






GORSEBROOK JUNIOR HIGH COMMUNITY MEMO

THIS WEEK AT GORSEBROOK: Dec. 7-11, 2020

[*Please read below the week's events for more school-related info*](#)

This is: Week 2

<p>MONDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hour of Code week to be conducted in Math classes throughout the week • Breakfast club each morning in homeroom classes • Please ensure you have a mask and water bottle each day:) • Mental Health Awareness Club - 12:00 pm • Group 1 Strings rehearsal - 12:10 pm - 12:40 pm (in the band room - group lists have been emailed home) • Group 2 Strings rehearsal - 12:40 pm - 1:10 pm (in the band room - group lists have been emailed home)
<p>TUESDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast club each morning in homeroom classes • Please ensure you have a mask and water bottle each day:) • GSA meeting at lunch in the foods lab (lower level)
<p>WEDNESDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast club each morning in homeroom classes • Please ensure you have a mask and water bottle each day:) • Group 3 Strings rehearsal - 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm (in the band room - group lists have been emailed home)
<p>THURSDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast club each morning in homeroom classes • Please ensure you have a mask and water bottle each day:)
<p>FRIDAY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast club each morning in homeroom classes • Group 4 Strings rehearsal - 12:05 pm - 12:35 pm (in the band room - group lists have been emailed home) • Group 5 Strings rehearsal - 12:35 pm - 1:05 pm (in the band room - group lists have been emailed home)

Upcoming Dates

December 22 - Last day of classes before holiday break
January 4 - First day of classes after holiday break

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.
- Parents, guardians and visitors who are coming to the school are reminded they must call ahead or ring the doorbell. Someone will come assist you, but you are unable to enter the building.
- In an effort to ensure we have accurate and updated information for all our students, we ask that parents and guardians contact the main office if there are changes to home/cell phone numbers, home address, email address and health card expiry dates. Thank you in advance!



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- If your child is going to be absent or late, please call our Safe Arrival line @ 902-421-2687. **This line is open 24 hours to leave a message**. Additionally, if your child has an appointment during the school day, parents and guardians must contact the school to let us know. Students must always sign out at the main office before leaving the building during regular school hours.
- Energy drinks are not permitted in school. Please note, some drink flavours, such as Mio, may contain high amounts of caffeine, and are not permitted either. Thank you for your support in ensuring these types of beverages are not consumed during the school day.
- Please note that cell phone usage **is not** permitted during class time. It would be greatly appreciated if this could be reinforced at home. As you know, they can be a great source of distraction when not being used for educational purposes. If students have cell phones, they are to stay in their backpacks, on silent, or powered off. Students who do not follow these expectations can lose their phones for the remainder of the day.
- **Intimate Images and Cyber-protection:**

The rapid growth of smart phones, social media and the anonymity of the online world has created increasing opportunity for cyberbullying and the unwanted sharing of intimate images. The impacts of these behaviours can be devastating for victims. Supports are available. For more information please visit novascotia.ca/cyberscan . If you believe your child is a victim of cyberbullying, or that an intimate image of them was shared without their consent, call CyberScan at 902-424-6990 or toll free at 855-702-8324.

[Classroom ventilation and colder weather](#)

As the weather gets colder, we remind students to dress in layers as the windows will need to remain open for ventilation purposes. Additionally, warmer clothes are needed for the outdoor portion of our lunch break, including hats and mitts/gloves. As long as it is not raining out, or extreme conditions, students are expected to be outside for a portion of their lunch break. Winter in Nova Scotia can bring a lot of variety to our weather, so we ask students to be prepared.

[SSEP Launch](#)

Hello everyone,

Between September and the first week of November in 2019, our school participated in the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program's (SSEP) Mission 14 to the International Space Station (ISS). We fully immersed all grade 7-9 students from Gorsebrook Jr High in microgravity experiment design and proposal writing. In doing so, we were the first school east of Ottawa to participate in this incredible STEM education opportunity! The winning team was selected in December of 2019 and, even though they've since moved on to **Citadel High**, have been working diligently to prepare their experiment for space flight.

I am proud to say that our student scientists, **Katherine Sneddon-Simons, Rhianna Wailgura-Newman, and Eliana MacDonald**, with the support of the Dr. Margaret Walsh and her team at the Centre for Water Resource Studies at Dalhousie University, will be sending their experiment, The Effects of Microgravity on an Activated Carbon Filtration System, to the ISS on **Saturday, December 5th, 2020**. The experiment will be part of the payload of SpaceX-21. SpaceX-21 is the first flight of Cargo Dragon 2, an updated replacement to the original Dragon.

None of this would have been possible without the support of our generous sponsors, Step 1 Review committee volunteers, the staff at Gorsebrook Jr High, and the many professors who acted as advisors to our student teams. Thank you all for everything you've done to support our students.

Sincerely,
Sonja Goold
Gorsebrook Jr High

Note: If the launch slips again for any reason (e.g., weather, etc.) there is a back-up launch window available on 12/6, no attempt available on 12/7, and a tertiary attempt available 12/8.



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SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos can still be ordered. You can visit the Photomaster Studios website and order online, at photomasterstudios.ca. All orders will now be sent home by Canada Post instead of going to the school due to the new outbreak of covid. Please note that Photomasters has all the school photos on file for the past 7 years. If you missed a year you can order past years online too.

Lates

The school year is up and running and we are asking that students ensure they are arriving on time both in the morning and after lunch. We realize that lates are sometimes necessary for appointments and the odd traffic snag, and if this is the case, please let the main office know. Setting these good habits early on helps to ensure maximum learning time. Line ups to sign in at the main office are getting longer and students are missing instructional time. We appreciate your support with this.

Gorsebrook Giving Campaign

A reminder of our giving campaign to help offset the cost of our new phone system. Please reference the memo sent home earlier this week on how you can help out and what specifically the donation will support. This is a voluntary donation, and tax receipts are available for donations of \$10 or more. Thank you!

Grade 9 Students - take note

Nova Scotia Oral Health Program for Children:

Did you know the Nova Scotia Children's Oral Health program covers annual basic dental care for all children 14 years of age and under with a valid MSI health card? Once a year, this includes:

·One routine dental exam ·One fluoride application (a second application may be eligible in some cases) ·Two routine x-rays·In addition to the above, one preventive service – for example, brushing and flossing instruction, and/or cleaning Molar sealants, fillings and necessary extractions are also covered by the program. For more information on this program, visit: novascotia.ca/dhw/children-denta

From the Math Department

Students are reminded to have their own calculators for Math class. The use of cell phone calculators are not permitted.

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.

Parent Navigators

For information on the HRCE's Parent Navigator program, please click here: <https://create.piktochart.com/output/50338546-parent-navigator-info>

From the Library

Mrs. McManus is in the library for borrowing purposes on Wednesdays & Thursdays.

This week all students should:



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- Log onto the library catalog and check their loans
- Complete the survey on the library website
- Return overdue books to the office

Reminder to all students to have their book requests in by noon on Thursdays for the best chance to receive their books THAT WEEK.

There is a new survey available on the Library Website: Who is the BEST Marvel Character?

Visit the Gorsebrook Virtual Library from the school website:

<https://sites.google.com/gnspes.ca/gbjhvirtuallibrary>

Contact Library Support Specialist Mrs. S. McManus at smcmanus@hrce.ca

SchoolsPlus staff are here to support Gorsebrook families

We can:

- Help get answers to your questions.
- Connect you with services that can make a difference for your family.
- Help you fill out forms.
- Help you apply for funding (to help pay for things like recreation programs or eyeglasses).
- Support you during a stressful time.
- Help you get ready for a meeting with a school, agency, landlord, etc. We'll help you feel prepared and have a voice.

SchoolsPlus services are confidential.

Yes, we can still do all this during COVID-19. Just give us a call! ...keep scrolling for contact info:

Contact your SchoolsPlus Community Outreach Worker (Laura Hutt) and Assistant Leader (Alicia Barrett) at: 902-399-8317 (phone or text) or alicia.barrett@hrce.ca.

From the Community