

THE WEEKLY

Monday, November 22, 2021



A Few Thoughts from our Principal ...

If you are new to WCS this year and have a child in Grade 1-8, you may have heard your child talk about the MAP Testing that was done recently. For both new and 'old' parents, I thought I would use this space to explain a little about why and how we use MAP Testing in our school.

MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) is quite different from other standardized tests that you may have heard about or experienced. It is done 3 times per year. It is a computerized adaptive test which helps teachers improve learning for all students and make informed decisions to promote a child's academic growth. Students in Grades 1-2 take 2 tests - Math and Reading. Students in Grades 3-8 take 3 tests - Math, Reading and Language Skills. The computer adjusts the difficulty of the questions so that each student takes a unique attest. The difficulty of each question is based on how well the student has answered previous questions.

Rather than providing just a 'snap shot in time', MAP Test results show growth over time and identifies accurate and specific information to help target instruction for each student or groups of students regardless of how far above or below they are from their grade level. In other words, MAP results give teachers information that is needed to plan and/or adjust their instruction for one student, several students or even an entire class if need be.

The results provided show us:

- How our school, as a whole, compares to other Christian schools and the norms established by MAP.
- How each of our grades compares to similar grades in other Christian schools and the norms established by MAP.
- How each student is doing in each of the tested subject areas relative to students in that grade in other Christian schools and the norms established by MAP. We are also given information showing each student's past growth (assuming more than 1 test has been taken) and expected growth.

Although much of the information we receive is specifically designed to assist staff with planning their teaching, there are reports that can provide parents an overview of how their child is doing. These are available for a parent to see if they wish. The ideal time to view these reports would be after the 2nd set of tests in the winter. A parent would need to book a time with their child's teacher to view these reports.

What is MAP Testing NOT Used For?

The results we receive are not used for report card purposes. It's possible, for example, for a student to achieve very strong results on a MAP test, but not see that reflected on their report card. The reverse can also be true of student who finds taking a test to be very stressful.

We also do NOT use MAP results for marketing purposes. We invest the time and money into this type of testing to improve and track how and what we teach and to monitor each student's growth regardless of where they are starting from.

Mrs. Cathy Sallows (Principal) - csallows@willowdalechristianschool.org

Mrs. Miriam Venneri (Office Administrator) - office@willowdalechristianschool.org

PRAYER @ WCS

- Pray for our teachers as they work on Term 1 Report Cards. This is a large and time consuming task.
- One of the wonderful things about being in a Christian community is that we have both the responsibility and the blessing of carrying each other's burdens. Recently **Howard & Linda Cheung** (Chris - Gr. 6 & Kayla - Gr. 8) were given the heavy news that Howard has Stage 4 Lung Cancer. As a school family, let's daily lift this family before the Lord. You can receive updates about Howard's journey by following "howishoward" on Instagram.
- Wednesday Worship ~ Pray for Mrs. Wells as she continues teaching us about the name of God ~ El Shaddai.
- Please use the WCS Phone Directory to pray for 1 school family each day this week, beginning with *DANK-WORTH* today and ending with *FUNG* on Sunday.
- Staff of the Week ~ Mrs. Barnes

If you have items to include in our PRAYER section, please send an email to office@willowdalechristianschool.org

Parents Prayer Group (via Zoom) - Every Wednesday @ 8:00 pm

Contact Person ~ Surance Tunggal (WCS Parent) wcsprayerbox@yahoo.com. She will provide the Zoom link. When entering the meeting, TURN ON your camera. Once you've been admitted, you may turn OFF your camera.

NOTE - Prayer Group will be cancelled THIS Wednesday to allow parents to attend Membership Meeting.

WCS NEWS

THIS WEDNESDAY @ 7:00 pm ~ WCS MEMBERSHIP MEETING (Notice from WCS Board)

All school parents are welcome to attend this meeting. As a parent volunteer operated school, consider becoming a member. As a member you can vote on decisions at all Membership Meetings and be eligible to be a candidate for the Board of Trustees. For more information about becoming a member, contact the office.

ZOOM LINK FOR MEMBERSHIP MEETING ~

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82322638167?pwd=dXJZZIV0Y0p5TzVGait0MGViZytSUT09>

Meeting ID: 823 2263 8167

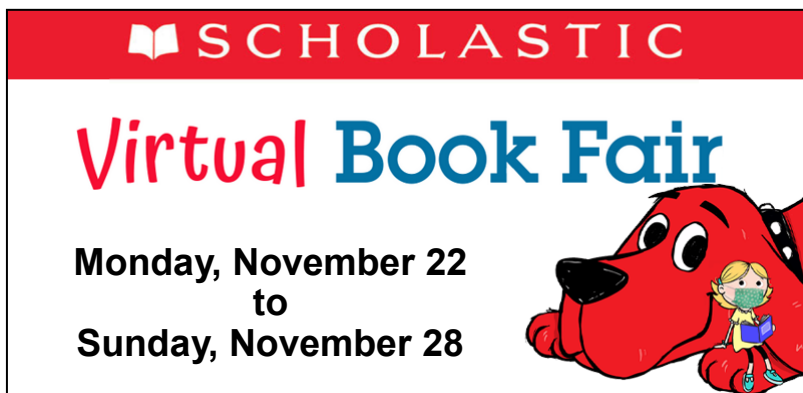
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SUPPLY TEACHERS NEEDED!

Due to a variety of reasons, primarily COVID-19 related, all private and public school boards are experiencing a severe shortage of supply teachers. WCS is no exception. If you know of a retired teacher, a teacher not currently working, or even a teacher who is currently working part-time but has 1 or 2 days available each week and may be interested in joining our supply teacher list, please ask them to send their resume to Cathy Sallows at csallows@willowdalechristianschool.org or call her @ 416-222-1711.

DATE	TIME	EVENT	TAKE NOTE
VIRTUAL BOOK FAIR ~ Monday, November 22 - Sunday, November 28			
Wednesday	Lunch	Pasta Day	For students that have pre-ordered.
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Fall Membership Meeting (via Zoom)	Watch for upcoming details.
Friday	Lunch	Pizza Day	For students that have pre-ordered.
Friday	—	Book Character Day	BOOK Characters (Not Movies)
Fri/Dec/03	3:15 pm	Report Cards Distributed	Students asked to open @ home.
Sat/Dec/04	3:00 - 5:00 pm	Pick Up Christmas Bazaar Orders	Outside Front of School
FOOD DRIVE ~ Monday December 6 - Friday, December 10 (Details coming tomorrow.)			
Fri/Dec/10	—	Red & Green Day	Dress Down
CHRISTMAS BREAK ~ Monday, December 20 - Friday, December 31			
Fri/Jan/14	—	Pajama & Bedhead Day	Dress Down
Mon/Jan/24	—	Professional Development Day	NO SCHOOL

MORE WCS NEWS



OUR VIRTUAL SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR STARTS TODAY!

Please visit: <https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5166174> to browse the wide selection of available books, and help support our school! Please support WCS by purchasing books for your family and friends (especially with Christmas around the corner!) and consider making a donation by buying a book for your child's classroom library. Remember, all purchases benefit our school. Thanks for supporting our readers and WCS!

If you'd like to donate a book from a **Classroom Wish List**, please follow these steps:

- Review this document which contains each teacher's Classroom Wish List:
 - ⇒ https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1iMz_dG6UDcsYm0CbKUnbH4ju5EA0Et6ggt4rm5HocWg/edit#gid=947293
- Select the book/s you wish to donate;
- Confirm the book/s has not already been selected by another parent. (Select a different book/s if it has been.)
- Update the document by typing your name (in the Purchased By column) so we can contact you if there are any problems with the order.
- Purchase the book/s from the online Scholastic Book Fair at
 - ⇒ <https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5166174>
- This year, all books will be delivered to the school. Donated books will go directly to the teachers UNLESS you contact Mrs. Venneri to let her know you would prefer that the book goes to your home first. Personally ordered books will be given to your child to bring home.

GROCERY GIFT CARDS

Fundraising is very important to help defray the tuition costs for all WCS families. A practical way for you to support the school in this initiative is to purchase Grocery Gift Cards from the office. These cards can be used at Valu-Mart, Loblaws, No Frills, etc. For each dollar that we sell, we receive 5% back. Annually we hope to raise \$8,000 - \$10,000. Gift Cards are always available from Mrs. Venneri. Simply email her with your order. Once your cheque or e-transfer (payment@willowdalechristianschool.org) has been received by the office, your Gift Cards will be sent home via "kid-mail". Please note that we only carry \$100 denominations. THIS IS A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A VOLLEYBALL COACH (Gr. 7/8 Girls Team)

Our Gr. 7/8 girls have an opportunity to play volleyball in a tournament at the end of January. We are looking for a volunteer who loves volleyball and wants to coach this Girls Team. Practices would need to be after school @ 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm. The coach would need to be double vaccinated and have their VSS on file in the office. Thanks for your consideration. Contact Person = Mrs. Sallows

NEW WCS FAMILIES - PLEASE ADD TO YOUR PHONE DIRECTORY

WONG - Tommy Wong & Jessica Pun - Karina (Gr. 3) - jessica.pun@gmail.com - 416-567-8207

DILUCIANO - Carmelo & Ana - Dominic (Gr. 6) & Valentina (Gr. 3) - anadiluciano@yahoo.ca - 647-222-6778

FOOD DRIVE for YONGE STREET MISSION

You will receive detailed information regarding our upcoming Food Drive in the next Weekly. Until then ... please start collecting strong boxes that will hold/transport canned goods. The boxes can be brought into the school any time. Also - Mrs. Venneri is looking for 2 volunteers to come to the school on Mon/Dec/13 (any time that is convenient for you) to help pack up all the donations.

