








GORSEBROOK JUNIOR HIGH COMMUNITY MEMO

THIS WEEK AT GORSEBROOK: Jan 13th - Jan 17th 2024

*Please read below for the week's events and other school-related information

This is: Week 1

<p>MONDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSA at lunch in room 109 • Mme Jang will be offering extra help and Chess & Strategy games in Room 210 at lunch. • Intramurals taking place in the gym at lunch, eat first! (12:00-12:55 pm) • Full cast Musical rehearsal after school (3-5:30 pm). • Female-identifying basketball game at Oxford Jr. (4:00 pm). • Grade 7 skating field trip at the Oval (1-2:45 pm). • Male-identifying basketball practice after school (3-4:45 pm).
<p>TUESDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Female-identifying basketball practice before school (7:30-8:30am) • Debate Club at lunch. Please come straight to room 222 at the bell and bring your lunch. • French extra help in Room 211 at 12:10 pm with Mme. Sarita. • Guitar club at lunch with Mr. Brewer in room 105. • Badminton Club taking place in the gym. Open to anyone interested, from beginner to experienced. Bring your own gear if you have it, including indoor sneakers! Sign-up sheet is located outside of the gym. • The students who are working on the African Nova Scotian History Challenge are reminded to check with Madame Lutley on Tuesday during the first 20 minutes of lunch. • Male-identifying basketball team home game vs. Fairview Jr. (4:00 pm)
<p>WEDNESDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partial-cast musical rehearsal before school (7:30-8:30 am). • Volunteers for Duke of Ed hours are welcome to help Mme. Jang in the shop (12:00pm) • Library opened @ lunch • Intramurals taking place in the gym at lunch, eat first! (12:00-12:55 pm) • Film Club @ 12pm- Room 217 • Violin with Mr. Jefferies in the band room 201 all of lunch. • Female-identifying basketball home game vs. Fairview Jr. (4:00 pm)
<p>THURSDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 8 band rehearsal will take place from 8:00-8:30 am in the band room. • Library opened @ lunch • Math extra help @ lunch in room 221 • String Ensemble with Mr. Jefferies in the band room 201 all of lunch. • Grade 8 skating field trip at the Oval (1-2:45 pm). • Male-identifying basketball home game vs. Highland Park Jr. (4:00 pm)
<p>FRIDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Female-identifying basketball practice before school (7:30-8:30am) • Full cast musical rehearsal before school (7:30-8:30 am). • Pizza day at lunch! • Intramurals taking place in the gym at lunch, eat first! (12:00-12:55 pm) • D&D club at 12:00 pm in room 101. • Senior Woodworking Club at 12pm with Mme. Jang. Please eat lunch first. • EAL games and conversation club with Ms. Andrews at 12 pm in room 107. Eat your lunch first. All are welcome! • Readers Rumble in room 215 at 12:00pm with Ms. U and Ms. Earley. All readers welcome! • Grade 9 skating field trip at the Oval (1-2:45 pm). • Male-identifying basketball practice after school (3-5pm).

Upcoming Dates

Jan 22nd – SAC Meeting in boardroom (11:40 am)
 Feb 4th – PTA Meeting in boardroom (6:30 pm)
 Feb 6th – School Dance (6:00-8:00 pm)

Safe Arrival Reminder

Attendance: Students are recorded as absent by their homeroom teachers if they aren't in their homeroom by 8:40 am.

SAFE ARRIVAL: To report your child(ren) absent or late, you can use any of the following methods:

→ **Toll-Free Number**

Parents/guardians can call 1-833-582-6940 to report:

- Future absences using an automated system (max 5 consecutive days) at a time.
- Excuse your child(ren) for a **full day (no half-day option)**. If they arrive late or after an appointment, their attendance will be updated in our system upon arrival.

→ **PowerSchool Parent/Student Portal**

Parents/guardians can log in to <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/> to access the School Messenger website to report future absences.

→ **School Messenger App**

Parents/guardians can download the School Messenger app for Android and iOS devices and use their username and password for the PowerSchool Portal.

*All three methods are available 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. Absences can be reported any time before the start of school (9:10 am) on the day the student will be absent. Up to five consecutive absences can be recorded at once.

If your child will be absent for the afternoon only, please contact the main office at 902-421-6758 ext. 5451000. Feel free to leave a message for this absence. This information can also be found on the hrce.ca website under For Families > General Information > Safe Arrival

Please do not email teachers for attendance purposes.

Thank you for your understanding 😊

From the Office

- Please note: Gorsebrook is a scent-free school. Many students and staff have sensitivities. Please do not use spray deodorants/perfumes while at school.
- We've noticed an increase in late arrivals during morning drop-off. As we move through the season, factors like weather and traffic can cause unexpected delays. To help ensure a smooth start to the day for everyone, we kindly remind families to allow a little extra time in the mornings to account for these challenges. Thank you for your cooperation in helping all students begin their day on the right foot!

Friday Pizza Lunch Orders

We're excited to announce that the new pizza term is live on [School Cash Online!](#) Place your orders starting today, **January 10, 2025**.

Important Dates:

- **Order Deadline:** End of the day, **January 15, 2025** (No late orders will be accepted).
- **First Pizza Day:** **January 17, 2025**
- **Last Pizza Day:** **April 4, 2025**

Pizza Options:

- Cheese
- Veggie
- Garlic Fingers
- Gluten-Free

Lunches will be delivered each **Friday** during the term. Don't miss out—order now!

SchoolsPlus is here to support you

SchoolsPlus is a confidential, free service available in every school in Nova Scotia. Our goal is to build positive relationships between families, schools, and communities. Parents, guardians and students (12+) can self-refer to SchoolsPlus 12 months a year! Just contact the SchoolsPlus Facilitator at your school. Call 902-464-2000, ext. 2331 or email schoolsplus@hrce.ca.

From HRCE

Important weather reminders

Did you know? HRCE takes great care when making the decision to alter the regular operations of schools and school busses in the event of severe or inclement weather.

It is HRCE's goal to communicate any changes to the regular operations of schools and/or buses as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible. **A 6:00 a.m. announcement could be:**

- All schools are delayed in opening by two hours and bus pickups are delayed by two hours; or
- All schools are open, but some or all busses are not operating for the day; or
- Some schools (either individually or by family) are closed for the day; or
- All schools are closed for the day.

If weather deteriorates, or is forecasted to worsen throughout the morning, **an 11:00 a.m. announcement could be:**

- Bused students will be picked up two hours earlier than their regular dismissal time; and
- Non-bused students will be dismissed at their regularly scheduled lunch hour.

How will I find out?

- By email to the addresses in PowerSchool
- By text message, **if you have opted-in**. If you aren't sure if you have opted-in, text Y to the following number: **978338**
- On [our website](#)
- On [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#)
- On [Instagram](#)

It's important to always have a plan in place for childcare in the event of any cancellation.

For more information on how HRCE manages during inclement weather, visit www.hrce.ca/families/cancellations.

Musical News

Seeking Program Sponsors

DO YOU own a business or know a business that has an advertising budget, and can support local community events? If so, please consider sponsoring the Gorsebrook Musical by purchasing ad space in the program that will be handed out at our production of 13 Jr. on **February 24 & 25, 2025**. Print will be in black and white, and copy will be due **January 31, 2025**.

The space we have available, and the cost is: Full page- \$150 ½ page- \$100 ¼ page-\$75

Don't miss your chance to have your ad seen by upwards of 500 local theater goers who will know your business supports community arts, education and, most importantly, kids. Email Terri at oneill.theresa@gmail.com to get in the program.

Volunteer Opportunities

As an ongoing effort to support our Grade 9 students in meeting their community service requirements for their Duke of Edinburgh Award, we are inviting anyone who knows of any volunteer opportunities for students to fulfill their Duke of Edinburgh Award requirements, to please share the organization and/or contact person information with Nicole Conrad (nconrad@hrce.ca) at any time. She will help to connect students with the relevant coordinators. Your support is greatly appreciated.

From the Math Department

The EECD [Homework Hub](#) is a valuable mathematics resource for students in grades 7 to 12. Students can access live tutors on Sunday to Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 9:30 pm. These tutors are certified teachers who can tutor any mathematics course in both English and French. In addition to tutoring, students can access electronic textbooks, tutorial videos and practice problems any time of day. Please watch the following EECD video introduction to the homework hub: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QnORoA5E7i4>. If you have any questions regarding Homework Hub please contact your child's mathematics teacher.

From the Library

If students currently have overdue library books they wish to have for longer, please let Ms. Maley know in the library. If students have library books they no longer wish to have please return them to either Ms. Maley or the library return bin in the office. Thank you!

From the Phys. Ed Department

A Clean Gym is a Happy Gym

January in Nova Scotia is a combination of rain, snow, and icy weather. This means the outdoor environment will alter between muddy fields and salty streets. This month also brings our Dance & Culture Unit. Students will spend time on their feet and on the floor. Please ensure that your child/children bring indoor shoes to school; it's no fun for anyone to roll around in the dirt. Let's keep our gym space clean and comfortable for everyone!

[From the Tech Ed. Department](#)

Donation Request

Welcoming donations of clean, dry, non-treated dimensional lumber. Please contact Mme Jang to arrange pick-up or drop-off (mjang@hrce.ca)

[From the Family Studies Department](#)

Textile Arts Donation Request

Do you have any unused wooden picture or photo frames (8x10 or larger) lying around? We would love to upcycle them into looms for our Textile Arts projects! If you'd like to donate, please send them to Mme. Goold in Room 101. Thank you for supporting our creative endeavors!

[From the Social Studies Department](#)

Citizenship 902

Service-Learning SPCA Donation Drive Jan 13th - Jan 17th. Please bring animal necessities such as food, leashes, toys, treats, etc.

Citizenship 901

Service-Learning Food Drive Jan 13th - Jan 17th. Please bring nonperishable items such as peanut butter, cereal, canned goods and pasta.

[Communication](#)

Please follow us on Twitter for updates on school life at GJH! [@GorsebrookJHS](https://twitter.com/GorsebrookJHS)
Other updates and staff emails can be found on our webpage. <https://qbf.hrce.ca/>
Gorsebrook is now on Instagram. Find us [@gorsebrookjuniorhigh](https://www.instagram.com/gorsebrookjuniorhigh)

Gorsebrook Jr. High has a Parent-led Facebook Group – You can find it by searching GJHS community.