



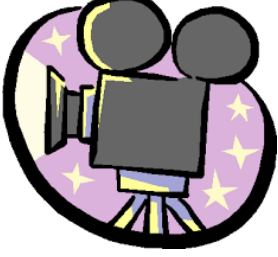
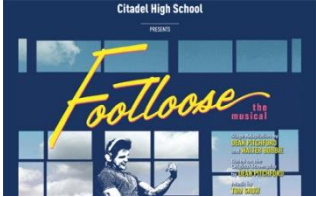
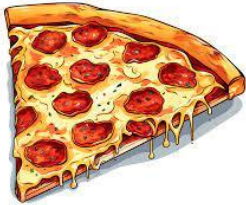


# GORSEBROOK JUNIOR HIGH COMMUNITY MEMO

THIS WEEK AT GORSEBROOK: April 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> 2025

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

**This is: Week 2**

<div>MONDAY</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>GSA on Mondays at noon in room 109. All are welcome!</li><li>Intramurals in the gym at 12:00 pm with Mr. D</li><li>Chess, Strategy games and extra math help in Mme. Jang's room at 12:00pm.</li><li>Any students interested in joining the school chess team, please see Mme. Jang in room 210 at lunch.</li><li>Rugby practice after school (3:00-5:00 pm).</li></ul>
<div>TUESDAY</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Male-identifying flag football practice before school (7:30-8:30)</li><li>Debate Club at lunch. Please come straight to room 222 at the bell and bring your lunch.</li><li>Badminton Club in the gym at 12:00. All welcome!</li><li>French extra-help at 12:00 pm in room 211 with Mme. Sarita.</li><li>Guitar Club at lunch with Mr. Brewer in room 105.</li></ul>
<div>WEDNESDAY</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Library opened @ lunch</li><li>Film Club @ 12pm- Room 217</li><li>Caribou Math Contest for Grade 9s. If you are looking to participate and have not participated before please speak to Ms. Nicholl before the contest dates.</li><li>Duke of Ed students looking for hours welcome to help in the Shop with Mme. Jang.</li><li>Violin with Mr. Jefferies in the band room 201 all of lunch.</li><li>Rugby practice after school (3:00-5:00 pm).</li><li>Duke of Ed: Adventurous Journey parent meeting @ 6-7pm.</li></ul>
<div>THURSDAY</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Grade 9 fieldtrip to see Citadel's Musical 'Footloose'</li><li>Grade 9 band rehearsal will take place from 8:00-8:30 am in the band room.</li><li>Caribou Math Contest for Grades 7 and 8. If you are looking to participate and have not participated before, please speak to Ms. Nicholl before the contest dates.</li><li>Library opened @ lunch</li><li>Male-identifying flag football practice at lunch</li><li>Shop open for Jr Woodworking @ 12:00 pm.</li><li>Math extra help @ lunch in room 221</li><li>String Ensemble with Mr. Jefferies in the band room 201 during lunch.</li><li>Kitchen Brigade Program for selected students will take place after school in the Foods Lab. (3:00-5:00 pm).</li></ul>
<div>FRIDAY</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Kiwanis Music Festival fieldtrip for string ensemble</li><li>Pizza day at lunch!</li><li>D&amp;D club on Fridays at noon in Room 101. New adventurers are always welcome!!</li><li>Games and conversation club with Ms. Andrews at 12 pm in room 107. Eat your lunch first. All are welcome!</li><li>Percussion lesson for band students at lunch in room 201</li><li>French Club at 12:00 pm in room 211 with Mme. Sarita.</li><li>Duke of Ed students looking for hours welcome to help in the Shop with Mme. Jang</li><li>Readers Rumble in room 215 at 12:00pm with Ms. U and Ms. Earley. All readers welcome!</li></ul>

**Upcoming Dates**

April 8<sup>th</sup> – SAC meeting @ 11:40 am in the board room  
April 9<sup>th</sup> – Duke of Ed Parent Meeting (6-7pm)  
April 10<sup>th</sup> – Gr 9 Fieldtrip to Footloose  
April 18<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday (*No School*)  
April 21<sup>st</sup> – Easter Monday (*No School*)  
April 25<sup>th</sup> – Grade 9 O2 Applications Due  
April 30<sup>th</sup> – 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 26<sup>th</sup>. 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.
- **Reminder:** A reminder to Grade 9 students to bring in their permission slips for the field trip to Citadel for Footloose on April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- **X/Twitter** – Our X/Twitter account has largely been used to share/retweet information from the HRCE's account. With the HRCE's decision to no longer use X/Twitter we have also made the decision to deactivate our account. We will continue to provide information through our weekly memo to parents, posting on our website and school sign.

### **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](mailto:schoolsplus@hrce.ca).

### **SchoolsPlus Parent & Family Sessions**

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

- **Screen Time and Your Family** (*click link to view more info*) – Learn about the risks and benefits of screen time and strategies for managing technology use.  
Thursday, April 10, 2025 | 4:00-6:00 PM  
Joseph Howe Elementary, 2557 Maynard Street, Halifax
- **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

### Parent Meeting – Adventurous Journey

There will be a parent meeting for students participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Program's Adventurous Journey next Wednesday from 6:00–7:00 PM at the school. We'll be going over important details and expectations for the upcoming trip.

### 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](mailto:mjang@hrce.ca)) or Ms Conrad ([nconrad@hrce.ca](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:mjang@hrce.ca))

## From HRCE

### World Autism Awareness Day



Recognizing and celebrating World Autism Awareness Day in our schools fosters inclusion, understanding, and support for those with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). On April 2 and every day, we strive to raise autism awareness among peers and educators, celebrate accomplishments and promote acceptance for those with ASD. Join us in creating a positive community where all students can thrive and learn about each other's diverse experiences.

### 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 [vaxrecords.nshealth.ca](http://vaxrecords.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](http://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!

## 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 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 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.