





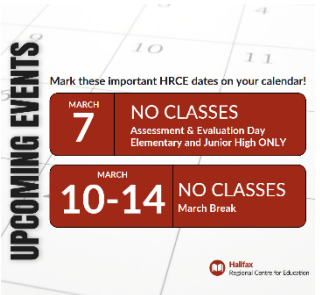


GORSEBROOK JUNIOR HIGH COMMUNITY MEMO

THIS WEEK AT GORSEBROOK: March 3rd-7th 2025

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

This is: Week 2

<p style="text-align: center;">MONDAY</p> 	<p>Sprit Week Theme: Bear Wear Day</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. GSA on Mondays at noon in room 109. All are welcome! Chess, Strategy games and extra math help in Mme. Jang's room at 12:00pm. Intramurals taking place in the gym at lunch, eat first! (12:00-12:55 pm). Musical cast party afterschool in the library. Female-identifying Flag Rugby practice after school (3-5 pm).
<p style="text-align: center;">TUESDAY</p> 	<p>Sprit Week Theme: Tropical 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. Duke of Ed volunteers and all term 2 wood shop students welcome in the Woodshop at 12:00 to complete any outstanding projects. Guitar club at lunch with Mr. Brewer in room 105. Badminton practice at lunch Male-identifying Flag Rugby practice after school (3-5 pm).
<p style="text-align: center;">WEDNESDAY</p> 	<p>Sprit Week Theme: Jersey/Sports Wear Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library opened @ lunch Duke of Ed volunteers and all term 2 wood shop students welcome in the Woodshop at 12:00 to complete any outstanding projects. 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 Flag Rugby practice after school (3-5 pm).
<p style="text-align: center;">THURSDAY</p> 	<p>Sprit Week Theme: PJ DAY</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 Duke of Ed volunteers and all term 2 wood shop students welcome in the Woodshop at 12:00 to complete any outstanding projects. Junior Woodworking Club at 12:00. Eat your lunch first! GSA fieldtrip at Wonder'neath art studio (12-3 pm) Kitchen Brigade Program for selected students will take place after school in the Foods Lab. (3:00-5:00 pm). Male-identifying Flag Rugby practice after school (3-5 pm).
<p style="text-align: center;">FRIDAY</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Assessment and Evaluation Day – No School</p>

Upcoming Dates

Mar 7th – Assessment & Evaluation Day (*No School*)

Mar 10th – 14th – March Break (*No School*)

April 3rd – Parent/Teacher Progress Conferences (*No School*)

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.
- **Please Note:** St. Mary's University (SMU) has requested that Gorsebrook students avoid university property during lunch hour due to ongoing disruptive behavior. The university's security has raised concerns, and if the issues persist, further action may be taken. Please remind students to respect this request to help maintain a positive relationship with our community partners.

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.

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 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 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 HRCE](#)

School Bus Safety Reminder

More than 33,000 HRCE students take the school bus. Making sure they have a safe and happy trip to and from school is very important to us. Please talk with your child about school bus safety on a regular basis. Students should tell their bus driver and/or school principal if they have any problems.

Here are some important safety tips:

Bus Stop Safety

- Be on time for the bus. Don't run to or from the bus.
- Stand back when the bus arrives and give everyone space. Get on or off the bus one at a time.
- Always cross the road in front of the bus. Walk to a spot where you can see the driver. When they signal it's safe, walk to the middle of the road. STOP, LOOK, and LISTEN, then cross when it's safe.
- Never crawl under the bus or cross the road from behind it.



School Bus Safety Tips

A few bus safety reminders for all riders:

- Please respect and listen to the driver and avoid distracting them.
- Please keep noise levels to a minimum.
- Do not stand or move seats while the bus is in motion.
- Never put your hands, arms, feet or head out of the bus window.
- Ask the driver for permission before you open the bus windows.
- Do not throw anything inside the bus or out of the windows.
- Keep the aisle clear at all times when the bus is in motion.

 Halifax
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School Bus Safety

- Respect and listen to the driver. Their job is to focus on the road, so avoid distracting them.
- Respect others and your space.
- Keep noise levels down.
- Stay seated while the bus is moving.
- Keep your arms, legs, and head inside the bus.
- Do not throw anything inside or outside the bus.
- Keep the aisle clear.

Did you know: It's illegal for drivers to pass a school bus when it has stopped with its red lights flashing. Bus drivers will activate their amber lights 150m before they stop as a warning to motorists.

More information about HRCE student transportation and school bus safety can be found [here](#).



March is Nutrition Month

Whether it's planting a garden, cooking with family, or enjoying a meal with friends, food provides opportunities for building social connections that can support improved feelings of belonging and overall well-being.

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March is Nutrition Month

Did you know? March is Nutrition Month! This year's theme, Nourish to Flourish, highlights the important role that food has on our physical, mental and emotional health and well-being.

Whether it's planting an indoor or outdoor garden, cooking together with family, or enjoying a meal with friends, food provides opportunities for building social connections that can support improved feelings of belonging and overall well-being. This is a great time to explore and learn about food. An important part of this is food literacy, which includes having the knowledge and skills to grow, choose, prepare, and talk about food.

[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 English Department](#)

Mr. Donahoe's ELA Class Update

Using Andy Goldsworthy as our guide, students were asked to consider what it means to live in the present moment and to contemplate the impermanence of all things.

The documentary, Rivers and Tides: Andy Goldsworthy working with time, worked as an introduction to our second course unit on "The Present".

With Goldsworthy's art as inspiration, the goal was to create an impermanent art piece using only material found in the environment behind our school. This website is a curation of what the students created:

<https://sites.google.com/gnspes.ca/impermanentart/home>

[Communication](#)

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

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