








GORSEBROOK JUNIOR HIGH COMMUNITY MEMO

THIS WEEK AT GORSEBROOK: Feb 10th – Feb 14th 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"> • The Y Mind Group will meet in Room 214 at the lunch bell. Please bring your lunch with you. • Citadel IB presentations for all Grade 9 students (AM only) • GSA on Mondays at noon in room 109. All are welcome! • Intramurals taking place in the gym at lunch, eat first! (12:00-12:55 pm) • Female-identifying basketball team semi-final game @ St. Agnes Jr High (4:00 pm) • Full cast musical rehearsal and final costume parade after school (3:00-5:30 pm) • Male-identifying basketball practice after school (3:00-4:45 pm)
<p>TUESDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Grade 7 and 8 badminton tryouts at lunch. Please wear appropriate footwear and bring a racquet if you have one. • All students who are working with Madame Lutley on the African Nova Scotian History Challenge need to meet with her before the end of the month. The submissions are due on February 28th and there is required paperwork. • Male-identifying basketball team quarterfinal game (time and location TBA) • Female-identifying basketball practice after school (3:00-4:45 pm).
<p>WEDNESDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full cast musical rehearsal before school (7:30-8:30 am). • Library opened @ lunch • EAL homework club on Wednesdays at lunch in Mme. Goold's room (101). Need some help with an assignment or a quiet place to do your work? Join us! • 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. • Male-identifying basketball practice after school (3:00-4:45 pm).
<p>THURSDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 9 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 • Bake Sale at lunch - Musical Fundraiser • Grade 7 and 8 badminton tryouts at lunch. Please wear appropriate footwear and bring a racquet if you have one. • String Ensemble with Mr. Jefferies in the band room all of lunch. • Female-identifying basketball practice (3:00-4:45 pm). • Kitchen Brigade Program for selected students will take place after school in the Foods Lab. (3:00-5:00 pm).
<p>FRIDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full cast musical rehearsal before school (7:30-8:30 am). • Pizza day at lunch! • French club avec Mme Sarita at 12 pm • Grade 9 badminton tryouts at lunch. Please wear appropriate footwear and bring a racquet if you have one. • Senior Woodworking Club at 12 pm with Mme. Jang. Please eat lunch first. • D&D club on Fridays at noon in Room 101. New adventurers are always welcome!! • 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!

Upcoming Dates

Feb 10th – IB Presentations for students (AM only)

Feb 17th – Nova Scotia Heritage Day – *No School*

Feb 20th – IB Presentations for parents at Citadel (6:30 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.
- **Save the date:** Grade 9 Closing Ceremony will take place on June 26th at 10am. The grade 9 boat cruise will take place the same evening, on June 26th. Students will arrive at the dock for 6:00 pm with the boat cruising from 6:30-8:30 pm. More details to follow in early June.
- **Ski Trip Chaperones needed:** The GBJH skiing field trip to Wentworth has been rescheduled for **February 27th**. We are looking for chaperones to attend the trip. There are no associated costs, transportation can be provided if needed, and chaperones are not required to ski. If you are interested, please email Ms. Conrad at nconrad@hrce.ca.

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.

Gorsebrook Celebrates African Heritage Month

This month, we are honouring African Heritage and this year's theme: **Legacy in Action: Celebrating Black Brilliance**. We have a daily trivia question about African Canadian history and culture with great prizes for participants. In addition, our students will get to learn West African Dance from the Maritime Centre for African Dance instructors, as well as having dedicated ILT lessons and projects on African Heritage.

Special thanks to Adanna, Abiri, Abby, Theo, Ini, and Natalie for their help in preparing the bulletin boards that feature art and artists of African descent from Nova Scotia all the way to Nigeria and many places in between!



From HRCE

February is Registration Month

Do you have a child who will be starting pre-primary or primary this fall? It's time to register!

Registration for the 2025-26 school year begins on February 3. To ensure we have the right staff and supports in place for September, it's important that we gather enrolment numbers now.

Tip: Before you begin, make sure you have the following documents in electronic form (image, PDF or Word document):

- Proof of identity/age with one of the following: birth certificate, passport, immigration papers, or legal adoption papers) if you are new to the HRCE;
- Proof of home address (a recently dated official government or utility document with your current address that includes your name and date, such as water bill, power bill, internet bill, home fuel bill, a tax receipt, property assessment or a mortgage contract); and
- Nova Scotia Health Card or Canadian Province Health Card or, for non-citizens while in Canada, proof of Medical Insurance Information.

Visit the [HRCE website](https://hrce.ca) for more information and to enrol your child today through PowerSchool Enrollment!



Don't have a child to register? Maybe you know someone who does! Please help us spread the word and pass this information on to friends, neighbours or relatives who will be looking to register for the fall.

[Badminton Tryouts](#)

We will be selecting two teams: Juniors (Grades 7/8s) and Intermediates (Grade 9s) to represent Gorsebrook at the Metro Badminton Tournament. Each team will have 8 members that will play either: singles boys/girls, doubles boys/girls or mixed doubles. We will take 2 alternates for each team - so 20 players in total.

- Each age group (Junior - 7/8s and Intermediate - 9s) will get two tryouts and the teams will be posted by **Wednesday, February 19th**.
- Students should bring their racquets and court shoes if they have them.
- All tryouts will take place at school over lunch hour.
- Students need to arrive ready to play at noon with indoor or court shoes - no boots allowed.
- All players taken on the team need to demonstrate the ability to consistently serve to their opponent.

-Grade 7/8s will try out on **Tuesday, Feb 11th** and **Thursday, Feb 13nd**.

-Grade 9s will try out on **Friday, February 14th** and **Tuesday, February 18th**.

[Practices](#)

As of now, we are planning for two practices a week for each team.

- Either Tues/Thursdays at lunch hour; and
- Fridays after school from 3-4:30/5pm.

We will be keeping attendance at practices and team positions will be awarded based on skill and positive participation at practices.

******* If you know you can't make the practices or are away for the tournament, which will be the last week of March, please don't try out for the team as we usually have upward of 50 kids trying for 8-10 spots *******

GOOD LUCK!

[School Musical](#)

School Musical Tickets are now available for sale at School Cash Online. This year's musical is Thirteen Junior. This is the first ever Halifax production of this musical! The cast and crew have been working hard and are excited for everyone to see the show. Show nights are Monday February 24 and Tuesday February 25 (snow day Wednesday February 26). Gorsebrook students will also see the show during the day on the Monday. Thank you for supporting the musical!

[Duke of Edinburgh](#)

Chaperones Needed

The Duke of Edinburgh program still needs additional chaperones for the Adventurous Journey on June 7th and 8th. If you are a parent of a Grade 9 student and are interested in chaperoning this two day-overnight event, please contact Mme Jang (mjang@hrce.ca) or Ms Conrad (nconrad@hrce.ca) for more information.

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 English Department](#)

Readers Rumble - Now Virtual!

Like to read (and rumble?) but don't have time to meet on Fridays at lunchtime? The Readers Rumble Club is now VIRTUAL (as well as in-person on Fridays)! Please check in with Ms. Earley in Room 215 to get a Google Classroom code and a reading list. The competition happens at Armbrae Academy this April - our club welcomes competitive and non-competitive readers.

[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!

[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.