

January 26, 2025

Hello West Bedford High Families,

Please see information and important dates below for the upcoming weeks.

1. **Nova Scotia Homework Hub Extended Tutoring Hours:**

The **Nova Scotia Homework Hub** will provide extended tutoring hours in **Mathematics** for students in **grades 7-12** from **January 27<sup>th</sup> to January 29<sup>th</sup>** from 5:30pm to 10:00pm. **Grade 4-6** students will continue to have access to tutoring every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

Homework Hub also provides students with video tutorials, practice exercises, vocabulary flash cards, digital math textbooks and an online graphing calculator.

Students and teachers are automatically enrolled in the **Nova Scotia Homework Hub** and access can be found through the GNSPES launch page. **Tutors** are Nova Scotia qualified mathematics teachers, and this is a **free service**.

2. **Grade 7/8 trip to Oval.** The Grade 7/8 students are going to the Oval tomorrow (Monday January 27th) for an open skate! Students are expected to come appropriately dressed for the weather and activities as this is an outdoor activity in the winter. Students must bring:

- Loose, comfy, weather-appropriate clothing for skating and being outside for over an hour (this is including but not limited to hat, scarf, mittens/gloves, warm winter jacket, snow pants/splash pants, warm socks, etc). A change of clothes and socks is encouraged in case the student falls on the ice and their clothing gets wet. This will help them stay dry and warm after skating;
- Lunch, snacks and a water bottle (students can eat outside at the Oval or wait until they are back - **but students MUST pack a lunch as the cafeteria will not be open when you get back**). Skates and/or CSA approved helmet *are free rental options available at the Oval for those who don't have these items*

**Field trips are an extension of school so students must follow the school code of conduct for behaviour while participating on this trip.**

3. **YEARBOOKS! DON'T MISS OUT, GET YOURS TODAY! YEARBOOKS ARE NOW ON SALE AT THE LOW COST OF \$50. ORDERS CAN BE MADE DIRECTLY THROUGH JOSTEN'S USING THE FOLLOWING LINK:**

[West Bedford High School 2025 Yearbook](#)

4. **Mid-Year Summative Assessments (Grades 9-11)**

If the school is closed on a scheduled exam day due to inclement weather, power failure, or other unforeseen circumstances, exams will be moved forward a day. Students must be present to write the exam on the rescheduled date. Please take this into account when planning family vacations around exam time.

**Students are not required to be at school on mornings /afternoons/days when they do not have scheduled assessments.** The one exception to this pertains to grade 10-11 students whose exam schedule includes a conflict between two course exams. They are required to be at school on Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> - the planned conflict day.

Jan 27 - Monday 9:30 AM	Jan 28 - Tuesday 9:30 AM	Jan 29 - Wednesday 9:30 AM	Jan 30 - Thursday 9:30 AM
MATH 9	MATH 11	SCIENCE 9	CONFLICTS
MATH 10	PRE CALCULUS 11	SCIENCE 10	
	ENGLISH 10		
Jan 27 - Monday 12:50 PM	Jan 28 - Tuesday 12:50 PM	Jan 29 - Wednesday 12:50PM	
ENGLISH 9	FRENCH LANGUAGE ARTS 10	CITIZENSHIP 9	
BIOLOGY 11	FRENCH LANGUAGE ARTS 11	ED. CIVIC 9	
HISTOIRE CAN 11	GLOBAL GEOGRAPHY 12	PHYSICS 11	
MI'KMAW STUDIES 11	AFRICAN CANADIAN STUDIES 11	CHEMISTRY 11	
ENGLISH 11			

### Lunch time for all students 12:00pm to 12:45pm.

Exam times: AM - 9:30 to 11:30 (additional 30 minutes if needed) / PM – 12:50 to 2:50 (additional 30 minutes if needed)

#### 5) Examination Writing Procedures.

- When entering examination rooms, students must leave all personal belongings including backpacks, extra clothing, books, and electronics at the front of the room. Students cannot wear AirPods, headphones, etc. during the assessment.
- Students who arrive late will not be permitted to enter the exam room after the first hour is complete. Students who arrive late prior to the first hour will also not be permitted time beyond the normal 2½-hour termination of the exam.
- Students in grades 10 and 11 will not be permitted to leave an exam before 1 hour of the session is complete. **All Grade 9 students must remain in the room until the end of the assessment time. They are expected to bring a book, study materials for the afternoon assessment or other work they need to complete for one of their courses. Grade 9 students cannot go home early after an assessment. They are required to be at school the entire day on the days they write assessments.**
- **Students are not permitted to leave the examination room to go to the washroom area unless accompanied by a staff member.** There is a staff member in each hallway while exams are being written.
- While exams are being written there are to be no students in the hallway. Teachers are asked to direct students to the cafeteria, library or out of the building. Administrators will assist with monitoring the halls at peak times. **Grades 7 and 8 will remain in their homeroom classrooms for the day and teachers will go to them. This is to ensure assessment areas are kept as quiet spaces.**

6. **PowerSchool and Course Selection.** With high school course selection fast approaching, this is a reminder that students registering for grades 10- 12 **MUST** be able to log into Power School Portal to complete their registration (at either high school) and to enter their course selection. Please check in with your child NOW and oversee that they can in fact do this. If they cannot, reach out to your child's homeroom teacher to get their Portal Access Letter as soon as possible.

7. **Hockey at West Bedford (2025-26 school year).** We are looking to try to get both male and female Hockey up and started next year. We are looking for applications for head coaches, assistant coaches, managers, and fundraisers. If you would like to get involved or know someone that does, please reach out to our Athletic director, Emily Bell, at [EBell@hrce.ca](mailto:EBell@hrce.ca).

8. **A message from our African Nova Scotia Support worker.** *Happy New Year! I wanted to take this time to reintroduce and for some introduce myself for the first time. I am Felisha Davidson and I am the African Student Support Worker here at West Bedford High School. I have the privilege of working with your children. My role here at West Bedford is to help provide academic support, cultural programming and student advocacy. I also work to bridge the gap between school and home to ensure student success.*

*Our students of African Ancestry are able to sign up to work in my culturally safe space to receive extra academic support from me, They are able to use the space on their flex periods as well or come and join me in my room 1033 at lunch hours where we have cultural programming and plan activities with our BSA (Black Student Association). We have had pot lucks and cupcake socials. We have learned about Kwanza and we have been learning about the 7 principals of the Nguzo Saba. Focusing on Umoja (Unity) and now on Kujichagulia (Self Determination).*

*The African Nova Scotian Student Support Worker program provides support to promote the academic success and well-being of African Nova Scotian students and students of African Ancestry through a cultural lens in knowing them as they are known in areas that impact their ability to thrive now and in their future. It is important for you to understand that participation from the student is voluntary.*

*Should a student be identified as needing direct support from an ANSSSW, the school administrator will go through a process with their designated school team and input from the parent/caregivers, to collectively determine the kinds of support the student needs. From there, the team identifies which school staff can provide the kind of support that is within the responsibility of the staff's job assignment.*

*If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child or the programming that I provide. Please feel free to contact me. [felisha.davidson@hrce.ca](mailto:felisha.davidson@hrce.ca). I am truly so thankful for the time I get with your children and being able to support them this 2024/25 school year.*

**Mrs. Felisha**

9. **Staffing update.** We would first like to congratulate Sam Evanson (Department head of Fine Arts and O2 coordinator) on his new position with the EECD as the Provincial Technology Education Officer. Taking over his department head role is Craig Boyce and we greatly appreciate him stepping up to take over this role.

Taking over the role of o2 coordinator is Lauren Howe. This is a great career opportunity for Lauren and we are excited to have her jump into this role.

Taking over Lauren's position is Haya Hafez as a new hire. Haya will replace Lauren Howe as a grade 7 and 8 English teacher. Haya has an English degree and possesses a diverse educational background. Having worked at Bridgeway Academy, she brings experience working with diverse learners. As well, she has taught abroad and is completing her TESOL certification. Welcome Haya!!!

LeeAnne Ferguson (Learning centre teacher) is on an extended absence and a new learning centre teacher will be hired in the coming weeks.

10. **Europe Trip Fundraiser.** Are you a coffee drinker? Like supporting local companies? WBH will be selling Sissaboo Coffee to support the upcoming Europe 2025 trip. Check out the offerings and get yours today! Payments can be sent through SchoolCash between January 27 – February 7 >>>> [2025 Europe Trip Fundraiser](#)

## Important Dates:

- January 17th-22: WBH presents to WBH 9s
- January 27: International Holocaust Remembrance Day
- January 27: Family Literacy Day
- January 27 - 30: Mid-year assessments (grades 9-11)
- January 31: Assessment and Evaluation Day – no classes
- January 29: Lunar New Year
- February 3: Semester 2 begins WBH
- February 3 - 7: Grade 9 students choose between WBHS/CPA (more info to come)
- February 4 - 14: Report cards go home
- February 6: Curriculum night (grade 10 and 11 only – semester courses) 6:30-7:30
- February 10 - 21: Counsellors/students review course selection papers
- February 13: High School dance (grades 9-11) Time 7:30-9:30
- February 24 - March 7: Counsellors/students enter selection into PowerSchool

Sincerely,

WBH Admin team