

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

Westmount CII



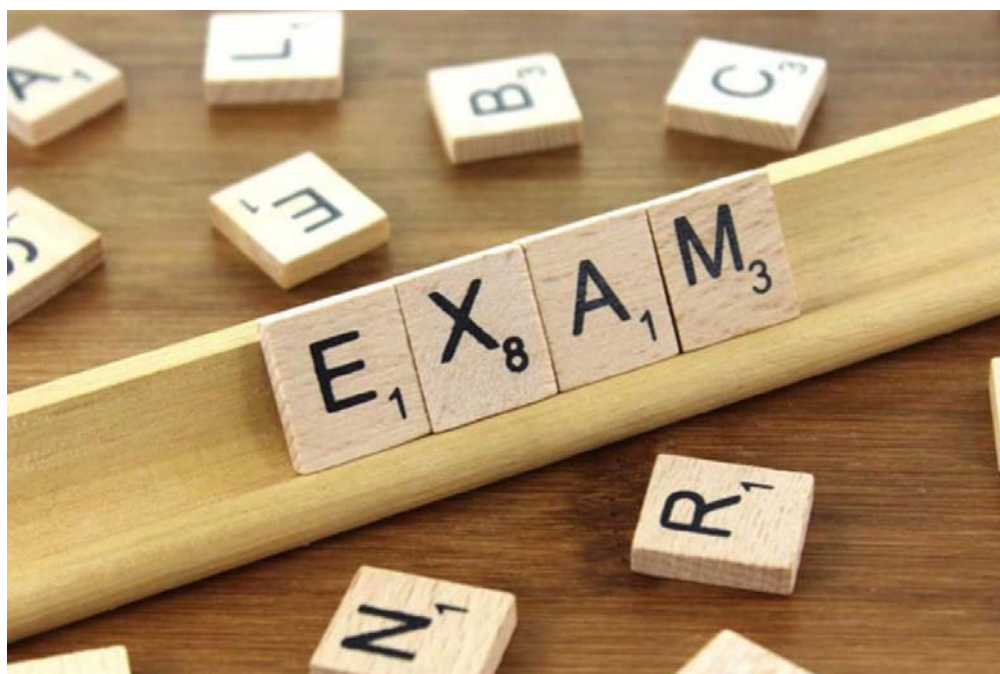
Principal: Sheri Epstein

Vice-Principal: Barb Caravella

Vice-Principal: Todd Taylor

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

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



Westmount CII

The calm before the stress

The end of the semester always marks a stressful time for students, but also a time when their true colours really shine! This has been true over the past couple of weeks, first with the Drama Department Production of Screen Door. The Senior ArtsWest Drama classes nailed it, with a stunning portrayal of life in the 1930s as a group of struggling actors in New York search for their big break. It was an excellent production and all the students who were involved should be very proud of what they achieved. And stay tuned, Mr. Dolha will be announcing the spring play shortly!

The trend of artistic excellence continued this week with the Arts Dance show, Student Choreographic Showcase. The theme was a night at the big top and students choreographed a show that was both entertaining and demonstrated their abilities. The range of pieces, as well as the technical skill was evident to all in attendance.

Next week, the Arts smorgasbord continues with the Drama evening, presented by Mr. Jones Drama classes. This short, student created pieces cover a range of topics and disciplines. The show starts at 7:00 p.m. in the Drama Studio (on Wednesday) should you wish to attend. And, to celebrate the end of exams, Westmount is hosting our annual Semi Formal, at the Factory Lounge, on Thursday December 30th. Early Bird tickets sold out quickly, but there are still some tickets left at the regular price (\$25). Students choosing to attend the Semi Formal will have to pick up their wrist band, for admission, prior to Exam Review Day. Remember, doors close at 7:30 and students who arrive after that point cannot be admitted.

Thinking ahead to next year, Guidance hosted the Course Selection Assemblies for the 2020-2021 school year earlier this week. Students in Grade 9, 10 and 11 learned about the process and deadlines that are crucial for choosing their courses for next year. One key message: Student should ensure that the courses that they choose now are the ones that they actually wish to take next year. We built the timetable for next year specifically around these requests, and when a student inquires about changing a course that they have picked, it can be very difficult to make the change. Please ensure that you have a discussion with your child, prior to them submitting their choices, to ensure that the correct choices have been made.

A special congratulations to our senior students who have been accepted into the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) for next semester. This competitive program is a great first step for students thinking about a career in the trades. We have students next semester engaged in building, engineering and auto mechanics. Participation in OYAP has many benefits, including subsidies for tuition and transportation, a loan of relevant tools and, most importantly, the fact that hours earned as part of OYAP can be used towards an eventual trade-recognized certification.

As the "learning" part of the semester comes to an end (next Tuesday, the 22nd is the last day of exams), organization becomes even more critical for our students. Making sure deadlines are managed, that time has been allocated for studying and ensuring good night sleeps are all important to ensuring academic success. Reinforcing to our students the fact that nothing is insurmountable is crucial to helping alleviate the feeling of being overwhelmed. We'd like to acknowledge the contribution of the Athletic Council in running sports and exercise opportunities, every day, before exams. This is a great way for students to blow off steam and feel energized.

In the event that you child is unable to write their exam, on the scheduled day, please contact the Main Office. Teachers are unable to accommodate requests to change an exam. A student who arrives late to an exam will only be provided with the remaining time. A student who is absent for an exam, without having had a conversation with the Main Office, will receive a zero and no opportunity will be provided to make up the exam.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to connect with one of the Admin Team.

Good luck on final exams,
Todd Taylor
Vice Principal

Monday, January 27

- DD —RH Centre for the Performing Arts—Berditchevskaia, Sitt



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.



OSSLT Preparation Literacy After-School Program - Winter Session

Do you have a child writing the OSSLT this year?

One of the many supports Westmount is putting into place to support our students is to offer an After School Literacy Program. The goals of this program are to build the literacy skills of students who need additional support; to build their confidence in reading and/or writing skills; and to provide some extra help in literacy. Your child will need to attend all sessions to get the maximum benefit from this program.

The After School Literacy Program consists of 10, 1.5 hours sessions. Students will attend twice a week for five weeks. There is a fee of \$108 for VISA students only. There are two programs being offered:

1. Mondays and Wednesdays - February 5 - March 11 - 3:30 to 5:00 pm
2. Tuesdays and Thursdays - February 11 - March 12 - 3:30 to 5:00 pm

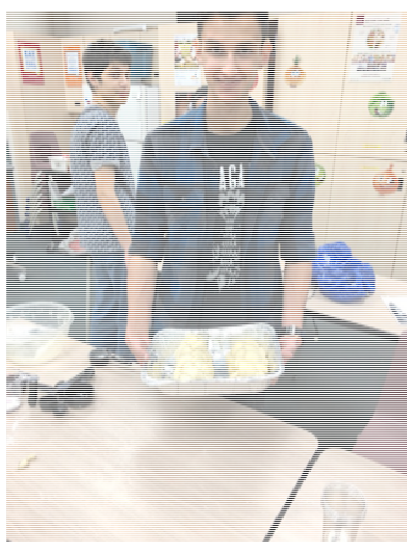
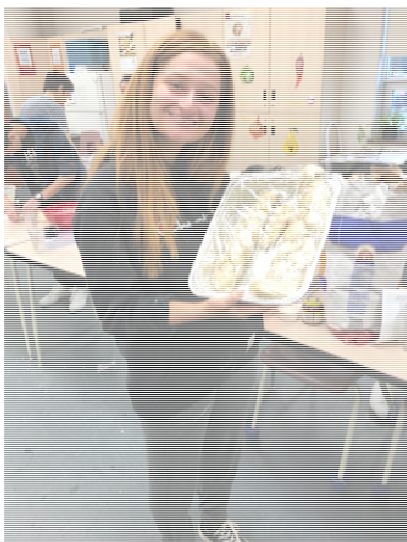
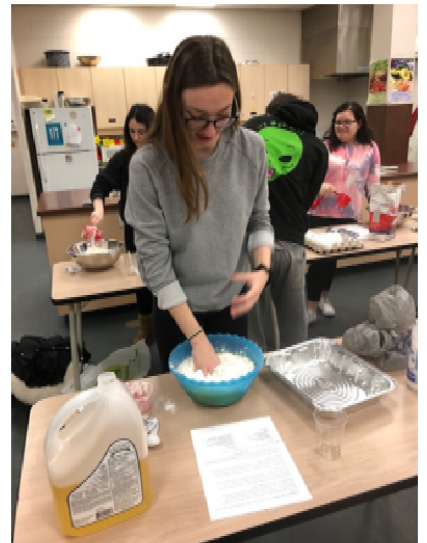
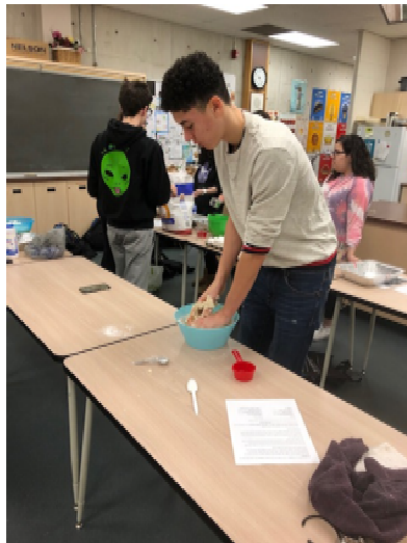
A commitment of 12 students (minimum) is needed for the programs to be offered. Please complete the attached registration form or pick up a registration form from the main office. All forms are due by Monday February 3 to the main office.

Waterloo Math Contests

The Waterloo Math contests for Grade 9, 10 and 11 will be held at Westmount C.I. on February 25. These contests are a great way for students to exercise their problem solving abilities while competing against other students from all across the province and beyond. You can register your child for the appropriate contest by paying the registration fee on School Cash Online. The deadline for registration is February 3rd.

Chalah Bake

Grade 12 Jewish studies students participating in the 3500 year old Jewish custom of making challah for the Sabbath. I hope parents were able to get a taste as many of them finished the entire loaf before leaving the building!



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

HAPPENING NOW

Course Selection for 2020-2021

The course selection process for next year has begun. MyBlueprint is now open for students to begin selecting their courses. For full details, go to <https://sites.google.com/site/wciguideance/course-selection>

Course Selection Timeline DATES

- **Wednesday, January 15**
myBlueprint OPEN for course selection
- **Wednesday, February 12**
Begin locking in (SUBMITTING) your course selection
- **Monday, February 24**
Course Selection DUE – courses must be submitted and locked-in
- **Monday, March 2**
Verification form or course selection distributed
- **Wednesday, March 4**
Verification form DUE back to Guidance with corrections and signed by a parent/guardian.
ALL verification forms must be returned signed WITH OR WITHOUT corrections/changes
- **February 21, 27, March 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 24**
Dates set aside for parents/guardians and students to book meetings with their counsellor. It does not matter if your meeting is after the Feb. 24th DUE date. Counsellors can make necessary changes to the course selection at the time of the meeting.

Stay in the Loop All parents and guardians are invited to check out our [guidance website](#) and follow us on Twitter @WCI GUIDANCE



COMING UP

Semester 2 Timetable Change Requests

<https://sites.google.com/site/wciguideance/timetable-changes>

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/wciguideance/graduation>

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 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.





The Jewish Rainbow Alliance

A drop-in support group for parents, family members and allies of LGBTQ+ individuals.



Cost: Free | Registration is required

We welcome all people regardless of socio-economic cultural and/or religious background or affiliation

Monthly group meetings on Wednesdays:

January 8, February 12, March 11, April 22, May 13, June 10, 2020

7:00-9:00 pm

Jewish Family & Child | 4600 Bathurst Street | Lipa Green Centre

For more information or to register, please call 416.638.7800 x 6215

REGISTER ONLINE

www.jfandcs.com/groups



**UJA FEDERATION
of Greater Toronto**



**United Way
Greater Toronto**



Ontario



English as a Second Language Classes for Adults



Improve your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

Communicate with confidence in English!

Classes Available!

REGISTER NOW!

Day Time, Night Time and Weekend Classes

Many locations!

Classes available in Thornhill, Richmond Hill, Woodbridge,
Markham, Newmarket and Stouffville

For more information

Call **905-731-9557 / 905-305-4122**



1000 New Westminster Drive
Thornhill, Ontario, L4J 8G3
Tel: 905-882-0277
Fax: 905-882-2450

Dear families of Grade 9 students,

On Thursday, January 9, 2020, York Region District School Board announced that it would be postponing the Grade 9 Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) assessment for first semester applied and academic math. This is a result of the job sanctions currently underway by the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF).

We appreciate that you may have questions regarding the rescheduling of the test. We anticipate receiving more information from the Ministry of Education and will update you as soon as we do.

Our school has also considered the options for the 5 per cent EQAO portion of the students' final mark for the Grade 9 mathematics course. After careful consideration, we have decided to distribute the 5% among the weighting of the summative(s) and the exam

This decision was made in the best interest of students and with the intent of being fair, transparent and equitable in all assessment and evaluation of student work.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's education, please feel free to contact your teacher or the school directly.

Sincerely,

Ms. Sheri Epstein

Principal





2020 March Break Youth Engagement Program

Who is Suitable for this Program?

- This program is geared to mature students in Grade 9 – Grade 12 who may be interested in Policing or working within a Police service (not mandatory).
- This program is very structured and has a physical fitness component which all participants will be involved in.
- This program is designed to assist students in gaining self-confidence, self-discipline, self-awareness and resiliency.

Students Must Be:

- Resident of York Region
- Between the ages of 15-18 years old
- Currently in Grade 9 – Grade 12
- Currently attending a York Region Secondary School
- Complete an Essay and submit with the application
- All students must have their own transportation to this program – public transit is not an option

Our Goal:

- To have a week of learning and to experience a small portion of what the recruitment process may be like when applying to York Regional Police
- To enable you to get to know yourself better, your strengths as well as areas you can enhance
- To have you meet other students with similar goals and form lasting friendships
- To have you interact and work with Officers who will continue to mentor you during this week

How to Apply:

- Interested applicants please email csv@yrp.ca requesting a copy of the application
- Applications must be completed digitally and emailed back to csv@yrp.ca

For more information or further questions contact:

Debbie Robinson #5459, Supervisor, Community Safety Village, York Regional Police by email at csv@yrp.ca

**JANUARY 2020
PARENT PRESENTATIONS**

**For parents of children from birth to teens
Parents, Grandparents and Caregivers are invited to attend!**

Let's Talk About It!

Join us to share, learn and build a school culture where mental health and well-being is valued and promoted.

To register or for further information contact:

Oksana Majaski,
Community & Partnership Developer,
Inclusive Schools & Community Services

Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca
416-568-2252

WOODLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL

Thursday, January 16, 2020

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Triple P Parenting Seminar: The Power of Positive Parenting

This session will focus on ensuring a safe engaging and positive learning environment for children. Parents will learn about using assertive discipline, having realistic expectations and taking care of themselves as a parent.

VIOLA DESMOND PUBLIC SCHOOL

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Carrying the Load: Youth Mental Health

This session will focus on mental health during the teenage years. Parents will explore possible signs of mental health concerns using the mental health continuum model for recognizing and achieving mental health balance.

HENDERSON AVE. PUBLIC SCHOOL

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Carrying the Load: Youth Mental Health

This session will focus on mental health during the teenage years. Parents will explore possible signs of mental health concerns using the mental health continuum model for recognizing and achieving mental health balance.

CARRVILLE MILLS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Thursday, January 23, 2020

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Triple P Parenting Seminar: Raising Resilient Children

This session will provide parents strategies to help their child; recognize and accept feeling, express feelings appropriately, build positive feelings and deal with negative feeling, upsetting and/or stressful life events.

VIOLA DESMOND PUBLIC SCHOOL

Wednesday, January 29, 2020

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Carrying the Load: Youth Mental Health

This session will focus on mental health during the teenage years. Parents will explore possible signs of mental health concerns using the mental health continuum model for recognizing and achieving mental health balance.

Facilitator: Uma Bhatt, RSW
York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Family

This free Parent Presentation is brought to you in a collaborative partnership with Carrville Mills P.S., Henderson P.S., Viola Desmond P.S. and Woodland P.S. with York Hills Children, Youth and Family Centre and York Region District School Board.

THE Sankofa Mentoring Program

FOR BLACK YOUTH BETWEEN THE AGES OF 12-18

"Bridging the Past with the Present

...Navigating the Present into the Future"

- MENTORSHIP • LEADERSHIP • CULTURAL EXPERIENCE
- FIELD TRIPS • LIFE SKILLS • RETREATS • SELF-AWARENESS
- CAREER EXPLORATION • ACADEMIC SUPPORT

The **Sankofa Mentoring Program** is rooted in an African Rites of Passage framework that highlights the principles of Unity, Self-Determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, Faith and Self-Respect.

WHEN WE MEET: **Tuesdays at Vaughan Secondary School**
Time: 6:30 to 8:30

Thursdays at Bur Oak Secondary School
Time: 6:30 to 8:30

FOOD PROVIDED

For more information please contact the
Program Manager at Pgmmgr@yorkregionaacc.ca
or call **647 807-2016**.

www.yorkregionaacc.ca





January 2020

****Brand New and Exciting- The Jewish Rainbow Alliance-** Join us for drop-in support group for parents, family members and allies of LGBTQ+ individuals. Monthly meetings starting **Wednesday January 8/20 from 7 to 9 p.m. at 4600 Bathurst St- Lipa Green Centre.** Registration is required.

HIGH CONFLICT DIVORCE- A workshop for parents wanting to develop strategies and techniques to deal with a High Conflict situation and help to lessen the impact of that conflict on their children. This workshop is not for individuals in an abusive situation. **Tuesday January 28/20 from 7 to 9 p.m. at 4600 Bathurst St. – Lipa Green Centre.**

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. For more information or to register please call Shawna Sidney at 416-638-7800 Ext # 6215 or go to our website at www.jfandcs.com/groups

January 2020

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Winter Break				
6	7	8 * Wolf Pack Wednesday * Drama Show	9 * Course Selection Assembly * Drama Show	10 * Drama Show
13	14 * Dance Show	15 * Dance Show * School Council	16	17 * Course Selection (P1,2,3)
20	21	22 * Family School Visits	Exams	
Exams			30 Exam Review Day (PM)	31 PA DAY

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.

