March 23-April 3

Attendance: 905.882.0277 x 238

Principal: Sheri Epstein
Vice-Principal: Lisa Wargo
Vice-Principal: Sheldon Zelsman

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Please check our website regularly for updates.

NEWS & EVENTS
PARENTS
SCHOOL CALENDAR
Dear Families/Community Members

March has brought us some much deserved warmer temperatures and we can finally get outside and enjoy the sun and nice weather. As we head into March Break I would like to share with you some of the exciting events and activities that have been going on at Westmount this semester.

- the Westmount Hockey Team won their first tournament of the season at York University. Go Wolves!
- the Westmount chapter of DECA competed in the Provincial competition in Toronto and in April, six Westmount students will be attending the International DECA competition in Orlando Florida.
- our students, staff and parents enjoyed two guest speakers including:
  - Paul Davis who spoke to our parents and students about internet and social networking safety.
  - Emmanuel Jal - a former Sudanese child soldier, TED Talk presenter, author of the book War Child, and now world renowned hip-hop artist spoke with our students about his social movement channeling the power of education, entrepreneurialism and creativity to impact social change – “The Key to E”
- a water bottle station was installed on the first floor, to enable students to fill their reusable water bottles and reduce the use of plastic bottles.
- a One Match bone marrow drive was held on March 2 and we exceeded our goal of 75 swabs…final count was 175 swabs!
- students have researched and selected their courses for next year and many of our graduating students are beginning to hear from post-secondary schools.
- four teams were sent to the YRDSB Science Olympics at Seneca @ York
- the Italy trip left on March 11, where students and their chaperones will be touring many exciting Italian destinations, including: Venice, Rome, Cinque Terre and Pisa.
- Progress reports were sent home on March 10 and students are working hard to reach their academic learning goals.

Westmount is a busy and vibrant school and is truly an exciting place to be. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize our entire school community, students staff and parents for all the hard work they do in planning, organizing and participating in these exciting events, which support our students success and achievement.

Wishing everyone a happy and relaxing March Break!

Ms. Lisa Wargo
Vice-Principal
These 2 Weeks

Wednesday, March 25
- School Council

Thursday, March 26
- OSSLT—modified schedule
- Semi Formal

Tuesday, March 31
- Spring Awards Assembly P1

Wednesday, April 1
- Gr 21 FINAL Graduation Assembly

Friday, April 3
- Good Friday
- Passover Begins

Math Contest
Any students in grade 12 interested in writing the University of Waterloo Math Contests can register with his/her Math Teacher or with the Math Department (Room 306). The grade 12 Math Contest will cost $14 and registration must be done before March Wednesday 11th. The contest will be written during periods 1 and 2 on **Wednesday April 15th 2015**.

For more information on these Math Contests please see [http://cemc.uwaterloo.ca/](http://cemc.uwaterloo.ca/)

Math Club
Any grade 9, 10 or 11 students in need of extra math help are invited to attend the afterschool Math Club on Tuesdays and Thursdays in room 303/304. Math Club is an excellent opportunity for students to receive 1:1 tutoring from grade 11 and 12 students.

Library News
Our list of [WCI Library Collections](http://cemc.uwaterloo.ca/) has just been updated to include several new and replaced paper copy titles. As always, clicking on the **Call # will take you directly to our catalogue record** to see if the item is available or already signed out. In the case of our novels, **by clicking on the Fiction title, reviews on the Internet are retrieved**. Our users are then able to decide if the item is of interest to them. In the case of students, reading the reviews would provide a preliminary understanding of the novel and hence improve reading comprehension. Also, we invite you to return later to examine several Bloom’s Literary Criticism e-books soon to be purchased.
Another 2 days at York University, another championship for the Westmount Hockey Program. The Senior Wolves took to the ice on February 26 and 27 seeking their 1st tournament win of the season. The team came out hungry for a championship after falling just short in their 1st tournament, losing 5-3 in the finals. Coached by the two people who have helped decorate the trophy case, Mr. Grossi and Mr. Orlowsky, the wolves came out hard on the first day of the tournament. The wolves took game 1 by a score of 5-3 over Cebbarbrae, and followed that up with a 6-5 win over O’neill. Moving into Friday, the Wolves fell 7-6 in a back and forth shootout with Peninsula Shores, setting up a must win game to reach the finals. The wolves responded accordingly, crushing Pine Ridge by a score of 5-2. This set up a rematch vs. Peninsula Shores in the finals, a game that the Wolves had hoped for. The Wolves came out fast, hoping to do what they couldn’t last time and to win the tournament. The Wolves scored 4 goals in the first 6 minutes to take a huge lead, one that they would not relinquish. The Wolves added another, defeating Peninsula Shores by a score of 5-0, capturing the title. The team relied on its teamwork, leadership, and cohesiveness to lead them to the championship. The boys would like to send their appreciation to coaches Mr. Grossi, and Mr. Orlowsky for their help along the way. The team is excited for a chance to do it all over again on April 1 and 2 as they always look forward to their next obstacle.
On Tuesday, March 31st, 2015 we will be recognizing students who have achieved academic excellence during the 1st semester.

Students who are receiving awards, will be given their invitations on Monday, March 23rd, 2015.

Parents are invited to attend our ceremony and witness the presentation of certificates in the Cafeteria from 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Reception to follow the awards presentation.
Human Trafficking in York Region: a prevention and education workshop for youth and parents

An interactive session geared to raising awareness and educating youth and parents on recruitment tactics of traffickers, warning signs and where to go for help.

To register, email emyers@markham.library.on.ca

Milliken Mills Library
Wednesday
March 18
1:00pm - 2:30pm

Presented in partnership with the York Region Anti-Human Trafficking Committee
www.markhampubliclibrary.ca
FREE!
Youth Training Program (ages 16-24)

GET THE SKILLS EMPLOYERS ARE LOOKING FOR

Cover Letter, Resume & Interviews
Tuesday, February 24th & March 3rd, 2015: 4:00pm-7:00pm
Get the skills to create a cover letter, resume, answer interview questions and more!

WHIMS Training
Tuesday, March 10th 2015 4:00pm-7:00pm
Be ready for your next job with your Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) Certificate that employers are looking for!

First Aid/CPR Training
Friday March 13th & Saturday March 14th, 2015: 8:30am-4:30pm both days
Receive your First Aid/CPR Certificate by attending these 2 day workshops!

Proton Food Handler's Training
Monday, March 16th, 2015 : 9:00am-4:00pm
Learn how to safely prepare, store and serve food and receive your Food Handlers Certification!

AODA Training
Tuesday, March 24th, 2015 : 4:00pm-7:00pm
Receive the Accessibility Customer Service Training in accordance with Ontarians Disabilities Act (AODA). This training is a requirement if you provide services to the public.

Cash Register Training
Tuesday, March 31st 2015 : 4:00pm-7:00pm
Learn how to operate a cash register and gain new skills and customer service abilities.

Smart Serve Ontario Training
Tuesday, April 7, 2015 : 4:00pm-7:00pm. Participants must be 19 to 24 years of age
Learn how to balance responsible service of alcohol with customers, understand and obey the laws of public safety when ever you serve alcohol and obtain your Smart Serve Certificate!

Free YRT bus tickets are provided to participants

| Registration: |
| To register, call Stacey at 905-303-8490 Ext. 151 |
| Location: |
| 9401 Jane Street, Suite 106, Vaughan ON L6A 4H7 |

| Eligibility to Participate in Training/Workshops: |
| Participants must have a low-moderate household income |

Please let us know if you require any specific accommodations

Funded through The Regional Municipality of York
MAPLE HIGH SCHOOL
presents
Parents as Partners
An information sharing evening about our youth today

Thursday March 26, 2015
4:30 – 6:30 p.m. @ Maple HS

Light Dinner: 4:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Seminar: 5:00 – 6:30 p.m
Topic: Mental Health and Wellness
Parents will learn about stress and anxiety in teens and how to help your child manage their stress and develop resiliency.

All parents are welcome!

RSVP by March 12th to: maple.hs@yrdsb.ca (please indicate if you will be joining us for dinner)

*This event is for parents only; arrangements for the care of accompanying children are available*

This school community event is made possible through the collaborative partnership with Maple High School, Maple HS School Council and York Region District School Board.
Maple High School is proud to present the 9th annual Maple’s Closet Diva Ball. Maple’s Closet has helped provide graduation attire to over 300 grade 8 and 12 students. Our objective is to provide a graduation dress, suit and accessories to every female or male York Region student in need.

If you would like to make a referral of a York Region student to Maple’s Closet, please complete each section of the referral form found at http://goo.gl/forms/yp4EIXRufP by March 11, 2015. If you would like further information, contact Maria Luongo-Cassar at Maple High School (905-417-9444) or at maria.luongo-cassar@yrdsb.ca.

If you would like to make a donation, please contact Maple High School. Donations (dresses, suits, and accessories) would be appreciated by Wednesday, April 1st, 2015.

The Ball / Maple’s Closet
Female students referred to Maple’s Closet are invited to attend the Diva Ball event, which will be held on Wednesday, April 8th, 2015, from 9:00 am – 11:30 am at Maple High School. Males referred will be invited to Maple’s Closet on Thursday, April 23, 2015, from 9:00 am – 11:30 am.

The students will enjoy a variety of activities and refreshments as they choose formal attire and accessories for graduation night. Students will be able to choose activities such as etiquette, make-up application, jewelry making, tying a tie, etc., provided by the Maple High School community.
groups & workshops
MARCH 2015

LET’S BE BLUNT *SPACE IS LIMITED*
A one evening forum for parents on teens and drug use. Moderated by Joe Rich with 3 speakers; a former teen addict, a parent of a former addict and an addiction expert. Join us for a Q & A with a panel of experts, including the speakers, to follow the presentations.
Tuesday, March 24, 2015 | 4600 Bathurst St | Lipa Green Centre | 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm

LOOKING AHEAD
A six session group for newly separated or divorced individuals who are dealing with the initial feelings of loss, anger, loneliness and wanting to let go of the past and move forward.
Thursday, March 26, 2015 | 4600 Bathurst St | Lipa Green Centre | 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

WIDOW/WIDOWER BEREAVEMENT UNDER 65
A six session discussion series for individuals 65 and under who have recently lost a spouse. Topics include: coping with grief, living with loneliness and new beginnings.
Tuesday, March 31, 2015 | 4600 Bathurst St | Lipa Green Centre | 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm

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 reductions.

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

www.facebook.com/jfandcs
UJA's Health Division and Jewish Family & Child presents:

Let's Be Blunt

Exclusive events featuring experts from UJA's social service partners.

Let's Be Blunt

A Forum for Parents: Teens and Drug / Alcohol Use

Please save the date:
Tuesday, March 24, 2015 | 7:30pm

Moderated by Joe Rich, Family Therapist, author and regular guest on The Marilyn Dennis Show

Location:
Lipa Green Centre, Tamari Hall 4600 Bathurst ST, Toronto, ON M2R 3V2

Cost: Free - However registration is required.
Contact Lisa Prag 416.635.2883 ext 5374
LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE.
Office of the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth

I Have Something to Say
PROVINCIAL ADVOCATE WANTS TO HEAR FROM KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

How would the world look if all children and youth with special needs were supported to realize their full potential?

Do you know a young person with a story to tell? The Office of the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth wants to hear directly from children and youth with special needs about how they think their rights should be protected.

The deadline for submissions is March 31, 2015.

To find out more or to make a submission, click here.

Learning Disabilities Association of Halton Invitation

The Learning Disabilities Association of Halton invites you to register for and share our upcoming conference this March 26th, 2015. We know this event will be important for teachers, educational assistants and administrators to attend. In response to last year's feedback we have moved to a new format and location to provide flexibility of topic choice and maintain a location close to highway access, right off the QEW. This exciting event will be held Thursday March 26th, 2015 at the Holiday Inn Burlington Hotel and Conference Centre with check in beginning at 8 am and the day closing off at 3:15 pm. Those wishing to book hotel accommodations can do so before March 6th at a discounted rate provided to our delegates.

Part fundraising, part education, this event will provide a full day of important information sharing for parents, educators and other para professionals connected to individuals diagnosed with learning disabilities and/or ADHD. Don't miss out on your chosen breakout sessions as seats per session are limited.

View our introductory flyer HERE<http://ldahalton.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=00ad760ad32b2fd6d724729df&id=213bf44dfc&e=a3a65f19af>. We hope you will share this important event with your many colleagues and associates dedicated to supporting students with learning disabilities.

Breakout descriptions and our designated speakers are summarized HERE<http://ldahalton.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=00ad760ad32b2fd6d724729df&id=3538e7729f&e=a3a65f19af> for your perusal. Complete details, registration and hotel accommodation information are available by viewing on our website at WWW.LDAHALTON.CA<http://ldahalton.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=00ad760ad32b2fd6d724729df&id=6ccd42e24d&e=a3a65f19af>.

***Group registration rates are available. Please contact our office at conference@LDAHalton.ca or call our Executive Director, Barb Jorritsma at 905.333.1977 for details.

Karen Mahoney and Liz Ablett
Special Education Consultants
Guidance News

Course Selection 2015-16
The course selection process is finally done! Now it’s time to create the timetable for the school. Students will get their timetable in September. Any further changes can be made at that time.

For more information please visit https://sites.google.com/site/wciguidance/course-selection or follow us on Twitter @WCIGuidance #courseselection

Mark Your Calendar!
Final Graduation Prep Assembly

On Wednesday, April 1 we will have our final mandatory graduation preparation assembly for our grade 12 graduating students. Students will receive information about Prom and the Graduation Ceremony. We will also go through a checklist of items which must be complete in order to graduate. For more information visit https://sites.google.com/site/wciguidance/graduation or follow us @WCIGuidance #wcigrads

Westmount Guidance Website

The Guidance website is updated on a regular basis. Students should regularly check the website to ensure they are up-to-date with what is happening in the school. For example, our grade 12 graduates should check out the “Graduating Class NEWS” page #wcigrads.

Did you know that each page of the Guidance website has been identified with a Twitter #hash tag? For example, the main page with the list of upcoming events has been labeled #wcievent. The Grads News page is labeled #wcigrads. These hash tags will make it easier to find news and information that has been posted to Twitter. If you type #wcigrads in the search box on your Twitter screen you will get a list of all tweets regarding news and events for our graduating class. Check it out at https://sites.google.com/site/wciguidance/

Stay in the Loop
Follow WestmountGuidance on Facebook and @WCIGuidance on Twitter. Visit the Guidance website regularly for important news, information and announcements. https://sites.google.com/site/wciguidance/home

Guidance Appointments

Need an appointment with your Guidance Counsellor?
Here’s how to book and appointment: https://sites.google.com/site/wciguidance/

Westmount Guidance

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**Looking Ahead**

**Monday, April 6**
- Easter Monday

**Friday, April 10**
- Holly Friday (Eastern)

**Tuesday, April 14**
- Vausakhi
- Count me in Conference

**Wednesday, April 15**
- Graduation/Prom Ticket Night

**Friday, April 17**
- Vow of Silence—for Free the Children

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**APRIL 2015**

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To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements.

Since some busing schedules begin by 7:00 a.m., cancellation decisions must be made by 6:00 a.m. to allow time to communicate this message to bus drivers. Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with the Safety Officers of school bus companies servicing York Region and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and weather forecast.

Please note the following:

- A decision to cancel school bus service will be region-wide meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- When bus service is cancelled all school tests and/or examinations will be cancelled and rescheduled.
- Student trips involving the use of school buses will also be cancelled.
- School bus routes may be cancelled when severe weather may not be affecting all municipalities in York Region. Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries. This limits the ability to cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology.

Unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

**RADIO**

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<th>590 AM</th>
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**TELEVISION**

CITY TV, CTV Barrie, CTV Toronto, CP24, GLOBAL NEWS

A bus cancellation message will also be available at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following the YRDSB and YCDSB on twitter.