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.

- <u>NEWS & EVENTS</u>
- PARENTS
- <u>SCHOOL CALENDAR</u>
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- <u>GUIDANCE</u>







Inspire Learning!

Westmount CI

Dear Families and Community Members,

It is hard to believe that we are in the final month of 2019. 2020 is just days away! Many of us recall the start of the school year and are wondering where did the time go and now we are heading into the start of a new decade. WCI is always a busy place especially during the month of December as students are engaged in many events and activities inside and outside of school. Many classes have already begun their culminating activities and are gearing up for exam preparation. We hope that you will reach out to teachers if you have any questions or concerns with your child's progress – this two-way communication will help to ensure students complete the semester successfully.

Last night, Westmount Music presented their annual *Winterfest* at the Vaughan City Playhouse Theatre. The performances from the Symphonic Winds, Choir, and Jazz Band made the evening very special and memorable as students showcased their wonderful musical talents. Congratulations to all the students and a special thank you to Mr. Nixon for preparing the students for a beautiful evening of delightful songs and music. An enjoyable time was had by all.

December is certainly not over as we head into the final week before the holiday break. Students and staff are hosting a *Holiday Spirit Week* with warm and fun activities planned such as flannel day and holiday movies and popcorn, all to support *360 Kids*, an organization which helps youth during challenging times. Students and staff are donating a variety of goods and clothing to support vulnerable youth during the winter months.

Beyond the classroom, students engage in a variety of activities to enhance their learning and high school experiences. Over the last couple weeks, students participated in field trips, on sports teams, in workshops, in assemblies, and in tournaments. These events and opportunities help to enrich the high school experience of all of our students; we are very happy when students decide to participate in activities that occur outside of the classroom. This spirit also enriches the school community. Thank you to all the staff and students who put countless hours into planning events for the entire school to enjoy and to the parents/guardians who are supporting these events by encouraging their children to take part in something while in school, and having to do all the drop-offs and pick-ups.

As we head into Winter Break, a time when students and staff are celebrating with family and friends, we hope everyone will take the time to recharge, relax and enjoy each other's company so that we return in January well rested and ready to finish one semester and prepare for a new one. We would like to wish the Westmount school community a very happy holiday season, a restful break, and best wishes for the coming year. See you in 2020!

Warmest regards,

Barb Caravella

Vice-Principal

Westmount CI

Thursday, December 19

- Dance—York University—Willingham, Harte Wednesday, January 8
- Gr.11 Visual Arts—Silva Custom Furniture—Folmeg

ArtsWest Drama Show

Don't miss out on Westmount Entertainment's first production this season: <u>Stage Door</u> by Edna Ferber and George S. Kaufman.

January 8-10, 2019 at the Vaughan City Playhouse 8PM, tickets at the door or in the Atrium. 10\$ students, \$15 adults.

Join us at Mrs. Orcutt's, where dreams meet reality; a rooming house in the mid-1930s New York, where young hopeful and ambitious women pursuing a career in the theatre come to stay. Will they survive the challenges and succeed? Join us to find out in this touching and funny portrayal of life in the big city.

Reptilia at Westmount

On Tuesday, the library and science departments welcomed Reptilia for the first time. Grade 10 students were given the opportunity to learn about reptiles and how their systems were similar and different to human systems. Aidan brought a number of animals with him, including lizards, snakes, and even a box turtle named Biscuit. We look forward to having Reptilia back soon.













Westmount CI

Graduation Ceremony

Our graduation ceremony is on June 25, 2020 at the Paradise Banquet Hall. Please purchase your son/daughter graduation cap and gown by going to "School Cash Online". Our deadline this year is February 28, 2020.

Westmount Welcomes

Matthew Zheng

I had the privilege of teaching Grade 9 science for the second half of Semester 2 last school year, and I'm very pleased to once again be a part of the Westmount CI community, this time having the opportunity to teach Grade 12 biology. I enjoy travel, and am thankful for the opportunity to have taught overseas for a year, since it gave me the chance to go all around Europe during my breaks, and even the chance to visit Japan. I'm a huge foodie, so I'm thankful that my travels gave me an endless source of strange and interesting foods to try.

Vitaliy Bilous

"A teacher is never a giver of truth; he is a guide, a pointer to the truth that each student must find for himself".

After having taught for over eight years in both private and public school sectors I came to an understanding that education is all about self-discovery. The path that students take is like a business cycle that sometimes is unpredictable. However, based on my diverse teaching experience I believe that I have the right tools to make my students' journey more successful when it comes to achieving their personal and academic best.

Royston McKenzie

I have been a Technology teacher with the York Region District School Board since the mid 1970s. I have taught various subject areas of technology, but mainly woodworking with cabinet making and construction. I retired several years ago and have been working as an Occasional teacher. Since retirement, I have been called to various schools in York Region to fill many Long-Term Occasional positions for teachers who became ill during the school year. I am now at Westmount C. I. filling in for Mr. Tadrus.



Westmount Homecoming Hockey Game

This week the Athletic Council hosted the Westmount Homecoming Hockey Game. The student hockey team took on the staff and community team composed of teachers, custodians, fire fighters and York region police. The talent was huge but the students put their youth to work and beat the community team by a score of 3-1. Thank you to all the students, teachers and community members whom supported the event. Thank you to Daniella Porat and the Athletic Council for putting the event together. Money and donations collected will go to 360 kids.





Guidance Updates

@WCIGuidance

WELCOME TO GUIDANCE



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

Semester 2 Timetable Change Requests

https://sites.google.com/site/wciguidance/timetable-changes

Friday, Dec. 13th was the last day for grade 9 and 10 students to request a change to their semester 2. After Dec. 13, all grade 9 and 10 semester 2 timetables became final.

Grade 11 and 12 students will have another opportunity to request a change during the first two weeks of semester 2.

Course Selection for 2020-21

The course selection process for the next school year will kick-off on Thursday, Jan 9th with course selections assemblies for all grades. Details and instructions for courses selection will be presented at that time. Stay tuned! <u>https://sites.google.com/site/wciguidance/course-selection</u>

Graduation Ceremony 2020 UPDATE!

Our graduation ceremony is June 25, 2020 at the Paradise Banquet Hall. Please purchase your son/daughter graduation cap, gown and guest tickets by going to "School Cash On-Line". Our deadline this year is February 28, 2020. For more info visit https://sites.google.com/site/wciguidance/graduation

Course Selection for 2020-21

The course selection process for the next school year will kick-off on Thursday, Jan 9th with course selections assemblies for all grades. Details and instructions for courses selection will be presented at that time. Stay tuned! <u>https://sites.google.com/site/wciguidance/course-selection</u>

Stay in the Loop All parents and guardians are invited to check out our guidance website and follow us on Twitter @WCIGUIDANCE



Guidance Updates

@WCIGuidance

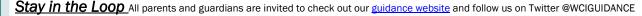
NEED AN APPOINTMENT WITH A COUNSELLOR?

Book an appointment. It's really easy!

- 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 is 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 <u>https://sites.google.com/site/wciguidance/home</u>
- Follow @WCIGuidance on Twitter. Get real-time notifications regarding news, events and more. You can even tweet or direct message your question to us.





IN PARTNERSHIP WITH 360 KIDS

2VF

HOLDAY

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

DONATE WINTER CLOTHING AND NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS

Bring all donations to the box outside the main office or to participating homeroom classes

JGLY HOLIDAY 16SWEATERS** 17 HOLIDAY PJS! WINTER WHITE 18 OUT HOLIDAY 19 ACCESSORIES DAY FLANNEL DAY 20** Holiday Spirit Week DECEMBER 16th - 20th

Westmount Entertainment Presents



A Comedy by Edna Ferber and George S. Kaufman Directed by Andrew Dolha

JANUARY 8-10 2019 VAUGHAN CITY PLAYHOUSE 8PM tickets \$10 students \$15 adults tickets at door or atrium groups and schools welc<u>ome</u>.



Mastering your Separation

Learn how you can be the master of your own separation

Topics will include:

- Understanding separation concerns
- Discovering your own emotional triggers
- Creating self worth and self awareness during the separation process
- Learning strategies for maintaining emotional control
- Becoming a better you
- Creating your own mindfulness toolbox
- Differentiating between the legal separation and the emotional separation

\$60 per person

(sliding scale available)

We welcome all people regardless of cultural and/or racial background or affiliation

Sunday December 1, 2019

9:30 am -12:30 pm

9600 Bathurst Street | Suite 242

Joseph & Wolfe Lebovic Jewish Community Campus

For more information or to register, please call 416.638.7800 x 6627

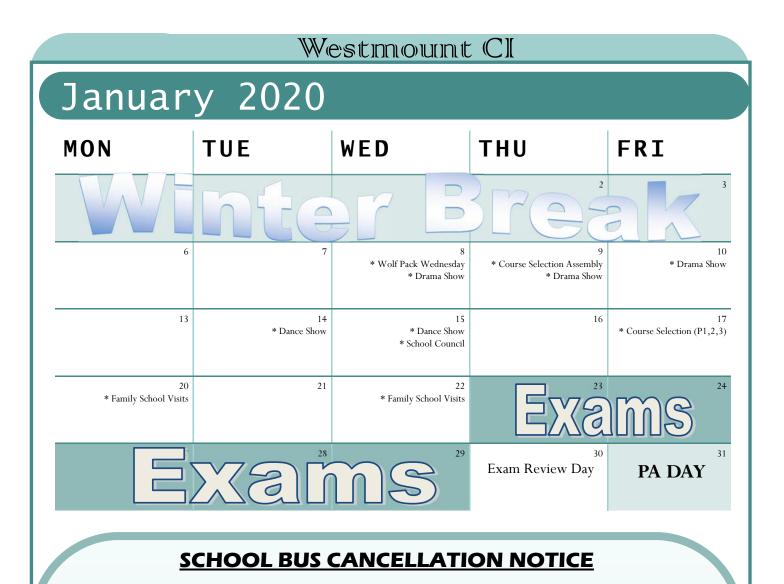
REGISTER ONLINE

www.jfandcs.com/groups









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:

<u>Radio</u>

 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
 CHOM 101.1
 CBC 99.1

BUS

CANCELLATIONS

<u>Television</u>

CITY TV, CFTO TV, THE WEATHER CHANNEL

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