



GORSEBROOK JUNIOR HIGH COMMUNITY MEMO

THIS WEEK AT GORSEBROOK: April 14th – 18th 2025

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

This is: Week 1

<div>MONDAY</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Male Identifying Football Practice @ (7:30am-8:30am)GSA on Mondays at noon in room 109. All are welcome!Karaoke club for ALL grades at lunch at 12:00 in the band room with Ms. O'BrienIntramurals in the gym at 12:00 pm with Mr. DonahoeChess, Strategy games and extra math help in Mme. Jang's room at 12:00pm.Rugby practice after school (3:00-5:00 pm).
<div>TUESDAY</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Debate Club at lunch. Please come straight to room 222 at the bell and bring your lunch.School Advisory Council meeting 11:40-12:50 (boardroom)Track & Field Practice @ 11:45 am. We will meet on the outdoor basketball courts. Please wear sneakers and appropriate clothing for the weather.Badminton Club in the gym at 12:00. All welcome!French extra-help at 12:00 pm in room 211 with Mme. Sarita.Guitar Club at lunch with Mr. Brewer in room 105.Female Identifying Football tryouts outside after school (3-5pm). Please dress for the weather conditions.
<div>WEDNESDAY</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Readers Rumble Event @ Armbrae AcademyLibrary opened @ lunchMale Identifying Football Practice @ (12:00pm-12:55pm)Film Club @ 12pm- Room 217Duke 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).
<div>THURSDAY</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Grade 7 band rehearsal will take place from 7:30-8:30 am in the band room.Library opened @ lunchTrack & Field Practice @ 11:45 am. We will meet on the outdoor basketball courts. Please wear sneakers and appropriate clothing for the weather.Male Identifying Football Practice @ (12:00pm-12:55pm)Shop open for Jr Woodworking @ 12:00 pm.Math extra help @ lunch in room 221String Ensemble with Mr. Jefferies in the band room 201 during lunch.Kitchen Brigade Program for selected students will take place after school in the Foods Lab. (3:00-5:00 pm).Female Identifying Football tryouts outside after school (3-5pm). Please dress for the weather conditions.
<div>FRIDAY</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Good Friday – (No School)

Upcoming Dates

April 18th – Good Friday (No School)
April 21st – Easter Monday (No School)
April 25th – Grade 9 O2 Applications Due
April 30th – Teacher Professional Practice Day (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.
May 29th Citadel High will host a grade 10 orientation for students and parents from 6:30-7:30. More info to follow as it gets closer.
- **Reminder:** As the weather warms up, we know more students may choose to scoot/bike to school. Please remember that scooters are **not permitted to be stored inside the building**. All scooters must be locked outside on the bike rack during school hours. Thanks for helping us keep our hallways safe and clear!

Term 3 Pizza Lunch – Ordering Now Open!

We're excited to announce that our Term 3 Pizza Lunch program will run from **April 25 to June 20, 2025**. This will be the final pizza lunch term for the school year.

If you'd like to place an order, please visit [School Cash Online](#).

Ordering opens on April 6 and will close on April 22. Don't miss out—place your order before the deadline!



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.

SchoolsPlus Parent & Family Sessions

SchoolsPlus is offering two free upcoming sessions for parents and caregivers to support family well-being.

- **Parenting Your Teen** (*click link to view more info*) – Understand how your teen's brain works and learn communication strategies to help your family run smoothly.
Monday, April 14, 2025 | 4:00-6:00 PM
Oxford School, 6364 North Street

Childcare can be provided with advance registration. For more information or to register, contact Laura Hutt at lhutt@hrce.ca or 902-456-5972.

[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 Science Department](#)

Science Fair

Congratulations to all of our Gorsebrook students who participated in the Halifax Science and Tech Expo at Saint Mary's University on Friday, April 4th! An extra big shout out to Jasper Dorland, winner of the Engineers of Nova Scotia Regional Award and the Excellence Award, and Eliza Rasmussen, winner of the Passion for Science Award. Way to go!!!

[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](#)

Measles prevention in Nova Scotia

We are sharing the following on behalf of Nova Scotia Public Health:

Measles cases are rising in Canada. Measles is a virus that spreads easily and can cause serious complications.

The best way to prevent measles is vaccination.

Nova Scotia offers free vaccines to eligible people. These can be given by primary care providers, pharmacists and Public Health.

Parents are encouraged to check their family's vaccine records and get the measles vaccine if missing doses. Check your vaccine records at vaxrecordns.nshealth.ca.

Who should get vaccinated?

- Anyone born in or after 1970 should get **two doses** of vaccine, typically given at 12 and 18 months. If missed, children and adults can catch up for free.
- Adults born before 1970 are generally considered immune but can get a single dose if travelling.
- Infants 6-12 months old can get a single dose if travelling but still require two doses after their first birthday to complete the series.

Find out more about measles vaccination: www.nshealth.ca/measles.

Provincial lunch program in action

Last month was Nutrition Month, and what better way to celebrate healthy eating than to shine a spotlight on the Nova Scotia School Lunch Program!

[Click here](#) to see how students at one HRCE school are using the program to dish out some serious leadership skills. It's a feast of learning and fun!

The school lunch program will launch at Gorsebrook during the 25-26 school year.

Supporting literacy at home

Did you know? Teachers use the [Six Pillars of Effective Reading Instruction](#) (*Français*) to support students' learning.

Reading is best learned when children get clear and structured support in key skills: listening, recognizing sounds in words, learning letter sounds, building vocabulary, reading smoothly and understanding what they read. These skills work together and when you strengthen one, it helps improve the others.

Good reading instruction includes learning how letters and words work and practicing reading in books. The goal is for children to understand what they read, enjoy reading and learn new things from books.

The links below may help you support your children with reading at home:

- [Ideas for parents to help children to practice their reading and writing skills](#)
- [10 Ideas to Raise A Reader](#)

From the English Department

Readers Rumble

The Readers Rumble team will be heading to Armbrae Academy next Wednesday, April 16! They will compete against eight other schools on the over 35 books they've read this year. We wish our two teams the best of luck and lots of fun!

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 visit our [website](#) for updates, staff emails and other important information on school life at GBJH! Gorsebrook is also on Instagram. Find us at @gorsebrookjuniorhigh
Gorsebrook Jr. High has a Parent-led Facebook Group – You can find it by searching GJHS community.