



GORSEBROOK JUNIOR HIGH COMMUNITY MEMO

Feb. 16th-20th, 2026

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

This is: Week 1

MONDAY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Heritage Day (No School)
TUESDAY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Grade 7 Band Rehearsal @ 7:45-8:30amGrade 7-9 Band Field Trip - Stadacona Band Education Concert @ MSUGrab & Go Breakfast availableDebate Club @ 12pm - Room 222Math Extra Help & Duke of Ed Help @ 12:05pm - Room 210French Extra Help @ 12:10pm - Room 211Female-identifying Basketball Practice @ 3:15-4:45pmMale-identifying Basketball Away Game vs. St. Agnes @ 4pm
WEDNESDAY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Grab & Go Breakfast availableString Ensemble @ 11:40am - in the Band RoomLibrary Open @ 12pm<ul style="list-style-type: none">Minute-to-Win-it Games for \$1 to support our Library FundraiserK-Pop Club @ 12pm - Room 109Film Club @ 12pm - Room 217Intramurals @ 12pm (max. 30 students) - GymAfrican Heritage Month Challenge @ 12pm - Room 209<ul style="list-style-type: none">The deadline for the 2026 African Heritage Month Challenge has been extended! If you are interested in submitting a project for a chance to win a cash prize, please come to Room 209 at lunch. It's not too late! For more information, please see Mme LutleyRobotics Club @ 12pm - Room 209Junior Woodworking/Duke of Ed Volunteering @ 12:05pm - WoodshopGrade 9 Oval Trip (1-2:45pm)Female-identifying Basketball Home Game vs. Highland Park @ 4pm
THURSDAY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Grade 8 Band Rehearsal @ 7:45-8:30amGrab & Go Breakfast availableViolin Technique @ 11:40am - in the Band RoomMusical Appreciation Club @ 12pm - Room 211Library Open @ 12pmMath Extra Help @ 12pm - Room 216
FRIDAY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Grade 9 Band Rehearsal @ 7:45-8:30amGrab & Go Breakfast availableWarhammer Club @ 12pm - Room 221Games & Conversation Club @ 12pm - Room 107Readers Rumble @ 12pm - Room 215Senior Woodworking/Duke of Ed Volunteering @ 12:05pm - WoodshopFemale-identifying Basketball Practice @ 3:15-4:45pm

Upcoming Dates

Feb 19th - PTA meeting (6 pm)
Mar 13th - Assessment & Evaluation Day (*No School*)
Mar 16th-20th - March Break (*No School*)

From the Office

Late Arrivals

We have recently observed a significant increase in students arriving late both at the start of the school day and following the lunch break. While we understand that occasional delays occur, every minute of lost time impacts student engagement and academic progress. When a student arrives late, it doesn't just affect their own learning; it interrupts the flow of the lesson for the entire class. We kindly ask for your support in ensuring students arrive on time and ready to learn, allowing our teachers to make the most of every instructional minute.

Heritage Day

Nova Scotia Heritage Day is celebrated on Monday, February 16, and provides an opportunity for students and families to learn more about the people, stories, and events that have shaped our province. Each year, Heritage Day honours a notable Nova Scotian, and in 2026, we recognize Joseph William Comeau, an important Acadian poet, writer, and cultural leader.

Joseph William Comeau is remembered for his contributions to Acadian literature and for helping to preserve and promote Acadian language, identity, and culture in Nova Scotia. His work reflected the everyday lives, resilience, and traditions of Acadian communities, and his legacy continues to influence Acadian culture today.

Heritage Day provides us with an opportunity to explore Nova Scotia's diverse history and to better understand how individuals from different backgrounds have contributed to our shared story. Learning about Joseph William Comeau helps students appreciate the richness of Acadian heritage and the importance of preserving culture, language, and community.

Grade 9 Trip Fundraiser

We are selling Heppy's pies, cookies, quiches, and sweets to raise funds for Gorsebrook's Grade 9 trip, so that all students, regardless of financial need, can attend our end-of-year trip to Brigadoon. Heppy's Pies is local, homemade cuisine that is delicious and convenient. You can purchase through SchoolCash online by visiting: <https://hrce.schoolcashonline.com/>

The fundraiser ends February 19th, and food will be delivered for pickup on March 6th. Below is a list of all the offerings. If you have any questions, please feel free to email Ines Rei at curious_ines@hotmail.com

Thank you for your support!

Meat Pot Pie 4's:

- Chicken Pot Pie 4's
- Beef Pot Pie 4's
- Broccoli & Chicken Pot Pie 4's
- Free Range Chicken Pot Pie 4's
- Free Range Turkey Pot Pie 4's
- Steak Kidney Pot Pie 4's

Meat Pie 9":

- Acadian Chicken & Pork Pie 9"
- Tourtiere 9"
- Steak, Potato & Blue cheese 9"
- Spicy Pulled Pork 9"
- Chicken & Mushroom 9"
- Turkey 9"

Quiche:

- Ham & Swiss Cheese Quiche
- Greek Quiche
- Vegetarian Quiche

Dessert:

- Lemon Loaf
- Banana Chocolate Bread
- Banana Bread
- Carrot Cake
- Plain Biscuits
- Rise & Shine Biscuits

- Ginger Crinkle Cookies
- Lemon Poppy Cookies
- Kahlua Cookies
- Oatmeal Coconut Cookies
- Hermit Cookies
- Shortbread
- Cinnamon Swirl

Traditional:

- Regular Fishcakes
- Bacon Corn Chowder
- Beef Celery Dumpling
- Pork Cabbage Dumpling
- Seafood Chowder
- Regular Baked Beans
- Vegetarian Beans
- Date Ball
- Macaroons

Gluten Free Products:

- Gluten Free Chicken Pot Pie 2's
- Gluten Free Beef Pot Pie 2's
- Gluten Free Fishcakes

Dessert Pie 9":

- Apple Pie 9"
- Berrie Fruitful Pie 9"
- Acadian Mincemeat Pie 9"

Tattletales Coin Campaign

During the month of February, we will be raising money for the library! Students can bring in loonies or toonies to their homeroom teacher at anytime or they can bring them directly to the library on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Ms. Sadye will be hosting "Minute to Win It" games every Wednesday in February in the library at lunch. The final day to bring in your coins is March 11th. Thanks in advance for supporting this initiative!

Duke of Edinburgh

We are currently looking for chaperones to help with the Duke of Ed Adventurous Journey (overnight camping and hiking trip) on June 6 and 7. Please e-mail Mme Jang (mjang@hrce.ca) or Ms. Conrad (nconrad@hrce.ca) if you are interested and available. Please note that the trip will only proceed if we have enough chaperones.

Duke of Ed Bottle Return Fundraiser: The school has set up an account with Tanner's Recycling to raise funds for the Duke of Ed Program to offset student fees for the program. Tanner's Recycling is located at 6393 Bayne St, Halifax, NS B3K 2V6, near the Windsor Street Exchange. At any point, you can bring refundable bottles/cans/tetra packs to their location, tell them that it is for Gorsebrook Junior High School, and they will add it to our account. It would be a great help to them if you label the bags with our School name. If the bottle depot is out of your way, you are also welcome to drop clean, refundable bottles/cans/tetra packs to Mme Jang at Gorsebrook on Fridays.

Thanks!

From the HRCE

Thriving Offline: How Delaying Smartphones Can Help Kids Flourish

Thriving Offline: How Delaying Smartphones Can Help Kids Flourish, a free community event hosted by Unplugged Canada at St. Margaret's Bay Elementary, is available both in person and virtually.

Designed for caregivers and educators, this session will explore how early smartphone and social media use impacts children's development and the latest research, practical strategies, safer alternatives, and age-appropriate boundaries to support healthy childhoods.

UPCOMING FREE EVENT!

Thriving Offline:
How Delaying Smartphones Can Help Kids Flourish



When: Tuesday, February 24th @ 6:30pm ADT
Where: St. Margaret's Bay Elementary, NS
 (Virtual Zoom option available)

Register: [UnpluggedNSThrivingOffline.eventbrite.ca](https://unpluggedNSThrivingOffline.eventbrite.ca)
Connect with other parents in our supportive community!

- Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.
- St. Margaret's Bay Elementary - 24 Ridgewood Dr, Head of St Margaret's Bay, NS

Please register for in-person or virtual [here](#).

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 and sign-in at the Main Office.

→ ***PowerSchool Parent/Student Portal:*** Parents/guardians can log in to <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/> to access the School Messenger website to report all 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 9:05 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 stating your child's full name and the duration of the absence.

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'.