



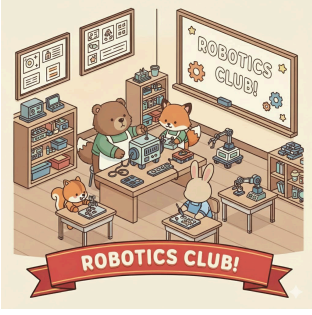




GORSEBROOK JUNIOR HIGH COMMUNITY MEMO

THIS WEEK AT GORSEBROOK: Dec. 8th - 12th, 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">• Grab & Go Breakfast available• Chess & Strategy Games @ 12pm - Room 210• GSA @ 12pm - Room 214• Musical Rehearsal (Full Cast) @ 3-5:30pm• Holiday Concert @ 6:30-7:30pm
<div>TUESDAY</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grab & Go Breakfast available• Debate Club @ 12pm - Room 222• French Extra Help @ 12pm - Room 211• Musical Rehearsal (Full Cast) @ 3-5:30pm
<div>WEDNESDAY</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Immunization Make-up Date• Musical Rehearsal @ 7:30-8:30am (see call list)• Grab & Go Breakfast available• String Ensemble @ 11:40am - in the Band Room• Library Open @ 12pm• K-Pop Club @ 12pm - Room 109• Robotics Club @ 12pm - Room 209• Film Club @ 12pm - Room 217• Candy-cane grams for sale at lunch!• Anyone interested in participating in the 2026 African Nova Scotian History Challenge is asked to meet in Mme Lutley's room (209) at lunch. This competition is open to anyone interested in learning more about African Nova Scotian culture. There are cash prizes and an award ceremony for the winners!
<div>THURSDAY</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grab & Go Breakfast available• Violin Technique @ 11:40am - in the Band Room• Musical Appreciation Club @ 12pm - Room 211• Library Open @ 12pm• Math Extra Help @ 12pm - Room 216
<div>FRIDAY</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Musical Rehearsal @ 7:30-8:30am (see call list)• Grab & Go Breakfast available• Warhammer Club @ 12pm - Room 221• French Club @ 12pm - Room 211• Games & Conversation Club @ 12pm - Room 107• Readers Rumble @ 12pm - Room 215• Candy-cane grams for sale at lunch!

Upcoming Dates

Dec 15th-19th - Spirit Week (*stay tuned*)
Dec 19th - Last Day for Students before Winter Break
Dec 22nd - PD Day (*No School*)

From the Office

Reminder to students:

- Please double-check that your e-bikes, scooters, and bicycles are locked securely when you leave them outside. We want to help you keep your belongings safe. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- Please ensure your lockers are locked at all times. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

From the HRCE

Resources for Parents from Unplugged Canada

If you're concerned about your kids' screen time, smartphone use, or social media pressure, there are some wonderful resources below to help parents and caregivers navigate the challenges of raising kids in a digital world.

For parents: *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt highlights the research and evidence behind how early smartphone and social media exposure have shaped a generation over the last 10–15 years. Ten

Rules for Raising Kids in a High-Tech World by Jean Twenge offers practical, actionable guidance to help parents set healthy boundaries and support their kids' digital wellbeing.



For kids: *The Amazing Generation*, written for pre-teens and teens and co-authored by Jonathan Haidt, will be released on December 30. It explains the impact of today's digital environment in an engaging, age-appropriate way. All of these books are available at your local library or bookstore.

Unplugged Canada is a parent-led, national movement advocating for healthier childhoods by delaying smartphones and social media until kids are more developmentally ready. Join thousands of Canadian families choosing to delay by taking the Unplugged Canada Pledge at unpluggedcanada.com/sign-pledge.

Planning for Inclement Weather

Did you know? HRCE takes great care when making the decision to alter the regular operations of schools and school buses in the event of severe or inclement weather.

It is HRCE's goal to communicate any changes to the regular operations of schools and/or buses as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible. A 6:00 a.m. announcement could be:

- All schools are delayed in opening by two hours, and bus pickups are delayed by two hours; or
- All schools are open, but some or all buses are not operating for the day; or
- Some schools (either individually or by family) are closed for the day; or
- All schools are closed for the day.

If the weather deteriorates or is forecasted to worsen throughout the morning, an 11:00 a.m. announcement could be:

- Bused students will be picked up two hours earlier than their regular dismissal time; and
- Walking students will be dismissed at their regularly scheduled lunch hour.

How will I find out?

- By email to the addresses in PowerSchool
- By text message, if you have opted in. If you aren't sure if you have opted in, text Y to the following number: 978338
- [On the HRCE website](#)
- [On Instagram](#)

It's important to always have a plan in place for childcare in the event of any cancellation. Please remember: As a parent or guardian, you always have the choice of whether or not to send your child to school.

For more information on how HRCE manages during inclement weather, visit hrce.ca/families/cancellations.

From the Tech. Ed. Department

We are currently accepting donations of hammers, measuring tapes, cordless drills/drivers and any clean, dry dimensional lumber 1 foot long or longer (2x4s, 2x6s, etc.). Please contact Mme Jang to arrange drop off/pick up. Thanks!

Support over the Winter Holidays

As we approach the winter season, families may begin looking for assistance during the holiday period. Below are three key community resources available this year:

1. Families may contact 211 to inquire what resources exist in the specific community/area where they reside
2. The Salvation Army "Christmas Help" information and application website:

<https://www.christmasdaddies.org/christmashelp/>

The website contains all the information that families need to apply ONLY online, and the documents that they need to upload to support their application. The Salvation Army applications open on October 23 and close on December 8, 2025

3. Parker Street Hamper: <https://parkerstreet.org/apply-for-hamper/>

Parker Street applications accepted until November 21, 2025

Safe Arrival Reminder

Attendance: Students are recorded as absent by their teachers if they aren't in their first class by 8:40am.

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://sishrs.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 about 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.

Communication

Other updates and important school information can be found on our webpage. <https://gbf.hrce.ca/>
Gorsebrook Jr. High has a Parent-led Facebook Group – you can find it by searching for 'GJHS Community'.