



Newsletter

Friday February 23, 2024

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

Message from the Principal

Dear Lord Byng Parents, Staff and Community Members,

The month of February is Black History Month in Canada and is also recognized by numerous countries throughout the world as Black History Month. Each year as a united school community we take time to reflect on what it means to be black in Canada and to think about the many challenges faced by Black Canadians in our school, community and across our country.

Throughout this month staff have taken this opportunity to reexamine and reflect on our Inclusion and Diversity Pillar of Learning at the school and to embed it into their teaching practices during the month of February. This year the school is once again planning a school-wide learning opportunity that will be experienced by students and staff throughout the school at one time. This year's school wide teaching will be focused on the theme of **Allyship**, a theme that has been created with the support of Adaeze Oputa Anu a community facilitator that has worked at Byng for the past two years supporting the school to develop our anti-racism education program.

This program has been supported by the Byng parent community through the recent Direct Appeal fundraising campaign. Thank you to all the members of our PAC parent community for your continued support in the important work that we all do to stand up and to speak out against racism and discrimination.

Have a safe, restful weekend and happy Black History Month to everyone in our Byng learning community.

Mr. Wilmann – Lord Byng Principal

FEBRUARY 2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1 NO FIT Semester Turnaround Day Byng Arts Auditions	2 NO FIT Semester Turnaround Day Byng Arts Auditions	3
4	5 Semester 2 Begins	6 Last Day for Course Changes Semester 2 Drama 9 Show - 7pm Theatre	7 Course Planning Assemblies - Auditorium AM & PM	8 Semester 1 Final Reports MyED Published CLE 10 - Assembly FIT	9	10
11	12	13 CLC 11- Assembly FIT CANCELLED	14	15 Gr. 7 Parent Info Night 5-6pm Course Planning Night 6-7pm	16 District Wide PRO-D Day School Not in Session	17
18	19 Family Day Stat Holiday School Not In Session	20	21 Collaborative Day AM (Students Start 10am)	22 Black History Assembly @FIT On TEAMS Rescheduled	23	24
25	26	27 Last Day for Course Planning Selections	28 Pink Shirt Day Assemblies Byng Arts 1 st Round Offers	29 Lion Dance 10-12 CLE 10 @FIT Assembly/ Math Contest-FIT PM-4	1	2

Table of Contents

School News..... 3

Byng Lunar Fest 2024 is on Thursday, Feb. 29..... 7

Medical Care Plan Forms / Medication 7

School Nurse Visit..... 7

Byng Athletics 7

Track and Field 7

Collaboration Day Schedule..... 8

Byng Calendars 8

Lord Byng Daily Schedule..... 8

Lost and Found 8

Summer School..... 8

Youth Train in Trades..... 9

PAC NEWS..... 9

2023/2024 School Fees..... 10

Vancouver Coastal Health – When Should I Keep My Sick Child Home from School?..... 10

Elevator Use for Students with Mobility Issues..... 10

FORMS 10

Counselling Update..... 11

Art Info 11

Byng Arts..... 11

School News

A key focus for this week was **Inclusion and Diversity** with **Black History Month** activities and acknowledgements taking place through student projects and learning. A second theme of the week was the focus on **Reconciliation Through Indigenous Teaching and Learning**.

Additionally, our community welcomed the start of the Lunar New Year and made plans for our community celebration on February 29th.

Here are some of the highlights:

- Media Arts Students make plans for the next film project with Indigenous Elder Mr. Ray McKeown and Indigenous Artist Mr. Dave Robinson.
- Black History Month Announcements celebrate Black Excellence.
- Professional Development brings staff together from across the District to the Musqueam Nation to learn and unlearn on the unceded ancestral territory of the Musqueam People.
- Lunar New Year Celebrations welcome in the [Year of the Wood Dragon](#) with the Project 3-B planning an extravaganza to celebrate the New Year.
- **A New VSB District Leadership Grant Inspires Student Leaders to Step Up and Share Their Ideas**

Media Arts Students Support Reconciliation Through Action

Having recently completed an incredible video project telling the story of Indigenous Elder Mr. Ray McKeown a group of gifted animators met with Indigenous artist and educator Mr. Dave Robinson to discuss their next project focused on Reconciliation.

Meeting with Mr. Robinson and his mother Dr. Jocelyn Robinson in the school's art gallery the students spoke about their recent grant application to support the extension of the project.

The Film makers explained that the project would build on the recently completed video that tells the story of Mr. Ray McKeown. The project extension would connect the Byng Team with elementary students throughout the district.



Figure 1 Media art students meet with Indigenous Artist Dave Robinson and makes for their next project with the completion of a District Leadership Grant application to request funding support for their district wide film making project.

Black History Month Announcements celebrate Black Excellence

Each week throughout the month of February the PA Team sponsored by Mr. Andy Johnston

provides acknowledgements of prominent Black leaders.

Recent updates included:

Sharmarke Dubow and Dr. Alexandra Bastiany

Thanks, Mr. Johnston, and your PA team, for these important BHM updates!!!

Truth and Reconciliation Through Indigenous Teaching and Learning

How do we authentically promote, embrace, and engage with the First Peoples Principles of Learning in our classrooms?

Inclusion and Diversity

What pedagogical practices can we use to support all our learners?



A native of Somalia, Sharmarke Dubow fled civil war at the age of 8 and spent 20 years as a refugee seeking haven in East and North Africa until Canada offered him a home in 2012.

A year after becoming a Canadian citizen, Dubow voted in his first election and also won a city council seat in Victoria, B.C. He is the first Somali-born Canadian elected to a Canadian city council and is the first Black councilor from Victoria in 152 years.

Dubow has extensive experience serving refugee and immigrant populations and community development. Nationally, he has served on the Executive Committee of the Canadian Council for Refugees. He has volunteered with various organizations and groups, including the steering committee of the Crime Reduction and Education (CRED) Program, Steering Committee for the Pacific Centre Family Services Association, and the Victoria Tenant Action Group.



Dr. Alexandra Bastiany is a cardiologist at Thunder Bay Regional Health Centre.

She earned her medical degree and completed her Internal medicine and Cardiology training at the Université de Montréal (UdeM). She graduated with honors, as the UdeM Faculty of Medicine first Black valedictorian.

Dr. Bastiany then successfully completed a fellowship in Interventional Cardiology at the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute (University of Alberta) in Edmonton, making her the first Black female Canadian Interventional Cardiologist.

Dr. Bastiany is fluent in English, French, and Haitian Creole. She was born and raised in Montreal, QC of Haitian parents and developed a strong interest in community work amongst visible minorities.

Combining her expertise in cardiovascular disease and her passion for community work, Dr. Bastiany is actively working to decrease the race and gender biases leading to differences in standard of care and clinical outcomes.

Another valuable learning opportunity for both staff and students BHM was on display in the Library/Learning Commons:

Celebrating and acknowledging Black History Month this year, Ms. Rezler and Ms. Moldowan have created a special collection of books, archival resources and online materials for students and staff to find access to information for the month of February (BHM) as well as throughout the year!

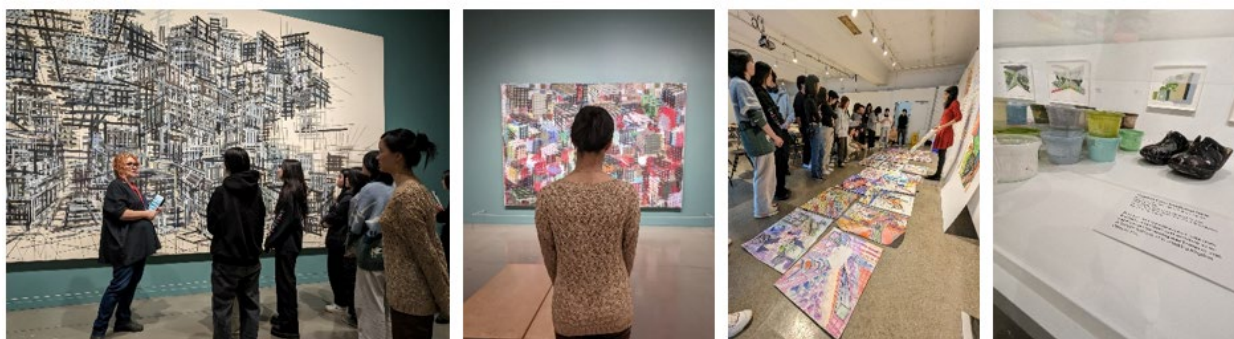
Figure 2 Byng Library and Learning Commons celebrates Black History Month in Canada and provides valuable learning resources for staff and students to learn about Black History in Canada and throughout the World.



Senior Honours Art Trip to see Denyse Thomasos: *Just Beyond*

Over forty students from the Byng Arts Senior Honours Art class travelled to the Vancouver Art Gallery this week to see this career retrospective of the late Trinidadian-Canadian artist Denyse Thomasos (1964–2012). The exhibit features more than 60 paintings and works on paper from her career. This included monumental canvases as well as more intimate small sketches and articles from the artist’s studio (paint containers, her favorite shoes, and works that were in process at the time of her death).

The exhibition was organized chronologically, and we were able to see how she grew from a talented young artist of 16 (the same age as the students on the tour) into a powerful and thought-provoking painter and activist. Her work presented challenging images documenting the Black experience in Canada and the United States through explorations of enslavement, confinement, and activism. Students were asked to not only consider the work on display but to also consider why few of them had ever heard of this female artist of colour and what it means to be unheard and unnoticed.



Professional Development Supports Truth and Reconciliation

ᑲᓄᓂᓂ ᓄᓄᓄᓄᓄᓄᓄᓄ — Welcome

“We belong to this land. It’s a part of who we are.”
ᓄᓄᓄᓄᓄᓄᓄᓄᓄᓄᓄ — Larissa Grant, 2014



Musqueam Cultural Centre. Courtesy of Musqueam Indian Band.

Staff from across the Vancouver School District were welcomed onto the Musqueam Nation lands on Friday to take a deep dive into learning and unlearning on unceded Musqueam land. Fridays pro-d provided a chance for colleagues from across the district to connect as well as a chance for them to learn about the [Musqueam Tool Kit](#), a resource that is available to teachers throughout the district.

Truth and Reconciliation Through Indigenous Teaching and Learning

How do we authentically promote, embrace, and engage with the First Peoples Principles of Learning in our classrooms?

Special thanks for supporting this learning opportunity goes to the District Indigenous Education Department as well as former Byng

staff member Ms. Lori York.

The Tool Kit has been very carefully curated by members of the Musqueam Nation as well as museum staff from the Museum of Anthropology at UBC.

Another [important resource](#) for teaching was included to support the Tool Kit and was reviewed during the rich day of professional engagement.

As well as rich professional development opportunities such as the Musqueam visit, staff and students at Byng continue to be supported by frequent opportunities to engage with Indigenous community members that support and assist learning for students through storytelling and project-based learning, like the recent Media Arts video project.

One example of this took place recently in a Senior English First Peoples Class with a visit from Lakota Metis Indigenous artist and educator Mr. Ray Mckeown.

Senior Grade 11 English students listen to teachings from Indigenous Elder in Residence Mr. Ray Mckeown. Ray has been at Byng for the past two years and has become a valued member of the learning community at the school.

Lunar New Year Celebrations welcome in the [Year of the Wood Dragon](#) with the Project 3-B planning an extravaganza to celebrate the New Year.

With the Lunar New Year Celebrations underway at the school our Project 3-B student leadership team are planning a day of celebrations. Working alongside the PAC and with the Leadership of our SWIS Settlement Worker Ms. Janet Chung, the Project 3-B student leadership team are hosting a school wide assembly on February 29th.

The event will be attended by parents, students, and staff with a variety of cultural events planned that will include dance, song and martial arts displays. The traditional Dragon Dance will be a part of this event.



Staff planning to attend this event with their students must sign up in advance, space will be limited so please pay attention to updates on the sign-up deadline.

Thanks Janet and Project 3-B for all your hard work planning this event and to the LB PAC for all your help with organizing and planning!

A New VSB District Leadership Grant Inspires Student Leaders to Step Up and Share Their Ideas

Student leadership and action received a boost this week with student leaders submitting project proposals to the VSB for grants from a newly announced [\\$100,000 student leadership fund](#).

Amongst the many proposals submitted by Byng students in advance of the deadline on February 15th were submissions focused on environmental stewardship, community connection and film making.

Individual grants are set at \$2,000 for single school initiatives and go up to \$4,000 for proposals that include more than one VSB school.

Thanks to all the teacher sponsors that have supported these individual student proposals!!!

Thanks, staff, for another great week of teaching and learning!

Inclusion and Diversity

What pedagogical practices can we use to support all our learners?

Student Engagement

How do we build student curiosity and imagination in the process of lifelong learning?

Byng Lunar Fest 2024 is on Thursday, Feb. 29

VSB SWIS Byng Project 3B will be hosting the Byng Lunar Fest 2024 on Thursday Feb. 29 in the auditorium. The event is in collaboration with Lord Byng Secondary and Lord Byng PAC to bring the school community together to share some fun and festivities. Below are some of the photos that capture the performance and operation teams getting busy to prepare for the event!!



Medical Care Plan Forms / Medication

If your son/daughter has a medical condition: diabetes, seizures, anaphylaxis, asthma, or other medical concerns, please come to the office to pick up a medical care plan form. It is important that the school is informed of any medical condition that may require emergency care at school and have updated information on file.

It is strongly recommended that students who carry emergency medications such as inhalers, epi-pens or diabetic emergency kits keep these medications or supplies with them at all times in a fanny pack, purse or backpack which travels to class and on field trips with them.

School Nurse Visit

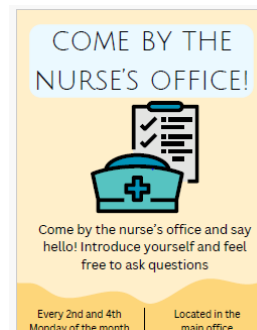
Did you know our public health nurse Alana has office hours at lunch time every other Monday?! Come in to introduce yourself and feel free to ask any questions. Everyone is welcome! 😊

Byng Athletics

Track and Field

Track and Field is starting! Anyone interested in being on the school track and field team this year, please sign up with Mr. Jack in the PE office. Pre-season training will take place at 7:45 am, in the gym, every Tuesday and Thursday in February. Starting in March, most practices will be after school from 3:30 to approximately 5 pm at Camosun Park (days of the week have not been determined yet). Some specialty practices, like hurdles and high jump, will continue to take place in the mornings. Competition days are also to be determined. A full schedule will be available after Spring Break. **Also, there will be an important meeting on Monday, Feb 26th at lunch in the main gym.**

The Track and Field team is the largest team in the school. It is co-ed and all grades. We don't make cuts (no one will be eliminated from the team). The team won 11 City Championships in a row ending in 2023. Last year, we placed second to Kitsilano, so this year we will try to recapture the title. Despite our competitive nature, we are still an all-inclusive team.



LORD BYNG SECONDARY NEWSLETTER

We encourage students of all abilities to join. Managers are also needed. The Track and Field team is a great way to get involved at Byng, work on your general fitness, improve your strength, power, speed, and endurance for another sport, or make new friends.

Mr. Jack

Collaboration Day Schedule

Collaboration Dates: Students arrive at 10am No F.I.T. Sept 20; Oct 18; Nov 15; Jan 17; Feb 21; April 24; May 15; June 19	
Period 1	10:00-10:40
Break	10:40-10:50
Period 2	10:50-11:30
Lunch	11:30-12:15
Period 3	12:15-1:35
Break	1:35-1:40
Period 4	1:40-3:00

Byng Calendars

Please visit the Lord Byng School website. https://www.vsb.bc.ca/lord-byng/_ci/p/65391

Lord Byng Daily Schedule

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
FIT 8:40 - 9:20				FIT 8:40 - 9:20
BLOCK 1 9:20 - 10:20	BLOCK 1 8:40 - 10:00	BLOCK 1 8:40 - 10:00	BLOCK 1 8:40 - 10:00	BLOCK 1 9:20 - 10:20
BREAK 10:20 - 10:30	BREAK 10:00 - 10:10	BREAK 10:00 - 10:10	BREAK 10:00 - 10:10	BREAK 10:20 - 10:30
BLOCK 2 10:30 - 11:30	BLOCK 2 10:10 - 11:30	BLOCK 2 10:10 - 11:30	BLOCK 2 10:10 - 11:30	BLOCK 2 10:30 - 11:30
LUNCH 11:30 - 12:15	LUNCH 11:30 - 12:15	LUNCH 11:30 - 12:15	LUNCH 11:30 - 12:15	LUNCH 11:30 - 12:15
BLOCK 3 12:15 - 1:35	BLOCK 3 12:15 - 1:15	BLOCK 3 12:15 - 1:35	BLOCK 3 12:15 - 1:15	BLOCK 3 12:15 - 1:35
BREAK 1:35 - 1:40	BREAK 1:15 - 1:20	BREAK 1:35 - 1:40	BREAK 1:15 - 1:20	BREAK 1:35 - 1:40
	FIT 1:20 - 2:00		FIT 1:20 - 2:00	
BLOCK 4 1:40 - 3:00	BLOCK 4 2:00 - 3:00	BLOCK 4 1:40 - 3:00	BLOCK 4 2:00 - 3:00	BLOCK 4 1:40 - 3:00

Lost and Found

Please check the lost and found table located outside the school office on the second floor for lost clothing items, umbrellas, shoes, binders, backpacks, water bottles etc.

For smaller items, please come to the school office. All items will be donated to charity at the end of the month.

Summer School

Summer school info is available: [VSB Summer School](#)

Please if you have any questions, see your counsellor. Students who are planning to take summer school classes are asked to adjust their course requests for next school year accordingly.

Youth Train in Trades

Grade 11s and 12s, if you are interested in pursuing a trade like plumbing, electrician, construction, etc, we encourage you to come and speak with your counsellor. VSB has an amazing option for this schooling. Here is a website: [youth-work-in-trades](#)

PAC NEWS

SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE: The committee has joined forces with the PACs from our two neighborhood elementary schools (École Jules Quesnel and Queen Elizabeth) to collectively address safety concerns along W. 16th Ave. The committee has also received excellent feedback from Vision Zero Vancouver, an organization that advocates for measures that reduce traffic deaths and injuries. The committee will be meeting with a traffic engineer from the City of Vancouver in the coming weeks.

BYNG ARTS PARENTS SUBCOMMITTEE: This committee has been very active and we invite you to go to the Byng PAC Byng Arts page for an update. <https://www.lordbyngpac.com/byng-arts-parents>

BYNG ARTS PARENTS GROUP: Several parents have started a Byng Arts parents group and parents are connecting over WhatsApp. Please see the Byng PAC website for info on how to connect and join.

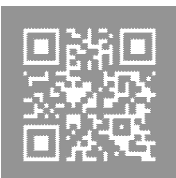
<https://www.lordbyngpac.com/byng-arts-parents> You can also email byngartsparents@gmail.com to be added to the Byng Arts parents email list.

WEDNESDAY MORNING WALKS IN PACIFIC SPIRIT PARK. For Parents who would like to enjoy nature while making new connections in the Byng community, please join us for our Wednesday walks. All are welcome. We will meet at the steps at the front of the school on Wed Feb 21st at 9:00 am. Please RVSP to Nora at noradyng@hotmail.com

SUPPORT LORD BYNG WHILE YOU BUY GROCERIES

The Lord Byng PAC has partnered with Sungiven and Stongs grocery stores. When you shop at either store, Byng receives a rebate (at no extra cost to you) and these funds are used to support clubs, activities, new programs, and new equipment at Byng.

- **Sungiven (Yuanchu)** – Purchase a pre-paid grocery card using this order form and Byng receives a percentage of the value of your purchase. Instructions: fill out the order form, pay for your pre-paid grocery card, and pick up your grocery card between 9-10am on the last day of the month at the Byng entrance facing Crown Street. Orders are due by the 25th of each month. The first 30 participants receive additional gifts from Sungiven. Orders can be paid by **etransfer**, **Wechat Pay** and **Union Pay** now. + [ORDER FORM](#)
- **Stongs Market** - Shop on-line at www.stongs.com and they will donate 4% back to Lord Byng PAC as part of their rebate program. Items can be purchased online and delivered to your home or picked up in-store. Select Lord Byng Secondary under “Choose a School for Our Rebate Program” during check-out (not available in-store). Any questions please email lbpacgiftcards@gmail.com.



PLEASE JOIN OUR PAC EMAIL LIST – The PAC has created its own email list to communicate directly with parents. **Please sign-up using the QR code below or by visiting the PAC website and clicking subscribe** <https://www.lordbyngpac.com/>

GRAD 2024 – To join the Parent Grad Committee Distribution list click here: <https://forms.gle/N7jgxoJs7w4LAUNe6>. For any questions about Grad Committee please email bynggradcommittee2024@gmail.com.

CHINESE PARENT SUPPORT INFORMATION:

每周学校新闻的中文版和中文播报将更新在PAC官网上

PAC 邮箱接受中文邮件，中国家长可以将他们的问题或者疑虑发中文邮件到 lordbyngschoolpac@gmail.com

2023/24 PAC Meeting Dates:

April 17, 2024

May 15, 2024

For any PAC-related questions or concerns please email us at lordbyngschoolpac@gmail.com or visit <https://www.lordbyngpac.com/>. We look forward to connecting with you!

2023/2024 School Fees

Please pay your school fees. Payment for school fees via [SchoolCash Online](#).

Vancouver Coastal Health – When Should I Keep My Sick Child Home from School?

Please keep your child home until they are able to participate fully in normal school activities or as told by a health care provider.

You can refer to the Vancouver Coastal Health resource:

<https://www.vch.ca/en/when-should-i-keep-my-sick-child-home-school>

Elevator Use for Students with Mobility Issues

We need to provide the safest means of transport for our community when they have mobility issues: currently our **elevators** work with a **key**.

Therefore, students experiencing mobility issues should be guided by staff to:

- Go to or send a student runner:
 - Basement - A006
 - 1st floor- A100
 - 2nd floor– School Office
 - 3rd floor –Rm A316 to obtain key/help

If any other difficulties, please contact the school office.

FORMS

Online forms: Please visit <http://myforms.vsb.bc.ca> and fill out the following forms online.

- 1) VSB Media Consent 2023 – 2024
- 2) External Media Consent Form – 2023 – 2024
- 3) Grade 4-12 AUP Form (Acceptable Use of Technology Policy) - very important, read through this carefully with your child.
- 4) Adobe CC Consent Form (for parents/guardians)
- 5) Adobe CC Acknowledgement of Use (for students)
- 6) CASL Consent Form 2023 -2024 (Communicating for parents and guardians)

When logging into <http://myforms.vsb.bc.ca> please make sure you are entering your child's PEN and not their student number. Students can find their PEN number on their report card.

Thank you for your cooperation, it is important that we have all families return/submit all of the forms posted here.

Counselling Update

Summer Learning with VSB

Here is the summer school information: [VSB Summer School](#)

Registration is open on May 1 just like last year. Please see your counsellor if you have any questions about summer school. We also hope that you adjust your course requests in MyEd according to your summer school plans.

Youth Train in Trades

Counsellors are calling all grade 10s, 11s, and 12s who might be interested in pursuing a trade like electrical, plumbing, construction/carpentry, and even hairdressing to come and talk to us about these opportunities. VSB has an amazing program, and if this is the right fit for you, then we can help you with the next steps: [Career Programs](#)

Course Planning Assemblies & Course Planning Info Night – Thursday, Feb 15th

Counsellors finished presenting course planning assemblies to all of our students. We also met parents last Thursday, and spoke about course selection.

MyEd will be open for students to make their selections until February 27.

Our biggest take away this year is to have a balanced approach and lots of engagement with our awesome school community.

A Big Thank you to all the parents/guardians who came out to support and help us with the course selection process. We want to say that we truly appreciate your help with guiding all of our students when choosing their courses for the upcoming school year.

All of the information regarding Course planning can be found on our [Course Planning Page](#)

Graduation Letter

Counsellors have finished meeting with all students who have any outstanding requirements towards their graduation. We will be emailing letters home, and also giving a copy to your student only if they have some outstanding courses needed for graduation. Please note that we will be working closely with these students and helping them plan a way to complete all of their high school grad requirements. Here is a blank form of our letter:

[Grade 12 Graduation Letter](#)

[Grad Requirement Letter](#)

Counselling Teams

Any new Byng students? Please let your counsellor know and ask them to add you to our Counselling Teams group. This is where we post a lot of information regarding: **post-secondary school options, scholarships**, extra-curricular opportunities, mental health resources, work opportunities, to name a few. Each grade has their own Counselling teams eg. Grade 12, 11, 10, 9 and 8 (Counselling 2023/24).

Art Info

Call For Yearbook Art Submissions – Deadline is March

Get your artwork into this year's annual!!! [CLICK HERE](#) to submit. Do this today, without delay.

Byng Arts

New Applicants to the Program –

First round offers to Grade 7s will be emailed to all successful applicants on February 28th. Messages will also be sent to applicants placed on the waitlist and to those who are not receiving an offer.

If offered a seat you will have until March 1st to respond. For applicants still on our waitlist and who have not accepted a seat elsewhere, a second round of offers will go out March 6th.

Please note, for students in Grades 8 to 11, offers will go out as soon as we determine our available seats in each grade – this may happen after the second round offers go out – please be patient.

Further information and our timeline can be found below or on our website: <https://byng2.vsb.bc.ca/byngarts/>




Email: byngarts@vsb.bc.ca with your questions.

Byng Arts Passport: passport.lordbyng.net

Passport tallies have been completed – we will send out this information in a specific Byng Arts Newsletter. If you did not complete the minimum number of entries, please sign up to see Mr. Hartley-Folz during FIT (<https://byng.myweeklyplanner.net/>) to get your passport requirements sorted. We will require everyone to have another seven entries by the end of May.

All successful accounts that have unlocked seven or more badges will be entered into a draw prize in the new year, so get your art on everyone!

Potential Badges to unlock:

<p>FEB Coffee House - Monday, Feb 12th</p> <p>Events</p>  <p>BE MINE and join the talented performers in the foyer on Monday, Feb 12th.</p>	<p>Eros</p> <p>General</p>  <p>Show your I<3ve for the ARTS by attending a show or participating in a performance in the month of February.</p>	<p>Winter Music Performance</p> <p>Music</p>  <p>Winter Music at Byng. Be part of the performance or attend as an audience member between January and March Break.</p>
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Byng Arts Student Council Info

Student council meets every Thursdays in room A223. Everyone is welcome. We will post updates on TEAMS and Instagram ([@byngartstudentcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/byngartstudentcouncil))

Meeting Notes

Teacher Fundraiser – Educators Extravaganza will take place March 13th

Target for future planning – spring event/tea party and April coffee house.

Hoodie orders have been received and payments will be done through SchoolCash Online, time to be announced.

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