

1000 New Westminister Dr, Thornhill, ON, L4J 8G3
Attendance: 905.882.0277 x 238

Westmount CI



Principal: Sheri Epstein

Vice-Principal: Barb Caravella

Vice-Principal: Todd Taylor

Please check our [website](#) regularly for updates.

- [NEWS & EVENTS](#)
- [PARENTS](#)
- [SCHOOL CALENDAR](#)
- [ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)
- [GUIDANCE](#)



Westmount CI

Dear Families and Community Members:

At this point we are really into the swing of things and school is “rocking and rolling”!

On October 15th, all of our Grade 12 students attended a very important graduation preparation assembly. The students were keenly interested in the information that was being shared and took note of important dates. Our graduating students should pay attention to Tweets from the Guidance Department for important information, relating to graduation. Additionally, information regarding booking graduation portraits will be coming out soon!

On Wednesday, October 16th we held our School Council meeting which focused on the College and University application process. We had an incredible turnout!!! Over 200 parents, and some students, came to hear Mr. Rod Conte, our Head of Guidance, explain the application process. We were so appreciative of the excellent questions and the learning was great for all who attended. Thank you Mr. Conte!

Monday, October 21st is a PD Day. While the students will be busy sleeping in and making their own plans, all staff at school will be busy with professional learning. Our focus for this PD Day will be on Anti-Black Racism. We are looking forward to learning with our teachers, educational assistants, secretaries and care-takers to gain a better understanding of this very important aspect of our history and continuing the discussions on how we can continue to make WCI a safer, more inclusive and more equitable environment for all our students.

Our Area West community is invited to attend our ARTS WESTMOUNT Open House on Tuesday, October 22nd. I am very confident that our staff and students will do a wonderful job of demonstrating what our ARTS classes look like, feel like and sound like. Those who will attend are always amazed by the high quality of the performances and how well our students are able to articulate what they learn and why they enjoy being an ARTS student at Westmount.

Parents' Night is on Wednesday, October 30th, between 6:30 pm and 8:30 pm. Please join us from 6:30 pm – 7:15 pm in the Atrium where you can meet your child's teachers and have a quick “hello” and progress update. 7:15 pm to 8:30 pm will be for appointments. All appointments are booked through EDSBY. Instructions for setting up an EDSBY account have been emailed to all parents and guardians and is also included in this e-bulletin.

We look forward to hosting our Awards Assembly on October 30th at 9:00 am. This is the Awards Assembly that we had to re-book due to the brief CUPE labour disruption earlier this month. All students who are receiving an award at this assembly will have already received a new invitation to attend. We hope that you will be able to attend if your child is receiving an award.

On October 31st one of our Student Voice committees will be hosting our annual Halloween celebrations. WCI has a great tradition of dressing up – staff and students – and taking part in some spooky celebrations.

Some very important upcoming dates:

- Tuesday, November 5—Holocaust Education Week Assemblies for Grades 9-11
- Wednesday, November 6—“Take Your Kids to Work” Day for all Grade 9 students
- Monday, November 11—Remembrance Day Assemblies for all students
- Tuesday, November 12—Grade 8 Open House beginning at 7:00 pm (with a Special Ed info session from 6:30 pm to 7:00 pm)
- Wednesday, November 13—School Council Meeting at 7:00 pm in the Library

I continue to look forward to working with you to make this year a success for all.

Ms. Sheri Epstein
Principal

Important Message for WCI Families – Please Read!

Dear Westmount Families,

At Westmount Collegiate Institute we work hard to create an inclusive and safe learning environment for all of our students, staff and families. Over the first few weeks of school, our annual grade assemblies reviewed appropriate use of technology, expectations with regards to equity, inclusivity, using appropriate language, as well as caring and safe school policies, including anti-bullying. In addition, we have begun to engage in staff professional learning regarding equity and inclusivity and this learning will be on-going throughout the entire school year. We have also created new school mission and vision statements, in collaboration with our staff, which are printed in our school start-up package. Finally, a new inclusivity creed hangs proudly in our front entrance, and clearly sets our expectations for every member of the Westmount CI community.

We continue to work towards building a school culture that embraces diversity as our strength and invites greater student voice in all that we do. This year, we are going to revamp our school motto with the students directly, so that it is something that resonates and truly matters to them.

There are times, thankfully rare, when we see or hear discrimination in our school. It is important for you to know that we consider any type of “hateful” behavior as unacceptable. This behaviour is addressed and students will be held accountable for their choices. When responding to discriminatory behaviours, we apply a progressive discipline model and accompany any consequences with education. We hope that you will help us by reinforcing at home that Antisemitism, anti-Black racism, anti-Indigenous racism, Islamophobia, homophobia, transphobia, and/or ableism. These are all discriminatory, derogatory and not acceptable at school.

As educators, when an incident occurs, we always want to help our students understand the hurt they have caused and then work to rebuild the learning and working relationships. Westmount CI is a place to learn and develop into wonderful young adults. We want and expect our students to be kind, confident, stand up for what is right and to celebrate the differences that make each of us unique.

We are working hard to ensure that our school culture is one in which every single member of our community feels safe, supported and valued when they come to school each day.

We always like to work with our families. We are looking for more information to support this work. If you are interested and willing to speak to us about racism, discrimination, equity and inclusion at WCI please email VP Ms. Barb Caravella, VP Mr. Todd Taylor or myself. We are interested to hear about your children’s experiences and how we can build on the equity work we are doing.

Sincerely,
Ms. Sheri Epstein, Principal

Tuesday, October 22

- Tennis Team—Mayfair East Tennis Club—Jarvis

Wednesday, October 23

- Tennis Team—Mayfair East Tennis Club—Cacenco
- Music—Roy Thompson Hall—Nixon

Thursday, October 24

- Cross Country Team—Boyd Conservation Park—Alweyn, Soon Shiong

Friday, October 25

- Swim Team—Reisman Centre—Gorewicz, Harte
- Business—Chestnut Residence—Katyshev

Monday, October 28

- Science—Laser Quest—Cacenco, Romano, Wodlinger
- Swim Team—Reisman Centre—Gorewicz, Harte

Tuesday, October 29

- Arts—Kensington Market—Folmeg, Harte



Marketing Taste Test

Students in the Grade 11 Marketing delivered their Taste Test Challenge on Friday, October 4th to determine the power that marketing has over consumer perception and preferences."

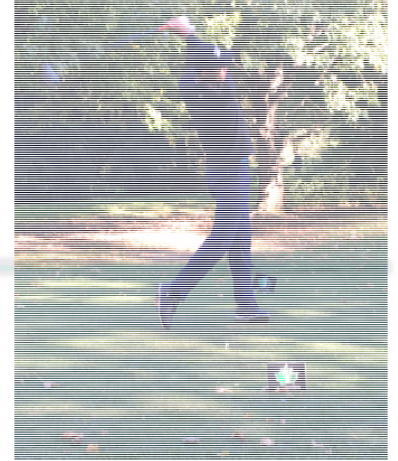


Spikeball Tournament

Athletic Council will be hosting a Spikeball tournament to the next newsletter? It will be on October 28th @3:30 in the gym and there will be sign-ups the 24th and the 25th during periods 2-4 in the atrium.

Westmount Golf

Congratulations to Yuqi Liu for top 25 finish in the Ontario Championship played at Kingsville Golf and Country club in Leamington.



Setting up your Edsby Account for the first time **ONLY**, for Parent-Teacher Interview

An email from York Region District School Board would have been sent to you with instructions on how to create an Edsby account. Make sure the school office has your **current email address on file**.

If you do not see the email, please check your junk mail folder to ensure you do not miss this opportunity.

1. Click the link in the email. The browser will send you to a screen like the one on the right.
2. Click the "I don't have an Edsby parent account" button. **Your username will be your email address. You will choose your password.** Similar to a banking password, it is important to choose a strong password. Please do not share your password.
3. Click "Create Edsby Account." A "Welcome to Edsby" message will be sent to your email address.

The image displays two side-by-side screenshots of the Edsby website's login and registration interface. Both screens feature the Edsby logo at the top, which consists of a blue robot head icon above the word 'Edsby' in blue. Below the logo, the text 'Sign in to High Prairie School District' is followed by 'High Prairie School District' in a smaller font. The left screenshot shows a message: 'Edsby account registration for parent of Elizabeth Cheng. Please select one of the choices below. If this is not your child, please [click here](#)'. There are two blue buttons: 'Login to your existing High Prairie School District Edsby parent account' and 'I don't have an Edsby parent account at High Prairie School District'. An orange dotted arrow points from the second button to the right screenshot. The right screenshot shows the registration form with fields for 'Email (this will be your username)' (containing 'fcheng_edsky@mailinator.com'), 'Choose your password *', and 'Retype password *'. A blue button labeled 'Create Edsby Account' and a 'Back' link are at the bottom.



YOUR GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

Support and promote students' well-being and continuous growth in three areas: personal (student) development, interpersonal development, and career development in order to help them develop resilience and realize their potential (success) as individuals and as valuable members of society.
-Ontario School Counsellors' Association, 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS TO CONSIDER

Here are some events planned for you child that you should know about:

- McGill University Presentation. Friday, Oct. 18th – students sign-up in Guidance
- Post-Secondary Destination Fair @ Alexander Mackenzie High School – Tuesday, Nov. 5th. 7 pm to 9 pm
- Niagara College / Brock University Bus Tour – Friday, Nov. 8th – \$35 fee for motor coach and 407. Register NOW and get more info on School Cash Online!
- Gr. 9 OPEN HOUSE for Gr. 8 students, parents/guardians – Tuesday, Nov. 12 – 6:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

NEED AN APPOINTMENT WITH A COUNSELLOR?

Book an appointment. It's really easy! Appointments available starting Sept. 24th.

- Your child can drop by the Guidance office and Mrs. Pearlstein will book the next available appointment with their Counsellor.
- Mrs. Pearlstein will give your child a date and time for their appointment.
- Please tell your child to let Mrs. Pearlstein know if you will be attending the meeting so we can book extra time if necessary.
- Come to Guidance on the day and time of your appointment.

Have a quick question? Your child can do the following...

- **Drop-in** to see their Counsellor. We can answer a quick question on-the-spot
- **Check-out** the YRDSB, Westmount and Guidance website
<https://sites.google.com/site/wciguideance/home>
- **Follow** @WCIGuidance on Twitter. Get real-time notifications regarding news, events and more. You can even tweet or direct message your question to us.





Human Trafficking is a growing concern in Vaughan Would you know it if you saw it? What can you do?

Instances of human trafficking and sexual exploitation are a growing concern in Vaughan. Youth as young as 12 are being recruited!

Parents, caregivers and community members are invited to join us for a free information session to learn:

- **Why this is much more than a local issue**
- **How to identify signs of someone who may be in the process of being recruited or is already being trafficked**
- **Who is at risk**
- **Available resources and supports in the school and community**

Our facilitator this evening will be Deborah Pond, retired Royal Canadian Mounted Police Officer and current Chair & Executive Director of U-R Home Awareness & Support Services.

**For further information or to register for this session please contact:
Natalie: 905-303-8490 ext. 111 or niuzzolino@vaughanc.com
Oksana: 416-568-2252 or Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca**

Join Us:

Date: October 22nd, 2019

Time: 6:30pm-8:00pm

**Location: Vaughan Community Health Centre
9401 Jane Street, Suite 106**



Curriculum & Instructional Services invites the parents of elementary and secondary students:

York Region Labour Market Information Night

ALL YRDSB parents and guardians are invited to join the **York Region District School Board's** Pathways team and the **Workforce Planning Board** of York Region on **November 7, 2019** for dinner and an evening of learning about the labour market in our communities. Hear from **industry professionals** about current and **future career opportunities, employment trends** and in demand **skills**.

Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from **Joe Musicco**, a professor from Sheridan College in the Pilon School of Business, who will address the **skills and attitudes** necessary for future success. Guests will then have the opportunity to attend a variety of smaller, more intimate **industry specific** workshops featuring a panel of professionals from a variety of key employment sectors, post secondary education programs and training organizations supporting these fields.



Topics for breakout sessions include,

- Agro-business
- Entrepreneurship and Skilled Trades
- Information and Technology
- Manufacturing
- Motive Power and Logistics
- Deep dive into the York Region Labour Market

Event Details

Date: **November 7, 2019**, Location: **Sheraton Parkway North**, 600 Highway 7, Richmond Hill,
Registration at 5:30 - 6:30 pm, Dinner: 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Opening and Keynote: 7:00 p.m.

All are welcome to join us for this **FREE** event which is the first of its kind for the York Region District School Board. **Space is limited**

Registration Information

Register online via bit.ly/YRlabourinfo or at [Eventbrite](#)

A **limited number of childcare spaces are available**. This complimentary service is available for children **ages 6 - 11**. Signup for can be done when you register for this event..

Alexander Mackenzie High School
Bayview Secondary School
Maple High School
Stephen Lewis Secondary School
Westmount Collegiate Institute

POST-SECONDARY DESTINATION FAIR 2019

Tuesday, November 5th 2019
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Alexander Mackenzie High School
300 Major Mackenzie Drive West, Richmond Hill

Five York Regions Schools combine forces to bring you the opportunity to meet representatives from:

- Ontario colleges and universities,
- apprenticeships and the skilled trades,
- private career colleges,
- U.S. schools,
- ...and much more.

Follow us on Twitter!

@WCIGuidance

#DestinationFair2019





The Gr. 8 Student and Parent/Guardian Annual

Gr. 9 Information Evening

Tuesday, November 12, 2019



Evening's Agenda

6:15 to 6:45 p.m.

Special Education in High School

A presentation for parents with a child coming to high school with an I.E.P. (Individual Education Plan)

7:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Main Event: Introduction to your High School Adventure

7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Self-Guided tour through our subject areas of study



JEWISH FAMILY &CHILD

For more information or to register please
call Shawna Sidney at 416-638-7800 x 6215
or visit our website at jfandcs.com/groups

groups & workshops OCTOBER 2019

As with all of our programs, registration is required. Our groups and workshops are open to all members of the community regardless of cultural, religious and/or racial background and we offer a sliding scale for those who require fee reductions.

WIDOW/WIDOWERS under 68 BEREAVEMENT

A six session evening group for men and women **under** 68 years of age and who have recently lost a partner or spouse. Topics to be discussed may include: coping with grief, living with loneliness, changing relationships, and new beginnings.

Wednesday, October 30, 2019
7:30pm to 9:00pm
4600 Bathurst St
Lipa Green Centre



For more information or to register please
call Shawna Sidney at 416-638-7800 x 6215
or visit our website at jfandcs.com/groups

As with all of our programs, registration is required.
Our groups and workshops are open to all members
of the community regardless of cultural, religious
and/or racial background and we offer a sliding
scale for those who require fee reductions.

WIDOW/WIDOWERS under 68 BEREAVEMENT

A six session evening group for men and women under 68 years of age and who have recently lost a partner or spouse. Topics to be discussed may include: coping with grief, living with loneliness, changing relationships, and new beginnings.

Wednesday, October 30 | 7:30pm-9pm
4600 Bathurst St
Lipa Green Centre

BEYOND THE CHUPPAH, BECOMING A COUPLE

A two session Marriage Preparation group for couples who are going to be married in the next year. Topics include: Changing roles and expectations, finances, conflict negotiation and resolution, communication, and Jewish home and family life. This program is offered in partnership with the Rabbinical Assembly- Ontario Region.

Sunday, November 3 | 10am-2pm
1700 Bathurst St
Beth Tzedec Synagogue

SKILLS FOR EMPOWERED LIVING FOR WOMAN

A six session wellness group for women wanting to discuss relevant issues and wanting to make a change in their lives. Topics include: Time and stress management; building self-esteem; becoming more assertive and improving communication skills.

Monday, November 4 | 7pm-9pm
9600 Bathurst St
OR
Tuesday, November 12 | 7pm-9pm
4600 Bathurst St

MIND, BODY, CONNECTION for Women PART 1

Join us in a six session group for women who want to begin learning the practice of mindfulness and meditation in a safe and supportive group setting. Topics will include: stress and anxiety reduction, connecting with your mind and body, enhancing your self-worth and self-esteem, and learning about general relaxation and happiness.

Tuesday, November 5 | 1:30pm-3pm
OR
Wednesday, November 6 | 7pm-8:30pm
4600 Bathurst St

MIND, BODY, CONNECTION FOR WOMEN PART 2

Join us for a six session series that continues building on the practice of Mindfulness for those who have already taken the part 1 group. Topics include: reducing stress and anxiety; gaining insights into limiting thoughts and habits; exploring self-worth and self-esteem; fostering positivity and happiness.

Tuesday, November 5 | 7pm-8:30pm
4600 Bathurst St
Lipa Green Centre

WIDOW/WIDOWERS 68+ BEREAVEMENT

A six session daytime group for men and women over 68 years of age and who have recently lost a partner or spouse. Topics to be discussed may include: coping with grief, living with loneliness, changing relationships, and new beginnings.

Wednesday, November 6 | 1:30pm-3pm
4600 Bathurst St
Lipa Green Centre

THE CHALLENGE OF ANGER FOR WOMEN

A six session group for women who want to learn how to express their anger in an assertive, non- aggressive way. Topics include: understanding what triggers your anger; emotional and physical responses to anger and alternative techniques to express your anger.

Wednesday, November 6 | 7:30pm-9pm
4600 Bathurst St
Lipa Green Centre

MIND, BODY, CONNECTION FOR MEN

Join us for this brand new 6 session program for men who want to learn mindfulness and meditation in a safe and supportive group setting. Topics will include: stress and anxiety reduction, connecting with your mind and body, self-worth and self-esteem and general relaxation and happiness.

Wednesday, November 6 | 7:30pm-9pm
4600 Bathurst St
Lipa Green Centre

JEWISH FAMILY &CHILD

For more information or to register please
call Shawna Sidney at 416-638-7800 x 6215
or visit our website at jfandcs.com/groups

groups & workshops NOVEMBER 2019

As with all of our programs, registration is required. Our groups and workshops are open to all members of the community regardless of cultural, religious and/or racial background and we offer a sliding scale for those who require fee reductions.

ONE FAMILY, TWO HOMES

A six session series for families experiencing separation and divorce. Children participate in separate age appropriate groups which will help them to: feel better, deal with some of the myths and know where to get support. Topics for parents include: tips for keeping the kids out of the conflict, trends in family law and the impact of separation and divorce on children.

Thursday, November 7 | 6:30pm-8pm
4600 Bathurst St
Lipa Green Centre

ADULT CHILDREN LOSING A PARENT

A six session group for adult children who have recently lost a parent. Topics include: coping with grief, loss and legacy and resolving unfinished business.

Thursday, November 7 | 7:30pm-9pm
4600 Bathurst St
Lipa Green Centre

BRAND NEW WORKSHOP MINDFULNESS: HOW TO LOVE YOURSELF

Join us for a one session workshop that will foster self-compassion and cultivate resilience and better self-motivation. Topics include: the theories, science and proven approaches to self-compassion; using meditation; and self-motivation using kindness rather than criticism.

Sunday, November 10 | 9:30am-12pm
4600 Bathurst St
Lipa Green Centre

EFFECTIVE PARENTING

A four session group to help parents of children ages 2 to 10 years, learn what they can do to raise a happy, motivated and well behaved child. Topics include: how to; nurture self-esteem, encourage problem solving, increase communication and set appropriate limits and discipline.

Monday, November 11 | 7pm-9pm
9600 Bathurst St
OR
Tuesday, November 19 | 7pm-9pm
4600 Bathurst St

LIVING WITH TEENS

Parenting your adolescent without losing your cool. A six session group for parents of teenagers. Topics include: setting appropriate limits; learning to let go; parent's rights and responsibilities; keeping the lines of communication open; realistic expectations, and the pressures of drugs, alcohol, dating and sexuality.

Tuesday, November 12 | 7:30pm-9pm
4600 Bathurst St
Lipa Green Centre



October 2019

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	1	2 * Wolf Pack Wednesday	3	4
7	8	9	10 * Western U Ivy Presentation (Student sign-up)	11
14 Thanksgiving Day	15	16 * Interim Report Cards	17 * Photo Retake Day	18 * McGill Visit (Sign-up)
21 PA Day	22 * Arts Night	23 * Wolf Pack Wednesday * Ontario College Fair	24	25
28	29	30 * Parents Night	31	

SCHOOL BUS CANCELLATION NOTICE

Please remember that if the school buses are cancelled in the morning, then they will NOT operate in the afternoon. Therefore, if you drive your children to school in the morning, you must also pick them up from school at 3:50 p.m. When buses are cancelled, it does not necessarily mean that schools are closed. Schools usually remain open with a modified program. To find out whether or not the buses are cancelled, please check the following website: www.schoolbuscity.com or access the following radio or television stations:

Radio

CFRB 1010 AM CHUM 1050 AM CHUM 104.5 CHIN 1540 AM NEWS 680
 AM CJEZ 97.3 CKDX 88.5 AM CHFI 98.1 FM CHIN 100.7 CBC 99.1
 FM CKFM 99.9 FM Q107.1 FM

Television

CITY TV, CFTO TV, THE WEATHER CHANNEL

A bus cancellation message will also be available at 1-877-330-3001.

