



February Newsletter

(604) 713-8171 | www.vsb.bc.ca/lord-byng

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - PLEASE TRANSLATE

Informations importantes - Veuillez traduire

这是一份重要信息 — 请找人为您翻译

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें

Información importante - Por favor traducir

重要な情報-翻訳してください

중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다

معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة

اطلاعات مهم - لطفا ترجمه کنید

Важная информация - переведите, пожалуйста

מידע חשוב - אנא תרגם

A huge thank you to PAC...

...for their work with the Gaming Grant. These are funds that are allocated to PACs across the province and it takes time and thought to manage applications and to allocate the funds. We recognize this is all volunteer and we appreciate the dedication and support. These funds provide materials and experiences that strengthen ties to school through participation in teams, clubs, ensembles, leadership.

The PAC also sponsors a direct appeal fundraiser to raise funds for the school community. The PAC is able to allocate these funds more broadly to support the work of educators in schools as they build meaningful experiences for students. In the recent past, thanks to your generosity, funds raised in this way have contributed to Indigenous art installations and cultural workshops, and to improvements in science labs, in the auditorium, in the weight room, in our sewing room and technical education workshops to name a few.

We continue to have more requests than funds—this is often the case. We know this leads to deliberations and again extend our sincere appreciation to PAC for these efforts on behalf of our school. It really is a partnership.

Some requests are smaller, but these add up: equipment for our bike mechanics club, planting boxes for our garden club and chamber music lectures and workshops among other requests. There are also three larger categories of requests that reach across departments and support the larger school community.

The first is technology as we're needing to add a laptop cart for class use. Teachers sign out laptop carts when they look to teach lessons where each student benefits from a computer. Examples include research, podcasting, visual essays, misinformation. We'd like a bookable laptop cart on each floor. We also maintain a multi-purpose learning space that is used by both our Fine Arts and Applied Skills departments. The school needs to continually invest in the space to maintain the quality and the operating capacity of the equipment that includes 3-D printers and other tools that allow for project-based learning. We also have a lab used for our Economics and Accounting classes that is nearing its end.

The second is improvements to the auditorium, namely lights. Our auditorium is used for concerts, assemblies, guest speakers, drama productions. Maintaining the quality of the physical space to allow for a professional environment to work and learn requires constant upgrading and we've identified the need to add additional LED lighting to the auditorium stage.

The third is increasing our resources for outdoor education. We are fortunate to be so close to Camosun Bog, but we are also looking to purchase a class set of folding stools to allow teachers to take a class outside without needing to worry about a recent rainfall. And we're hoping to continue work on the school garden. Benches there would support another outdoor learning space. Teachers are exploring meaningful ways to increase time outside, on the land, in the urban nature spaces that are within walking distance of the school.

Should you wish to make a donation to the PAC Direct Appeal, [this is the link](#). You'll receive a tax receipt immediately and for any amount donated. Thank you for your kind consideration in support of the above initiatives.

In other news, hard to believe that we're already eight days into Semester 2. We wish students a smooth start to their new courses.

Albert, Diane, and Krista
(Lord Byng Administration Team)

Yearbook Permissions

Data and Image Consent for School Yearbooks

The Vancouver School Board (VSB) and its schools are authorized to collect, use, and disclose student personal information in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* ("FIPPA"). At the start of the school year, your child's photo is collected for operational purposes such as attendance or ID verification in accordance with section 26(c) of FIPPA.

As part of its commitment to protecting student privacy, the VSB is providing notice to you regarding the collection, use and disclosure of your child's personal information and image(s) for the purpose of creating a school-specific publication of the school year (a yearbook) and, if applicable, featuring their school photo, class composite photo, and other images (ex. Sports teams or clubs), in accordance with sections 32(a) and 33(1), respectively.

If you do not wish for your child's personal information or photographs to be included in the yearbook, **please email the school principal by February 20, 2026 (kediger@vsb.bc.ca).**

Unless withdrawn, this consent is effective immediately from the day of receipt and lasts until June 30th of the current school year.

For inquiries about FIPPA, please contact privacy@vsb.bc.ca.

Request for Parent Volunteers for CLE 10

The Career Education Department is currently organizing a **Mock Interview Session for our Grade 10 students**, designed to help them develop essential employability skills such as communication, professionalism, and interview confidence. As part of this program, we are seeking support from parents, ideally with interviewing experience, who would be willing to volunteer their time as interviewers.

The session would involve conducting short, structured mock interviews with students and providing brief, constructive feedback. No preparation beyond your professional experience is required, and interview questions and guidelines will be provided in advance. The event schedule:

Date: April 9th, 2026 (Thursday)

Time: 8:30am -12pm

Location: Lord Byng Secondary (library)

By participating, you would be making a meaningful contribution to our students' career readiness. We would be delighted to hear from you. Please feel free to contact Kimberley Chong-Ping at kchong@vsb.bc.ca, or Jessica Erwin at jerwin@vsb.bc.ca, if you have any questions or would like further information.

Byng Mathletes Excel at Math Contests

More than 300,000 students worldwide participate in the **American Mathematics Competition (AMC)** 10 and 12 annually. This is an opportunity for students to put their problem-solving skills to work in a mathematical setting. While some of the problems are based on curricular concepts studied in class, many require the use of creative thinking and strategies. Congratulations to our top scorers this year!

- Our top three scorers for the AMC 12 this year: **Aaron Su (Grade 11), Thomas Tan (Grade 12) and Tim Yang (Grade 11)**
- Our top three scorers for the AMC 10 this year: **Berton Yang (Grade 8), Ariel Liu (Grade 10) and Bowie Liu (Grade 10)/Eric Huang (Grade 10)**

Twenty-one Byng mathletes took part in the **Canadian Open Mathematics Challenge (COMC)** this year, a nationwide contest held by the Canadian Mathematical Society. Our top scorers for this year:

- **Aaron Su** (Grade 11): Gold Award (BC), Honourable Mention (Canada)
- **Thomas Tan** (Grade 12): Honourable Mention (BC)
- **Ryan Wu** and **Mason Wu** (Grade 9): Gold Award (BC), Honourable Mention (Canada)
- **Berton Yang** (Grade 8): Bronze Award (BC)

Congratulations to all of those who took part in this year's math contests! Some of these students have qualified for the next level invitational contest and we wish them luck. Many thanks to PAC for the funding support that enables students to write these contests.

Business Education Travel Opportunity

Your teen's next adventure could start here!

We're excited to announce a new Business Education travel opportunity for students! In partnership with EF Educational Tours Canada, we're planning a life-changing experience to Italy.

RSVP to an info session where we'll share all the details about the destination, itinerary, safety measures, and more. This is your chance to learn how your teen can gain independence, confidence, and a new perspective through travel.

RSVP Here: <https://bit.ly/4sITlvE>

School Fees

School fees are now available to view and pay online through [SchoolCashOnline](#). These have been updated for Semester 2 courses. Thank you

Field Trip to the Vancouver Aquarium

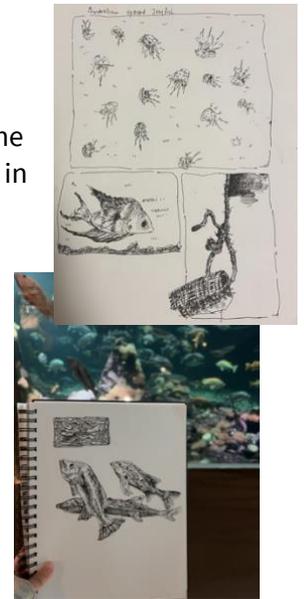
From Serena Lee, Visual Arts Teacher: Last week, I took my Byng Arts 10 and the Advanced Visual Art students to the Vancouver Aquarium. I was so impressed by the depth of insight students experienced that I wanted to share them with our community!

Our educational goal was to live sketch marine life and reflect on the question: How does drawing subjects that are in constant motion change our ideas of perception? Will it change the way we see and draw compared to drawing from a photo reference where subjects are frozen in time?

The reflections students shared were incredible! Some students shared they found themselves using their imagination and memory to fill in the gaps in information as the fish kept moving. Another student said: “understanding over observation,” explaining they had to “become the fish” to try and understand what it’s like to be a fish to draw it. Other students talked about how this was their first time drawing live and they didn’t realize how difficult and different it was from using a photo reference. This is the kind of metacognitive thinking and



experiential learning that gets me super excited as a teacher! I hope it got you excited as well. (Art by Rosy Zhou, left; Julia Li, right)



Cell Phones in Classrooms

We continue our work to align with ministry and district policies on digital device use in schools, as we know this is critical to support student engagement and learning in the classroom.

Personal digital devices must be turned off or placed in silent mode and stored in backpacks/bags before entering the classroom. These devices are not permitted for use (pictures, recordings, messaging, calls, social media, games, music, etc.) during instructional time unless an educator has given permission. Some teachers ask that students store their phones in a “cellphone motel” in the classroom—this is a practice used broadly in schools across the province. Semester 2 means that teachers are reestablishing classroom routines for their students.

Should you need to contact your child and they’re not responding, it may mean it’s class time. If it’s urgent, please call the main office, and we will ensure they get the message or will call them down to speak with you. School office phone #: 604-713-8171.

School Nurse

Kylie Dawson is our Public Health Nurse. She is at Byng and available to see students at lunch every second Tuesday. She'll be here Feb 17, Mar 3rd, Mar 31st, Apr 14th. There is a sign outside the office that we keep updated with her availability.

Art News

Love At First Sip- Coffee House - February 17th

The next coffee house is coming up in February. Open to everyone. Games, performances, and snacks afterschool in the Gallery foyer. What could be better? Mark your calendars!

XOXO



Lunar New Year – Call For Artists

📣 Calling all student artists! With Lunar New Year ahead, join Wesbrook Community Centre's Year of the Horse celebration by creating and submitting your own horse-themed artwork for a special community showcase and voting event. We'd love to feature your creativity! ✨

Date: Sunday, February 22, 2026

Time: 1-4pm

Place: Wesbrook Community Centre

Artworks can be in any shape or form as long as it is horse-themed!

Please submit your artworks by **Feb 8, 2026** to the **Wesbrook Community Centre front desk**.

Artworks will be on display during the week before the event and voted on Feb 22, the day of the celebration! Top three winners will be awarded in each age category. 🏆

Please contact Art Project Volunteer Lead, Rosy Zhou, if you have any questions: rosyzh9@gmail.com

Lord Byng Gallery – Call For Artists

We are still enjoying all the sculptures and beautiful artwork that is currently hanging in the school gallery, but all good things must come to an end. We are calling all student artists to drop off new works this month – deadline is the week of the 16th so don't delay, get creating today!

Byng Arts News

New Applicants to the Program – Congratulations to everyone who auditioned for a seat in Byng Arts for September 2026. Offers will go out later this month with a focus on the seats available in Grade 8. Upper grades will likely need to wait a little longer as we review our numbers for next year to ensure that we have space to make an offer. Thank you for your understanding and patience.



I would also like to give a special shout out to all the staff who put in long hours outside their regular busy schedule to review the applications and run the auditions at the end of January. With over 200 applicants and more than 300 individual auditions, this was no small undertaking. Their professionalism, care, and genuine enthusiasm for the arts were evident throughout the process and reflect a deep commitment to our students and to their craft.

Please visit our website for the most up to date information on the application process:

<http://byng2.vsb.bc.ca/byngarts/>

Byng Arts Passport: passport.lordbyng.net

Passports were due for review at the end of January. Students were expected to have recorded seven or more events. This is a fun, but mandatory part of your program at Byng Arts. A separate Byng Arts update will be sent out this weekend to parents and students and will include information regarding each student’s progress. Please keep your eye out for this message (check you Junk folder) and speak to your child if the tally is below 7 events.

For those who unlocked 7 or more event, your names will be entered into a draw that will take place during our next Byng Arts assembly in February.

For everyone, we will review the passport again at the end of May and want everyone to unlock another 7 events for that review.

Here are some available events to unlock:

<p>Green Thumb Theatre Presents Events</p>  <p>Our next FAB Assembly is Friday, February 27th just after lunch. Green Thumb Theatre returns to perform Caged.</p>	<p>Love @ First Sip - Coffee House Events</p>  <p>Come to the Gallery Foyer on February 17th for the next coffee house - treats, games, and performances - what' not to love?</p>	<p>Eros General</p>  <p>Unlock up to 3 art related events in February! Show your <3 for the Arts!</p>
<p>Winter Art Show Art</p>  <p>Earned on 1/8/26 Come check out the art in the Gallery at Byng during December and January.</p>	<p>Winter Music Performance Music</p>  <p>Earned on 1/8/26 Perform as part of Choir, Band, or Strings or attend as an audience member in December and January.</p>	<p>Janus General</p>  <p>Earned on 1/8/26 Make a new year commitment to start the year with more art - record up to three art events in the month of January.</p>

A trip to an art gallery, a music performance, a film fest event or a drama performance can all contribute to a student's artistic development. Involvement in a performance is also a great way to grow as an artist. Get out there and get involved because you can't get smart without ART.

If you are having trouble, come and see Mr. Hartley-Folz, mornings in the Gallery or email him at jhartley@vsb.bc.ca.

Passport Log In Tips:

Your **username** is your student number

Your **password** is the **first two (2) letters of your last name**, the first letter is capitalized and the second is lower case. Next is an **underscore** (_), followed by your **student number**!

So, Draco Malfoy, who has student number 8675666, would have the password Ma_8675666 and

Hermione Granger, with student number 8595550, would have the password Gr_8595550.

Byng Arts Hosts Green Thumb Theatre

As part of our ongoing efforts to connect with the arts community, we will host award winning Green Thumb Theatre to the school to perform Caged, on February 27th during an afternoon assembly. Caged tells the story about two friends trying to work through their relationship when a new member enters the group and begins to pull one of the friends into behaviour that worries the other. It hits on many themes familiar to our students and offers some ways to negotiate tough challenges. It is especially exciting as this play is written by Rachel Aberle, a graduate of our Theatre program.

Byng Arts Visual Arts Trip to London & Paris

We are less than a month away from leaving for London and Paris. Art galleries like the Louvre and the National Gallery await not to mention a visit to the Tower of London and Notre Dame. We will have our final trip meeting for parents and students on Monday, February 9th and 6:30pm in the school Gallery. Mark your calendars and start packing.

Contact Mr. Hartley-Folz if you have any Byng Arts questions (jhartley@vsb.bc.ca)

PAC News

LORD BYNG PAC ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Thanks to your incredible generosity last year, we raised over \$24,355.00 from the Direct Appeal—an amount that made a tangible difference in the lives of our students. With your help, we were able to fund all or partial of crucial projects such as:

- Equipment for ADST learning including metal workshop, textiles, and media arts!
- Program support for clubs including Science, Math, Debate, Robotics, and many others!
- Laptops for student coursework!

This year, our funding goals have grown, to continue improving the educational experience for our students. We need support for key areas of **Technology, Arts, and Sports!**

Funding requests come from dedicated staff members who generously volunteer their time and expertise to make these programs and initiatives successful. Your contributions enable us to equip them with the resources they need to continue their great work. Any donation amount will be appreciated and used to support the school and our students.

We are asking families who are able, to consider making a \$150 donation, which will be tax-receipted. [Please visit this link to donate.](#) The Fund Destination has been pre-set to Lord Byng Secondary PAC. In the message field under the section “Message to School Board” please write “Lord Byng PAC Direct Appeal”. If you have any questions, or if you have a problem paying the donation online, please contact Maggie Chan, School Accountant at the office by phone, 604-713-8171 or email mchan@vsb.bc.ca

Grad Committee News

With graduation right around the corner our Grad Committee is hard at work creating memorable events to celebrate our students’ accomplishments. Please see the [Direct Appeal letter](#) we’ve created and consider donating to help bring these incredible celebrations to fruition!

You can also support the Grad Committee and stock up on everyday cleaning essentials...it’s a win win! Clean and eco-friendly products are shipped straight to your door. [Please visit the link](#) to place your order today!

Purdy’s sales are open again! With Easter and Mother’s Day coming up, why don’t you get a head start on shopping! Sale ends March 26th. [Please use this link to order.](#)



Film Screening for Families

Vancouver Technical Secondary is hosting a film screening and post-film live talk. Details below:

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026

Doors Open: 6:30 PM; **Event Time:** 7:00–9:00 PM

Location: Vancouver Technical Secondary, Auditorium, 2600 East Broadway

Admission: Free!

Who’s Welcome: All welcome—bring your kids, family members and friends! Light refreshments served

Film Screening – *Screenagers NEXT CHAPTER*

This documentary explores how social media and screen time contribute to teen stress, anxiety, and low self-worth. It offers real-life stories and research-backed strategies to help families build emotional resilience and healthier screen habits. **Trailer:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ecDraB2YExA>

Post-Film Live Talk with Dr. Suzanne Simpson

Dr. Simpson, educator, speaker, and teen wellness advocate, will share practical tools for setting boundaries, fostering connection, and supporting mental health at home.

How to Sign Up?

RSVP at <https://forms.office.com/r/mj539E7D7p>

Week at a Glance Feb 9-13

Mon, Feb 9	Tues, Feb 10	Wed, Feb 11	Thurs, Feb 12	Fri, Feb 13
8:40-3:00 FIT AM	8:40-3:00 FIT PM	8:40-3:00	8:40-3:00 FIT PM	8:40-3:00 FIT AM
				ProD Day (District-Wide)