

# WILLOWDALE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

OCTOBER 14, 2025

## PRINCIPAL'S BLURB



### WHOM DO WE SERVE?

In our last Weekly, I wrote about "What do we notice?" What have you noticed this past week as we moved from hour to hour, day to day, week to week? Did you see someone needing helping hand, a listening ear, a kind word?

In last week's Wednesday Worship, Mrs. Wells led us in a Thanksgiving theme, taking time during the weekend to show gratitude with and for our family and friends, gifts that are great and small in our lives. But again...what do we notice? What have you taken time to give thanks to God, in moments of good times, but as Mrs. Wells reminded us, also in moments of hard times?

Whom do we praise and thank? Whom do we serve? To whom do we turn in the good times and in the hard times?

It is the Lord of Lords, the King of Kings, the Mighty God, the Lord of everything. He is Emmanuel, the Great I Am, the Prince of Peace, who is the Lamb. He is the Living God, our Saving Grace, the Alpha and Omega, our Saviour, Messiah, Redeemer and Friend.

When I read all these descriptors, I am in awe of the infinite love of the God of the universe...for me. I am humbled by the immensity and moved into deep gratitude, unable to find the right words to thank Him for His love and kindness. It is out of this deep gratitude that we serve Him, recognizing that all that we bring to Him, great and small, are meaningful acts of worship.

So...it matters how we treat each other. It matters how and when we say, "Hello," "Thank you," and "Please." It matters when we say, "I'm sorry," and "I forgive you," and it matters when we open the door, make a place on the playground, move over at the table so that we can share in the feast together. Take time to notice how we can serve others because more than anything, the Holy God calls us to do exactly that.

Thanks to the God of all ages, the Trinity, the One whom we get to serve -- our Saviour, Messiah, Redeemer and Friend.



This calendar lists upcoming HIGHLIGHTS only. Refer to 2025/26 School Calendar for ALL events.

DATE	TIME	EVENT	TAKE NOTE
Tue/Oct/14	8:00PM	WCS PARENT PRAYER	<a href="mailto:wcsprayerbox@yahoo.com">wcsprayerbox@yahoo.com</a>
Fri/Oct/17	--	BACKWARDS DAY	Read below for more details.
Fri/Oct/17	LUNCH	[PEPPERONI] PIZZA LUNCH	For those that have ordered.
Sat/Oct/18	9:30-12:30PM	SERVICE SATURDAY	Parent volunteers needed.
Mon/Oct/20	--	SUBWAY SANDWICH LUNCH	For those that have ordered.
Fri/Oct/24	8:35AM	SPELLING BEE EVENT	Parents welcome to support!
Wed/Oct/29	8:00PM	NEW FAMILY ZOOM MEETING	Look out for separate email.
Thur/Oct/30-Fri/Oct/31		EDVANCE CONFERENCE/PD DAYS	No School!

## THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

### WCS THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE: TODAY until OCTOBER 17

Please donate to our food drive, that is sponsored by Neighbourhood Link. They are asking for healthy, non-perishable food items for neighbours who need it in the Willowdale and Finch areas. We will be collecting up to the end of this week. Let's get a ton of food to help others, WCS!

### BACKWARDS DAY (DRESS DOWN DAY) - Friday October 17

On Friday Oct 17, it will be Backwards Day! Students are encouraged to come to school wearing their clothes backwards (while still being comfortable and allowing movement)! Students are welcome to wear their clothes inside out as well. School attire is not required - DRESS DOWN DAY! We will have fun and attempt to do many things backwards.



### GROCERY GIFT CARDS – Year Long Fundraiser

Fundraising is very important to help defray the tuition costs for all WCS families. A practical way 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 available at the office year round ([office@willowdalechristianschool.org](mailto:office@willowdalechristianschool.org)).



# THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ...cont'd

## WCS SPELLING BEE FUNDRAISER:

A friendly reminder that all pledge forms are due by Monday, October 20. This year, all fundraising will be processed [online](#),

We'll be announcing the top fundraisers during our exciting Spelling Bee Live Event on Friday, October 24! The top four spellers from grades 1-8 will be announced shortly, along with their team colours, so students will know if they will be participating in the Live Event. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to the committee at [✉ wcsspellingbee@gmail.com](mailto:wcsspellingbee@gmail.com).

Here's a sample script:

*Hi everyone!*

*I wanted to tell you about something cool I did at school —we are having a Spelling Bee Fundraiser to help raise money for field trips. The best part?*

*The money raised goes toward making sure every single student can go so that no one gets left behind.*

*I already took my spelling test—and guess what? I spelled [insert number] words correctly! 🐝🇺🇸 You can help by giving money for each word I spelled right, \$1 or \$2 per word!*

*Thank you for helping my classmates and I go on amazing field trips!*

**SPELLING BEE CONTEST @ WCS**  
Let's fundraise for free field trips for everyone!

**Key dates**

- Fri Sep 26—Word list sent home
- Tue Oct 7—In-class dictation
- Fri Oct 10—Results sent home + pledging begins
- Thu Oct 16—Tie-breaker (if needed)
- Wed Oct 22—Zeffy Pledge forms due
- Fri Oct 24—Spelling Bee - Live Event (School gym @ 9:00 - parents welcomed!)

**Prizes**

- Top 3 Fundraisers: E-reader, Squishmallows mystery box, and stationary bundle
- Top Senior Speller (gr 6-8): Wireless headphones, movie bundle, and Starbucks gift cards

School wide target fundraising goal: \$10K  
Extra dress down day

Winning Team: Surprise team lunch party

[Fundraising Link](#)

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### **SERVICE SATURDAY: OCTOBER 18 @ 9:30am-12:30pm**

We are asking for a few more parent volunteers to help with the maintenance of the outdoor landscaping and cleaning as well as painting. Some specific requests are those with a rototiller, a chainsaw, pruners and a truck/trailer to take large items off site - please let the office know if you can lend or bring these items for this service day of cleaning at the school. Contact: [office@willowdalechristianschool.org](mailto:office@willowdalechristianschool.org)

### **CHRISTMAS BAZAAR GINGERBREAD BAKERS**

Whether you're a master baker or just love getting your hands doughy, we'd love to have you on our team! Join us as we mix, bake, and decorate gingerbread cookies for Christmas Bazaar. We're looking for 2 parent volunteers to help with preparing the dough and 10 volunteers to help with baking and decorating gingerbread cookies. If you're able to help, please contact Nancy ([nancyxi188@gmail.com](mailto:nancyxi188@gmail.com)).

### **WCS CHRISTMAS BAZAAR MARKET VENDORS: Saturday, November 22**

We're looking for local artisans, crafters, and small businesses to bring holiday cheer and delightful products to our community. Vendor Fee is \$45 for WCS families before insurance or \$55 for non WCS. Please contact [bazaar.wcs@gmail.com](mailto:bazaar.wcs@gmail.com) if you're interested.

# COMMUNITY BOARD



## A Message from: TORONTO DISTRICT CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL (TDCH)

As we look ahead to the next school year, we're excited to share a few important dates for your calendars. We hope many families will have a chance to connect with TDCH through the following events:

### **Fall Open House: Thursday, October 16, 2025** **| 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

- An opportunity for families to explore our school, meet staff and students, and learn about our programs and community. Official invitation to be released in the fall.

### **Grade 7/8 Day: Friday, November 21, 2025**

- A full-day, hands-on experience for students to try out high school at TDChristian!
- More details to come.

### **Compassionate Hearts Donation Drive – Until Nov 15**

We're collecting donations for Compassionate Hearts, a charity I founded to equip vulnerable families in Northern Uganda with Christ's hope, seeds, tools, and training to break the cycle of hunger. Bring items to Spring Garden Baptist Church (112 Spring Garden Ave, Toronto) on Nov 15, 9am–1pm, or arrange alternative drop-off with Alice Ng Bouwma.

(partner@compassionateheartsharity.org). You can also give directly at [thegc.org/ca/projects/compassionate-hearts](https://thegc.org/ca/projects/compassionate-hearts). Every gift helps plant seeds of hope and lasting change. ❤️

### **Our Town – Student Production Matinees:** **Thursday, December 11 & Friday, December 12, 2025**

- We are thrilled to present Our Town, a classic American play by Thornton Wilder that explores everyday life, love, and loss in a small town. Recommended for students in Grades 7 and up.
- Matinee performances are specially designed for school groups—more info and booking details will be shared in September.

We look forward to welcoming you and your students during the 2025/26 school year!

Marissa Straatsma

Admissions & Transportation | Toronto District Christian High School

377 Woodbridge Avenue, Woodbridge, Ontario, L4L 2V7  
— (905) 851 1772 ext. 211 — [www.tdchristian.ca](http://www.tdchristian.ca)

