

GORSEBROOK JUNIOR HIGH COMMUNITY MEMO

Mar. 9-13th, 2026



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

This is: [Week 2](#)

<p style="text-align: center;">MONDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spirit Week Theme - 80s Day (Time to tease that hair and find your neon!) • Grab & Go Breakfast available • Chess & Strategy Games @ 12pm - Room 210 • GSA @ 12pm - Room 214
<p style="text-align: center;">TUESDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spirit Week Theme - Twin Day (Double the trouble, double the fun!) • Grade 7 Band Rehearsal @ 7:45-8:30am • Grab & Go Breakfast available • Debate Club @ 12pm - Room 222 • Math Extra Help & Duke of Ed Help @ 12:05pm - Room 210 • French Extra Help @ 12:10pm - Room 211
<p style="text-align: center;">WEDNESDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spirit Week Theme - Whacky Wednesday (Students dress like teachers, and vice versa!) • Grab & Go Breakfast available • Rugby Tournament @ SMU • String Ensemble @ 11:40am - in the Band Room • Library Open @ 12pm • K-Pop Club @ 12pm - Room 109 • Film Club @ 12pm - Room 217 • Intramurals @ 12pm (max. 30 students) - Gym • Tech Ed Catch Up for Grade 8 & 9 @ 12pm - Woodshop
<p style="text-align: center;">THURSDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spirit Week Theme - PJ Day (The dreamiest day of the year!) • Grade 8 Band Rehearsal @ 7:45-8:30am • Grab & Go Breakfast available • Violin Technique @ 11:40am - Band Room • Library Open @ 12pm • Tech Ed Catch Up for Grade 8 & 9 @ 12pm - Woodshop • School-Wide BINGO!
<p style="text-align: center;">FRIDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment & Evaluation Day - No School

Upcoming Dates

Mar 16th-20th - March Break (*No School*)

Mar 23rd - First Day of Term 3

Apr 2nd - PD in the AM/Parent Teacher in the PM (*1-3, 5:30-7:30*)

Apr 3rd - Good Friday (*No School*)

Apr 6th - Easter Monday (*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.

Communication

When communicating with staff, please continue to use HRCE email accounts. While staff also have GNSPES accounts, these are primarily for student work submission; all other professional communication should be sent to HRCE addresses. Thank you!

Duke of Edinburgh

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!

Physical Education Department

Duke of Edinburgh volunteers will be meeting in the gym on Thursday, March 12th, for equipment repairs. Please sign up with Ms. Horton for a spot and further details.

Slush, salt, mud, boots, and gym floors do not mix. Please remember to bring indoor sneakers, as our sneaker library is limited.

From the HRCE

March 21 is International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Today, we recognize International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to build awareness, empathy, and respect among students of all backgrounds. The United Nations was established on this day in 1966 to call for a global commitment to ending racial discrimination in all its forms.

By learning about the impacts of discrimination and celebrating diversity, children gain social skills and knowledge to be inclusive both within school and their home community. Families are our students' first educators, and through your continuous conversation valuing equity and the elimination of racism, we will continue our shared goal of a society where racism no longer exists.



March 21 is World Down Syndrome Day

World Down Syndrome Day, celebrated each year on March 21, gives us the chance to recognize those with Down syndrome and the awesome contributions they make to our school communities. It's an opportunity for families, students, and staff to strengthen inclusion, acceptance, and belonging. By celebrating differences and promoting understanding, our schools help create welcoming environments where every child feels valued and supported.

On this day, many schools encourage students and staff to wear mismatched socks as a colourful symbol of diversity and solidarity. Activities such as assemblies, classroom discussions, and creative projects highlight the abilities of individuals with Down syndrome, fostering empathy and friendship throughout the school. These efforts ensure that everyone has a voice and a place in our communities, reinforcing the importance of respect and kindness.



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'.