








GORSEBROOK JUNIOR HIGH COMMUNITY MEMO

THIS WEEK AT GORSEBROOK: March 31st- April 4th 2025

[*Please read below for the week's events and other school-related information](#)

This is: Week 1

<p style="text-align: center;">MONDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Male-identifying football practice taking place before school. (7:30-8:30 am). • 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. • Rugby practice after school (3:00-5:00 pm).
<p style="text-align: center;">TUESDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 9 Badminton Tournament at Citadel High (8:30 am). • Trades Exhibition Hall Fieldtrip (901/2/3) • Debate Club at lunch. Please come straight to room 222 at the bell and bring your lunch. • French extra-help at 12:00 pm in room 211 with Mme. Sarita. • Guitar Club at lunch with Mr. Brewer in room 105.
<p style="text-align: center;">WEDNESDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trades Exhibition Hall Fieldtrip (904/5) • Library opened @ lunch • Film Club @ 12pm- Room 217 • Duke of Ed students looking for hours welcome to help in the Shop with Mme. Jang. • Violin with Mr. Jefferies in the band room 201 all of lunch. • Rugby practice after school (3:00-5:00 pm).
<p style="text-align: center;">THURSDAY</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Parent-Teacher Progress Conferences (1-3 pm & 6-8 pm) – No School</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">FRIDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pizza day at lunch! • D&D club on Fridays at noon in Room 101. New adventurers are always welcome!! • Games and conversation club with Ms. Andrews at 12 pm in room 107. Eat your lunch first. All are welcome! • Sr Woodworking Club at 12 pm. Please eat lunch first. • French Club at 12:00 pm in room 211 with Mme. Sarita. • Male-identifying football practice at lunch. • Duke of Ed students looking for hours welcome to help in the Shop with Mme. Jang • Readers Rumble in room 215 at 12:00pm with Ms. U and Ms. Earley. All readers welcome!

Upcoming Dates

April 2nd – SAC meeting @ 11:30am in the board room
 April 3rd – Parent/Teacher Progress Conferences (*No School*)
 April 18th – Good Friday (*No School*)
 April 21st – Easter Monday (*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.
- **Grade 9's:** if you are considering the Citadel O2 Program, you will need to directly contact the Citadel O2 coordinator, Debra Wilson by **Tuesday, March 25**. You will not be considered for the program until you contact Ms. Wilson directly at debra.wilson@gnsps.ca.
- **Reminder:** A friendly reminder that our school is a **nut-aware environment**. To help keep all students safe, please avoid sending any food items that contain peanuts, tree nuts, or nut-based products. We have students with severe allergies, and even small traces can pose a serious risk. Thank you for your cooperation in creating a safe and inclusive space for everyone!

Staffing Updates

Congratulations to Mr. Lehwald and family! Mr. Lehwald will be going on paternity leave starting April 14th. We wish him all the best during this exciting time. Ms. Eaton, who is already a familiar face in our building, will be stepping in to cover his classes.

Ms. Horton will be on an extended leave, and Mr. Stiner will be taking over in her absence. As a retired teacher with a wealth of experience, Mr. Stiner brings valuable expertise to our team. We appreciate his support during this time.

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.

Grade 9 End of Year Trip

The final grade 9 trip payment (\$52.50) is now on [School Cash Online](#). Please log in and make your payment by April 4th. Ms. Wallace will be handing out permission slips to students next week. Please sign them and have your student return them to her by Friday April 4th

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



*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.

 Halifax
Regional Centre for Education

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 English Department

Readers Rumble

The Readers Rumble competition is right around the corner! The team(s) are being selected based on the number of books students have read from the list, but all participants in the club will be invited to attend the competition in April. Stay tuned for more information and permission forms.

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.

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.