

Waterloo Independent Secondary School

June 1, 2020



WE ARE PROUD OF OUR GRADUATES

All of our WISS graduates received offers of admission from universities across Canada. They achieved this level of distinction through diligence in studies and perseverance in spirit. A hearty congratulations from all of us at WISS!



WE ARE GRATEFUL TO OUR TEACHERS & STAFF

Students achieve because teachers strive every day to help them improve, because our guidance counsellor keeps them on track, and because our admin office supports their daily needs. Their patience, their interest, their discipline, their care all add up to student success. Thanks to our hard-working staff!

GOODBYE AND ALL THE VERY BEST

It is always very hard to have to say goodbye to teachers who leave WISS. Teachers are the life force of our school. But we realize that new opportunities beckon and, as Directors, we are the first to encourage teachers to take advantage of every opportunity that comes their way. Still, it's with mixed feelings that we say goodbye to Mr. Jonah Nechacov, a recent addition to our science teaching staff. They will continue their education journey in different places and will continue to dedicate their careers to supporting young people.

FINAL REPORT CARDS

Report cards will be distributed **to students on June 24**. Students must continue to attend school in order to maintain their final grades and must submit assignments and do presentations on time. Marks may be deducted for final assignments submitted or presented after the due date. The deduction may be up to 20% of the assignment. Late assignments beyond the final due date are not accepted.

REFLECTIONS

We wish to extend our thanks to teachers who were forced to transition to online learning this semester. At first, it was a case of 'emergency' online teaching but students settled in very quickly. It was a false alarm not an emergency at all. **Teachers' creativity, collaborative problem-solving and professionalism** won the day and we ended the semester on a positive note.



Our **homestay parents** deserve special recognition for coping so well with the 'new normal'. They were thrown into 'emergency homestay' and, like our school staff, rose to the occasion. Their efforts have been so very important in caring for students' emotional needs.

TO END THE SCHOOL YEAR, A WORD FROM SOME GRADS

Nolan's Triangle of Success!

2 years ago, I came to Canada. In order to study more, I transferred from a public school to WISS in grade 12. After studying for one year, I think I will never regret this decision.

Guidance in WISS helps me solve difficulties facing in study weekly. Meetings about applying for universities also held regularly which tell me what should I do in advance.

Classmates are friendly and they are willing to help me whenever I have problems.

Thanks for classmates and **teachers'** help, I get offers from all universities I applied for successfully: UT, UW, Laurier. Western, Queens and McMaster.

Linda's Recipe for Her Personal Best!

I came to Canada in September 2019. To be honest, when I first arrived, I was worried that I wouldn't be able to understand what teachers say in classes. I also felt afraid of living alone. However, later I found that all of my worries were unnecessary. WISS provides Study **Guidance** weekly which helps me figure out my problems. Meanwhile, enough **volunteering** opportunities also accelerate the process of being used to life in Canada. Thanks for everyone's help, I improved a lot in this year. I received offers from all universities I applied for which include University of Waterloo, University of Toronto, Western and McMaster. UW also gives me \$16000 as the scholarship. My developments are not only about studying but also reflect on my **stand-alone capabilities, my independence**. Until now, I want to tell everyone that studying abroad is one of the most wise decisions that I ever made.

Margaret's Reflections on WISS Life (excerpt)

Well, to be honest, I didn't realize that it has been 2 years since I came to WISS. How time flies. You know, I was quite shy when I first came here. Until the teachers let us introduce ourselves. ... It was fantastic. Student council, preparing for the IELTS test, striving to obtain high scores, and volunteering, that's life for me, **full of challenges and passion**.

When it comes to grade 12, I started to really feel the power of a collective. My classmates and I applied for universities, fighting for the best ourselves, making appointments with our teachers after class. Our student counselor, as well, always held a meeting to help guide our university application. Everyone was **doing their best to help, or to improve**.

The outstanding performance of every student here, and the **contribution of every teacher** here, they both touched me a lot and pushed me to go further and further. Besides study, sometimes Miss Cheng would prepare extra dessert in the cafeteria. once I presented a story for the whole school; and we planted a variety of seeds in plastic bottles to decorate our school, our home - unforgettable moments.

I am graduating in 2020 and will soon go to University of Toronto. As a student who can finally be called a "graduate", I hope that everyone here in WISS can enter an ideal university. Enjoy your journey. I'll see you in the future!

AU REVOIR, GRADS

Goodbye and the very best to you in the future. A formative time of your life has now passed. You have completed an important part of your educational experience at WISS and you are about to embark on a new adventure - university. How exciting is that?! So, now it's up to you. Be diligent in your school work. Persevere through difficult times. Do your best and your dreams will come true.

A photograph of a whiteboard with the word "Goodbye" written in large, pink, chalky letters. The letters are slightly slanted and have a soft, textured appearance. The background is a plain white surface.