



January 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^mməθk^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

Happy New Year...

...we began the year with a fairly calm week, but the rest of January is shaping up to be busy and full. Finishing one semester and starting another brings with it a flurry of change and shifting energies. There's a sense of new beginnings that accompanies the first week of the second semester that coincides helpfully with the still short winter days.

Before the new semester that begins in earnest on Wednesday, January 28th, a number of things. Basketball is in full swing, and is keeping the gym active most nights of the week. There's a Drama 9 performance on stage next week, along with a Strings and Choir concert, followed by a Band concert the following week. Our grade 12s are writing their Literacy Assessments next week, and our admin and counselling teams are beginning course planning for the 2026-27 school year.

Teachers will be finishing their marks for Semester 1 courses and we will publish report cards by the end of day, January 29th. We wish students a strong finish to the first half of the school year, and all the best for an energizing 2026.

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

District Calendar Feedback

After working with the District Calendar Advisory Committee, the proposed school calendars for the next three years (2026-2027, 2027-2028 and 2028-2029) have been posted on the [district website](#).

As required under the BC School Act, the District is holding an open comment period from December 15, 2025 to January 16, 2026. The district sent an email to all families in the District in December—this is a reminder for those wanting to comment before the engagement session is over to share their feedback here: engage@vsb.bc.ca.

Airband

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Airband. This is a tradition at Byng and is a joyful way to end the year. It doesn't happen without a lot of organization and rehearsal. Thank you to all the performers—the dancers and musicians and magicians who spent hours preparing and who entertained us all. Thanks also for all the work behind the scenes, from tech support, to organizing the space, to overseeing the program, to hosting. And to the audience who cheered on their teachers and classmates throughout.

Graduation Assessment Update

Grade 12 Literacy Assessments have been scheduled for the week of January 12th -16th. The schedule is posted outside of the office as well as on the Grade 12 Teams Channel.

Grade 10 Numeracy and Literacy Assessments will happen in April 2026 and June 2026 respectively.

Byng and the 2025 AP Art & Design Exhibition

Each year, students in the Honours Art 11/12 class have the opportunity to submit a portfolio of their work as part of the AP Art & Design/Drawing program. Students work hard to build a cohesive collection of work that showcases their ability to think visually and master their creative craft.

We are thrilled to announce that one of our outstanding students, Xinlan (Lucy) Lin, has been invited to have their art included in the 2025 AP Art and Design Digital Exhibition. Use this link to go directly to her portfolio:

<https://apartanddesign.collegeboard.org/2025-student17>

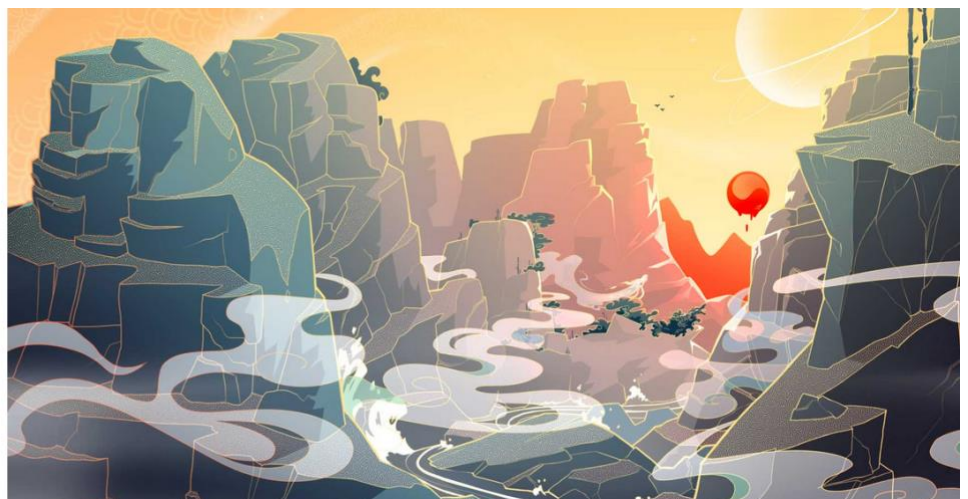
AP Art and Design Digital Exhibition showcases 51 high school artists from 27 states and five countries, selected from over 82,000 portfolios submitted for the 2025 AP Art and Design Exam. These students' images represent exceptional examples of original art grounded in personal ideas and experiences. The exhibition highlights the creativity, talent, and level of excellence that these exceptional students have shown in the artistic output.

Congratulations on your outstanding achievement, Lucy!

Xinlan Lin

SUNRISE

Byng Arts Mini-School at Lord Byng Secondary School, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada





Drama 9: Once Upon A...

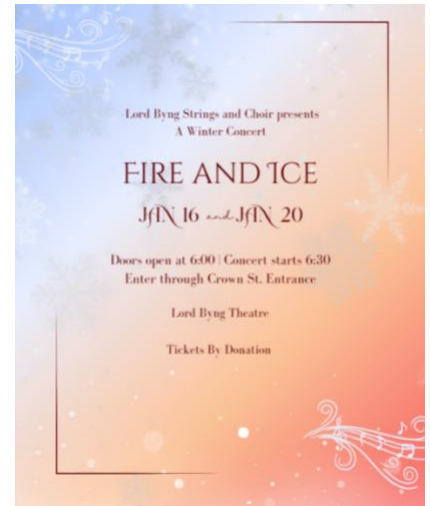
Drama 9 students are taking the stage again this coming week with matinees and evening shows Monday and Tuesday. This promises to be a lot of fun. Those of you with younger siblings...bring them along for a night out in the Byng Auditorium. [This is a link](#) for a clearer view of the poster.

Music News

The Lord Byng Strings and Choir programs will be on stage Friday, Jan 16 and Tuesday, Jan 20 for a wonderful winter concert. [This is a link](#) for a clearer view of the poster.

Strings, Band, and Choir performed for our elementary feeder schools before the break. It was lovely to have grade 5, 6, and 7 students from Kitchener, Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth, and Jules Quesnel in our auditorium to enjoy some beautiful music and to learn about our programs.

Towards the end of the month, the Lord Byng Bands will also be performing. Jan 23rd at 6:30. We look forward to hallways filled with music in preparation for January concerts.

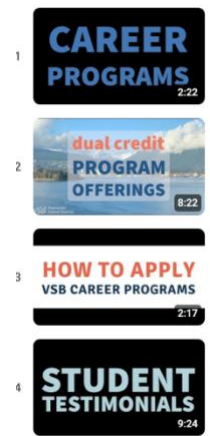


Career Programs Video Collection

[Click on this link](#) to access a collection of videos designed to showcase VSB's Career Programs! There are so many exciting opportunities in Career Programs. If you're interested, please connect with your counsellor who can connect you with a Career Programs Teacher. There is lots of support and possibility if you're considering the trades.

Package includes:

1. Program Highlights: A quick 2 minute "sizzle" reel overview of CP programs.
2. Program Overview: An 8 minute deep dive into all CP programs.
3. How to Apply: A short 2 minute guide to the application process.
4. Student Testimonials : Hear from 9 former CP students about their experiences with training or apprenticeship (9 min).



Course Planning for Next School Year: 2026-27

Course Planning timelines are significantly earlier this year to align with new budget and planning timelines. This means students are selecting their courses for the 2026-2027 school year in January 2026.

All information pertaining to our Course selection can be found on our [course-planning page](#) (Please note that we are still updating all the information on this page.)

Planning Principles: Schools build their schedules and allocate staffing based on student requests. It is imperative that student requests are accurate. If students change their minds about an elective choice, it is very possible (perhaps highly likely) they will not get into that course if they request a change in August/September. Additionally, if students plan to take a course online or in summer school to accelerate their program in a particular subject, they must request the correct grade level based on this plan. For example, if they plan to take Math 9 online, they must select Foundations of Math and Pre-Calculus 10 (FMP 10) in course planning. If they do not request FMP10 during January's course planning time, they will likely not get into the course in the following school year. Also, if they plan for FMP10 and then don't follow through with completing math 9 online, while we will make every effort to find a spot in a class they need (i.e. math 9), it's possible that the class will be full. This principle applies at every grade level. So, **please look at the course planning guide, have clear and thorough conversations about course planning, choose the courses students intend to take and be prepared to stick with these choices!**

One more note about expectations: grades 8-10 students are expected to have 8 classes on timetable (between 8:40 and 3:00pm). Grade 11 students are expected to have at least 7 courses on timetable. Grade 12 students are expected to have at least 6 courses on timetable. If a student has circumstances for which they would like to request a reduction of on timetable courses (high performance athletics or fine arts programs outside of school, health concerns, etc.), please make requests for these accommodations in January 2026 and not September 2026. Students cannot drop courses that result in partial/reduced schedules in August / September 2026. The next window to drop courses opens after the first quarter in November 2026 and is granted on a case-by-case basis.

Student course selection presentations: Wednesday, January 14 in the auditorium. (period 1 - grade 8s, period 2 - grade 9s, period 3- grade 10s, period 4 - grade 11s).

Parent course selection presentations: Thursday, January 15th in the school auditorium. 5:00 -6:00pm grade 8's/9's (juniors) 7:00 -8:00pm grade 10's/11's (seniors). We look forward to seeing parents come out and hope that you bring all your questions.

Byng Arts course planning info can be found on the course planning page and in the course planning guide: [course-planning page](#) Specific questions can be directed to Mr. Hartley-Folz (jhartley@vsb.bc.ca)

Course selection entries into MyEd open on January 15th and close on January 26th.

Winter Weather – VSB Procedures

Considerations of why school/program closures may occur due to inclement weather can be heard on [VSB After the Bell Podcast- Inclement Weather](#).



Be in the know, winter is coming!

Follow VSB on social media to stay updated about school closures due to severe weather.

During extreme weather conditions (heavy snowfall, extreme cold, freezing rain, extreme heat, etc.) VSB schools will remain open if possible.

If a District-wide closure is necessary, it will be announced by 6:30 a.m.

Stay updated:

Facebook: Vancouver School Board

Instagram: @vsb39

X: @vsb39

VSB website: vsb.bc.ca



Art News

Upcoming art events in the new year at Byng:

- January 12th - 13th – Drama 9 Performances, 6:30pm in the Theatre
- Friday, January 16th – Strings & Choir Concert, 6:30pm in the Theatre
- Tuesday, January 20th – Strings & Choir Concert, 6:30pm in the Theatre
- Friday, January 23rd – Band Concert, 6:30pm in the Theatre

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

Byng Arts News

New Applicants to the Program – Thank you to everyone who applied. Confirmation emails have gone out this week to the email that you provided. The audition shortlist will be posted on our website at the end of the day on January 21st by application number. You will also receive an email from the school indicating your application number and audition time. Applicants not shortlisted will be informed by email. We are sorry that we do not have space for everyone.







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 will be reviewed at the end of January. How have you been doing with your passport? Students are expected to have recorded seven or more events for each submission date. This is a fun, but mandatory part of your program at Byng Arts.

Here are some available events to unlock:

<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>
<p>Career Ed Workshop Events</p>  <p>Earned on 1/8/26 Join Illustrator and Graphic Designer, Tiffany Zhong, for the first Career Ed Workshop of the year. Sign up on Teams. Location: Gallery during FIT on Jan 8th.</p>	<p>Once Upon A ... Drama</p>  <p>Earned on 1/8/26 Theatre 9 presents, "Once Upon A ..." on January 12th & 13th at 7pm in the Theatre.</p>	<p>Airband Events</p>  <p>Earned on 1/6/26 All the best of the holidays. Take a picture during our final event before the break.</p>

We believe that 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.

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

PAC News

Happy new year from the Lord Byng PAC!

LORD BYNG WALKING GROUP * Now on Thursdays!*

All are welcome to the Lord Byng weekly parent walk. We meet on the front steps of Lord Byng on Thursday mornings at 9am and walk to the beach. Please contact noradyng@hotmail.com if you have any questions.

SUN RUN TRAINING

The [42nd Vancouver Sun Run](#) will take place on April 19, 2026. If any parents are interested in [training to run up to 10 km](#) for the event, please contact noradyng@hotmail.com. No experience required! The first meet-up will be on Camosun Track behind Queen Elizabeth School on Thursday, January 15, at 4:15 pm.

PAC MEETING *Save the date!*

The next PAC meeting will be held on January 21 at 6:30 pm in the library. All parents and guardians are welcome!

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

Please help support the Grad Committee with our Bottle Drive fundraiser this Saturday January 10th 9:30am - 3:30pm in the Lord Byng parking lot. We need many volunteers to help make this event a success. Please click on this [link](#) to sign up to volunteer. Thanks in advance! -2026 Grad Committee

VSB Educational Assistant Diploma Program

Are you looking for a rewarding job working in a school setting supporting children and youth with special needs? There is an ongoing need for qualified Educational Assistants in B.C. schools. The VSB EA Program, operating through Burnaby Community and Continuing Education is a reputable 6-month program designed to prepare you for the role and provide you with the needed diploma.

Our next program opens for applications on January 12, 2026, for classes that begin March 30, 2026.

To register for a free online **Information Session, from 7-8:30 PM**, go to www.burnabycece.ca. Scroll to EA Programs and select VSB EA Information Sessions. We use the ZOOM platform to deliver the session. Sign up for one of the following dates and bring your questions.

- Tuesday, January 26, 2026
- Wednesday, February 11, 2026

Week at a Glance Jan 12–16

Mon, Jan 12	Tues, Jan 13	Wed, Jan 14	Thurs, Jan 15	Fri, Jan 16
8:40-3:00 FIT AM	8:40-3:00 FIT PM	10:00-3:00	8:40-3:00 FIT PM	8:40-3:00 FIT AM
Grade 12 Literacy PM	Gr 12 Literacy AM	Collab Day – Students start at 10am	Gr 12 Literacy AM	Gr 12 Literacy PM
Drama 9 Performance 6:30pm	ELL Parent Workshop 4pm in the library Drama 9 Performance 6:30pm	Gr 12 Literacy AM Course Planning Assemblies for gr 8-11 students	CLE 10 Assembly @FIT in the Auditorium Course Planning Parent Night	Strings and Choir Concert – 6:30pm