)**

# **PRAYER @ WCS**

- Staff of the Week ~ Mrs. Barnes
- Families of the Week ~ Traicus, Tran (Emmanuel & Esther - New Family)
- Wednesday Worship ~ Ms. Lim will teach us about Goodness (I will do what is right.)
- Ms. Lim ~ Please be praying that God will completely heal Ms. Lim of all the cancer that is in her body.

**Parents Prayer Meeting (via Zoom) ~ Tuesdays @ 8:00 pm**  
Contact Person ~ Surance Tunggal (WCS Parent) [wcsprayerbox@yahoo.com](mailto:wcsprayerbox@yahoo.com).

## **WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

**Fri/Apr/28 @ 10:15 am ~ GRANDPARENTS' & SPECIAL FRIENDS' DAY**

**Please be sure to ask your guest/s to RSVP to the office!**

If grandparents/special friends are taking your child out for lunch, please advise the office BEFOREHAND. Send an email providing us with the names of who will be taking your child for lunch and whether your child will return to school after lunch or if they will be spending the remainder of the day with their grandparents. Grandparents will be asked to "check out" of the office if they are leaving with students. (We have received several questions regarding whether parents should attend this event. Please note that this is a special day specifically for GRANDPARENTS and/or SPECIAL FRIENDS only. **ALL PARENTS NEEDED** to provide food for the breakfast. **We are still in need of more baked goods.** Please email Mrs. Venneri and let her know what baked goods you will be providing. Thanks!



**Fri/May/12 @ 2:00 pm ~ TALENT SHOW**

God has blessed our school community with many gifts and talents and we enjoy sharing and celebrating these talents each year at our Talent Show.

Students may choose to participate by sharing a 1-2 minute presentation of their talent. There are sign-up sheets in the hall.

Auditions will be held during recess or lunch next week.

Students should come to the audition prepared. This means they have with them any required props/music track/link/instrument, etc.

We look forward to seeing these gifts and talents showcased IN PERSON again this year!

**Parents are warmly welcomed to attend.**

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Kim - [jkim@willowdalechristianschool.org](mailto:jkim@willowdalechristianschool.org).

### **VOLUNTEER HOURS**

Just a friendly reminder that Volunteer Hours must be completed no later than June 16, 2023. This leaves you with only 9 weeks to get them all done! (I know, hard to believe!) If you wish to receive your \$500 post-dated cheque back at the end of June ... you know what to do. ;)

**This calendar lists upcoming HIGHLIGHTS only. Refer to 2022/23 School Calendar for ALL events.**

DATE	TIME	EVENT	TAKE NOTE
TUESDAY	Lunch	E2F Meal (Hot Dog, Veggies)	For students that have pre-ordered.
THURSDAY	—	Badminton Tournament (Gr. 6 - 8)	Off Site with Mr. Eyre (Coach)
FRIDAY	Lunch	Pizza Day	For students that have pre-ordered.
FRIDAY	—	Earth Day - Neighbourhood Clean Up	<b>DRESS DOWN DAY!</b>
Fri/Apr/28	Morning	Grandparents' & Special Friends' Day	Details on Page 2 of The Weekly
Fri/Apr/28	6:00 pm	Fundraising Dinner	Have you reserved your seats?
Wed/May/10	7:00 pm	Membership Meeting	Receive 2 Volunteer Hours for Attending
Wed/May/24	11:30 am	Neema Choir (Parents welcome!)	<a href="http://neemachildproject.org">http://neemachildproject.org</a>
Sat/May/27	1:00 - 4:00 pm	Mrs. Sallows' Retirement Celebration	2:00 pm ~ Reminiscing & Blessing
Fri/Jun/09	3:00 - 6:30 pm	Fun Fair	Community Event