



Back to School 2025-2026

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Please note that the following information is intended to complement, not replace, the school's Code of Conduct. For the complete Code of Conduct, please refer to the school agenda or visit our school website.

Major Renovations

Since the beginning of July 2024, our school has been buzzing with transformation as we undertake major renovations in some of our most cherished spaces, including the gymnasium, cafeteria, washrooms, and parking lot.

The cafeteria is now in its final stages of touch-ups and is expected to be ready for use for the first days of school. All washrooms have been fully updated and are ready for students. The gym is ready to welcome classes starting at the beginning of school year.

The only remaining major work is the repair and replacement of the tiled windows around the building and in the gym. This project will continue throughout the school year, but will not disrupt school activities.

The parking lot behind the school has also been updated. **Please note that parents are not permitted to use the school parking lot to drop off or pick up their children.**

Staggered Entry 2025-2026

The first day of school is always exciting for our students because it's a time to reconnect with friends. Once again, this year that excitement is coupled with a sense of anxiety about the new reality that they will be faced with. To minimize this anxiety and to familiarize our students with all the procedures that we have put in place, we have decided to stagger our entry according to the schedule below.

All students can pick up their 2025-2026 timetable on their first day (**please see Timetable Collection - September 2nd and 3rd**).

Timetable Collection - September 2nd and 3rd

Level	Date	Start	Location	Dismissal
Secondary 1 ONLY	September 2	8:30 a.m.	Main Entrance Saint Catherine St.	11:45 a.m.
Secondary 2	September 3	8:30 a.m.		9:45 a.m.
Secondary 3	September 3	9:30 a.m.		10:45 a.m.
Secondary 4	September 3	10:30 a.m.		11:45 a.m.
Secondary 5	September 3	11:30 a.m.		12:45 p.m.
All Grade Levels (Day 1)	September 4	8:20 a.m.	<u>Designated Entry Points</u>	3:06 p.m.

Reporting to School on your child's first day

On September 2nd, all **Secondary 1** students must report to the main entrance on Saint Catherine West where they will be welcomed into the school auditorium for a brief presentation by the administration team. Parents are asked to drop off their children and not park in our parking lot since the spots are reserved for staff only. Students will receive a snack at 10:00 am, and will be dismissed at 11:45 a.m. at the visitor entrance on Saint Catherine. **Please note that Secondary 1 students will not have school on September 3rd.**

On September 3rd, all **Secondary 2 - 5 students** must report to the visitor entrance on Saint-Catherine West at their designated time (see table above). Students will receive a brief presentation in the auditorium, followed by the distribution of timetables and other important items in Homeroom. Please see the table above for dismissal times.

All students are expected to arrive in their school uniform (please see School Uniforms for more information).

Attendance, Lates, and Mozaik

Students are expected to report to their homeroom classes at 8:20 a.m. each morning, except Wednesdays when they are expected to report to their homeroom classes at 9:30 a.m.

If your child is sick, please contact the school by phone at 514-933-2701 or use the Mozaik application.

In the case of emergency situations that result in a student arriving late to school, parents must inform the office before 8:15 a.m. or report a late arrival on the **Mozaïk Parent Portal** (portailparents.ca). Students entering the building one hour or more after the start of homeroom without having a parent notify the main office are considered skipping or absent without permission. In these cases, students are not permitted to attend classes until their lateness or absence is confirmed by a parent and may be subject to administrative intervention.

Google Classroom

Most courses will have a Google Classroom for the students to access. Students must log in using their EMSB email and password, which will be provided to new students in the first week of school.

Course Changes

Course change deadline: Monday, September 15th

Please note that course changes will only be permitted for the following reasons:

- Course already passed (Summer School).
- You are missing a compulsory course (e.g. History, Science, etc.)
- You are in the wrong level (e.g. Sec III Math instead of Sec IV Math – by teacher's recommendation only.)

Designated Entry Points

Students are given designated entry and exit points to be used throughout the school year.

Students will only be permitted to enter the building according to the grade-specific entry point.

- East Entrance (Clark): Secondary 1 students
- Rear Entrance (Field): Secondary 2 & 3 students
- West Entrance (Hillside): Secondary 4 & 5 students
- Main Entrance (St. Catherine): Visitors ONLY (appointment required) and late arriving students

Daily Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday		Wednesday	
8:00	Doors Open	9:10	Doors Open
8:15	Warning Bell	9:25	Warning Bell
8:20 – 8:30	Homeroom	9:30 – 9:40	Homeroom
8:30 – 8:34	Passing Time	9:40 – 9:44	Passing Time
8:34 - 9:52	Period 1	9:44 – 10:47	Period 1
9:52 – 10:02	Passing Time	10:47 – 10:57	Passing Time
10:02 - 11:20	Period 2	10:57 – 12:00	Period 2
11:20 – 11:40	Recess	12:00 – 12:50	Lunch
11:40- 12:58	Period 3	12:50 – 1:53	Period 3
12:58 – 1:48	Lunch	1:53 – 2:03	Passing Time
1:48 - 3:06	Period 4	2:03 – 3:06	Period 4

Students will follow a 9-day cycle with four 78-minute periods throughout the day. On Wednesdays, the school day begins at 9:30 am.

All students will be permitted to eat in designated classrooms during the lunch period or go outdoors at the start of the lunch period. **Please note that Sec 1 students are not permitted to leave the school grounds throughout the school day.** Sec 2-5 students are encouraged to eat outside or in designated classrooms. Although students in secondary 2-5 are permitted to leave the school property during the lunch period, the administration would like to encourage students to remain near the school property and participate in lunch period extra-curricular activities.

Lockers

All students will be assigned lockers on their first day of school during Homeroom.

- Secondary 1 and new students will be issued a school lock by their Homeroom teacher. **Returning students must use the lock that was issued last year.** Students who have misplaced their school-issued lock may purchase a replacement at the main office for \$10

(cash). Personal non-school-issued locks are only permitted during Phys. Ed. class to be used in the locker rooms, and *not* on hallway lockers where they will be removed and replaced by a school lock after a warning.

- Students are not permitted to leave personal items in their lockers without a school lock.
- Non-school-approved locks will be immediately removed by the caretaking staff.

Students will only be permitted to use their locker before school, at the beginning of recess and lunch, or after school. They will not be permitted to go to their locker between classes.

Student Presence in the Building

Students will only be permitted to enter the school at 8:00 a.m. (Wednesdays at 9:10 a.m.) once staff supervision begins. Students will not be permitted to congregate in the halls upon their arrival. They must report to their assigned homeroom. Students are also expected to leave the building in an orderly manner at the end of the school day. Students are not permitted to congregate by any of our exits at dismissal.

We encourage parents to have discussions with their children about acting responsibly at school and around the WHS neighborhood.

Cafeteria Services

Please note that our cafeteria is finalizing renovations and may be delayed at the start of the school year. More information will be sent at the end of August. Space is limited in the cafeteria, therefore we encourage students to use available classrooms or spaces outside of the school to enjoy their lunch whenever possible.

Photo ID Day

Student Photo ID Day will take place on September 4th. As usual, students are required to be in uniform in order to participate.

STM Opus Cards

The STM school Opus card photo day will take place on September 9th at our school. Students will receive more information, as well as the required forms, before this date.

Meet the Teacher

Meet the Teacher will be held in person on the evening of September 9th. More information will be sent by email in the coming days.

School Supplies

Please make sure that your child has a backpack, pens, pencils, erasers, and paper for the first day of school. Teachers will inform students about items that they will require once they meet with them throughout early September.

School Uniforms

The school uniform is compulsory as of the very first day of school, including the collection of timetables during staggered entry days. Any students not in full uniform will be sent home and they will not receive their schedule on that day. Our uniform supplier for the 2025-2026 school year will be Top Marks (<http://www.topmarks.ca>). Accommodations can be made with the school principal should any parents require support purchasing the uniform. Parents will be contacted if a student is out of uniform.

Uniform Sale - The annual used uniform PLUK sale (Previously Loved Uniform Kiosk) will be taking place on Thursday, August 28th at 6:00pm in the school lobby.

Cell Phone Use and Yondr

Westmount High School is a phone-free space that employs a system called Yondr. Yondr has been implemented in over 1,000 schools across 21 countries to facilitate an engaged learning environment. Learning and social skills improve when students are fully engaged with their teachers and classmates.

The Yondr Program utilizes a simple, secure pouch that stores electronic devices. Every student will receive a Yondr pouch during the first days of school in which to secure their electronic devices. The Yondr pouches come at no additional cost to parents. While at school students will always maintain possession of their devices.

Physical Education Uniforms and Gym Locker Rooms

Students will be permitted to use the locker rooms and must bring their own personal (non-school-issued) lock for the Gym lockers. The school is not responsible for any lost or stolen items. Students are encouraged to keep valuable items in their assigned hallway lockers. The Phys Ed uniform is the following:

- Proper running shoes
- Purple WHS gym t-shirt (always to be worn even if a student wears WHS hoodie over top)
- Black shorts and/or black jogging pants
- WHS sweater/hoodie (will be needed on the cooler days outside)
- Filled Water bottle
- Hat (for outdoor use only- sun protection)

Please note all items should be clearly labeled for easy identification and return. Students will participate in Physical Education both outdoors and indoors so students will need to take note of weather conditions before coming to school.

In closing, we eagerly anticipate welcoming all of our students and embarking on a wonderful school year together.

Sincerely,

Luigi Santamaria
Principal