



GORSEBROOK JUNIOR HIGH COMMUNITY MEMO

October 12th-16th, 2026

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

This is: [Week 1](#)

MONDAY	Thanksgiving Day - <i>No School</i>
TUESDAY	- Grade 9 Band Practice @ 7:45 am - Room 201 - Grab & Go Breakfast available - The Readers Rumble Club @ 12:10 - Room 215 - Debate Club @ 11:45 - Room 212 (<i>Please bring your lunch and plan to eat it there.</i>) - GSA @ 12:10pm - Room 109 - French Extra Help @ 12:10 - Room 211 - French for the Future Session #3 @ 11:40 - Room 211 - Male-identifying Soccer practice @ 3:00 pm - Gorsebrook Field Male-identifying Volleyball Tryouts @ 3:00 pm - Gym
WEDNESDAY	- Grab & Go Breakfast available - Library Open to all students @ 12:10pm - Sting Ensemble (all strings players) @ 12:10 - Room 201 - Grade 8 & 9 Intramurals @ 12:10 - Gym (max 30 students) - Lego, robotics, and Lego robotics! @ 12:10 - Foods Lab (Room 108) - Math Extra Help @ 12:10 - Room 218 - Film club @ 12:00 pm - Room 217 <i>Please note this club starts 10 minutes earlier than others.</i> - Musical Rehearsal @ 3pm-6pm - Please see bulletin board for called actors - Female-identifying Soccer game @ 5:15 pm - Tremont field Male-identifying Volleyball Tryouts @ 3:00 pm - Gym
THURSDAY	- Grade 7 Band Practice @ 7:45 am - Room 201 - French for the Future Fieldtrip - (<i>Select Grade 9 FI students, 9:30-2pm</i>) - IWK Decontamination Event - (<i>Select students</i>) - Grab & Go Breakfast available - Library Open to all students @ 12pm - French Club @ 12:10 - Room 211 - Male-identifying Soccer Semi-finals match @ Tremont field - time is TBD Female-identifying Volleyball Tryouts @ 3:00 pm - Gym - Female-identifying Soccer Practice @ 3pm - Gorsebrook Field
FRIDAY	- Violin Practice (all grades) @ 7:45 am - Room 201 - Bus Evacuation Drills for students (AM only) - Musical Rehearsal @ 7:30am - Library - Grab & Go Breakfast available - All Grades Intramurals @ 12:10 - Gym (max 30 students) <i>Fridays will have a set activity that is posted outside of the gym</i> - Games & Conversation Club @ 12:10 - Room 107 <i>Come meet a new friend! All are welcome.</i> - Female-identifying Soccer Semifinals @ Tremont Field - time is TBD Female-identifying Volleyball Tryouts @ 3:00 pm - Gym

Upcoming Dates

Oct 12th - Thanksgiving Day (*No School*)
Oct 23rd - NSTU Conference Day (*No School for Students*)
Oct 29th - Spooky Haunted House Event for Students

From the Office:

Volleyball Tryouts Coming Up!

Any students interested in trying out for one of our school volleyball teams are asked to sign up on the sheet posted by the gym. Tryouts will take place after school on the following dates:

- Male-Identifying Team: October 13 and 14 - Coach Mitchell Katcher
- Female-Identifying Team: October 15 and 16 - Coach Hunter Treneer

We encourage all interested students to sign up and give it a try!

Donations

The Gorsebrook community is now accepting donations of empty, clean prescription pill bottles. These containers will be re-used to support medical programs and reduce waste. Bottles need to be washed, dried and recapped. Please also remove all labels. Donations can be left in the main office or brought to Madame Lutley in room 209.

[Coming Soon - Spooky Night!](#)

SPOOKY NIGHT!
Haunted House & Halloween Fun

Get ready for a night of spooky fun, games, music, treats, and more!

- Date:** Thursday, October 29, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
When: School Gym
Who: Gorsebrook Students or signed in guests who are in grades 7-9

Our gym will be transformed into a Halloween-themed Spooky Night, complete with a haunted house, games, music, treats, popcorn, and costume prizes!

Admission: \$7 per person

Your \$7 admission includes:

- A walk-through of our Haunted House
- 10 tickets to use at our various games and activity stations
- Popcorn and treats
- Music and Halloween fun
- A chance to win costume prizes

Tickets will be available soon through School Cash Online and sign in sheets for guests will be available in the office. Additionally tickets will also be available for purchase at the event. Students may bring money if they wish to play additional games past their 10 tickets.

Come dressed in your favourite Halloween costume and join us for an evening of spooky fun! We hope to see you there!

Students are not required to stay for the entire time and can leave once they have participated in games and the haunted house. Parents, please make arrangements with your child regarding what time they will leave.

[From HRCE](#)

October is Mi'kmaq History Month

Each October, Mi'kmaq History Month provides an opportunity to deepen our understanding of Mi'kmaq culture, history, language and traditions, while recognizing the important contributions of Mi'kmaq people past and present.

Across our schools, students and staff may mark the month through learning, storytelling, art, community connections and cultural experiences that bring Mi'kmaq perspectives into the classroom and school community.

As we learn together, Mi'kmaq History Month reminds us of the importance of listening, building relationships and continuing our shared commitment to truth and reconciliation.

Learn more about Mi'kmaq History Month [here](#).

Growing independence doesn't have to start with a smartphone

As children get older, parents naturally want to give them more independence, such as walking to the park, playing at a friend's house, staying home for a short time, or getting to activities on their own. A smartphone can seem like the obvious way to make this possible, but it isn't the only option.

There are lots of ways families can give children more freedom while keeping communication simple and age-appropriate:

- **Long-range walkie-talkies:** A simple way for kids to check in while playing in the neighbourhood or exploring outdoors, without access to the internet or social media.
- **A home phone:** Allows children to call friends, make plans or contact a parent when they're home alone.
- **A kids' smartwatch:** Some watches offer limited calling or messaging, without the apps, social media and internet access of a smartphone.
- **A basic talk-and-text phone:** When children eventually need a way to coordinate rides or activities, a simple phone can provide communication without introducing the distractions and social pressures of a smartphone.

The goal is to match the technology to what children actually need. A child who needs to call home doesn't necessarily need a device that also gives them access to social media, games and the internet.

Starting with a more limited device can give children time to develop the responsibility, judgment and independence they'll eventually need to manage a smartphone.

Explore more resources from Unplugged Canada and join thousands of Canadian families taking the [Unplugged Canada Pledge](#) to delay smartphones and support connected childhoods.

[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'.