Nov 6, 2026 | Lord Byng Secondary School | OUR VSB

November Newsletter

(604) 713–8171 I 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 xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - PLEASE TRANSLATE		Informations importantes - Veuillez traduire
这是一份重要信息 — 请找人为您翻译	महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें	معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة
Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika	Información importante - Por favor traducir	اطلاعات مهم - لطفا ترجمه کنید
Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch	重要な情報-翻訳してください	Важная информация - переведите, пожалуйста
ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ	중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다	מידע חשוב - אנא תרגם

The Fall Season...

I was observing a class a few days ago and was reminded of this time in the school year when teachers have established routines and students know each other. This often leads to engaged discussions. Two months in always began my favourite stretch as a teacher. It was a real pleasure to hear students debating and thinking and sharing ideas.

Our Fine Arts Department is heading into concert and performance season. Below you'll find information about upcoming choir, band, and strings concerts in November, and then they pass the baton to drama in December and January. Fall sports teams are in playoffs now. The best of luck to all our teams competing in the city championships. Winter sports are beginning, and clubs have begun meeting in earnest.

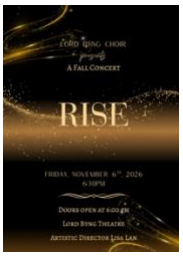
Lots happening inside and outside the classroom. It's a busy place. We look forward to connecting informally when the opportunity arises.

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

Music Concerts

The Choir concert is Nov 6. If you don't have tickets and want to attend, there may be some available at the door. The Band concert is Nov 13. Enter by cash donation at the door. The Strings concert is Nov 19th. Tickets for the Strings concert can be found here. All concerts are in the auditorium and begin at 6:30 pm.







Athletics Newsletter

Our Athletic Director, Kevin Sandher, publishes a newsletter every 2-3 weeks with information.

Counselling Department Information

We're grateful that Mr. Tsuchi was able to join us for school start-up. We wish him well at his next school. Welcome back to Ms. Schumacher who returns to work with students with last names M-T. Counsellors are available to support students with course planning and any other concerns they may have. They look forward to connecting with students and helping them however they can.

Counsellor	Email	Students' Last Names
Ms. Ward	award@vsb.bc.ca	A-G
Ms. Radic	jradic@vsb.bc.ca	H-L
Ms. Schumacher	sschumacher@vsb.bc.ca	M-T
Ms. VanderKlippe	mvanderklippe@vsb.bc.ca	U-Z

Student Absences

'Tis the season. When a student is ill, or away for an excused reason, we ask that a parent/guardian email the school at byngabsences@vsb.bc.ca. Please include your child's full name (first and last), student number, grade, date(s) of absence, whether the absence is for a full day or for part of the day, and the reason for absence. When reporting a partial day absence, please report the time your child will be away instead of which period to avoid confusion. Please copy teachers so they are aware. Email addresses are located on the school website.

Terry Fox Run



Thank you to long-time Byng teacher Byron Jack for continuing the tradition of The Terry Fox Run/Walk. The whole school participated on Oct 9th despite the wind. Thanks also to the PE department and Leadership students. We're almost at our goal of raising $3,000 for the Terry Fox Foundation and Cancer research. Since 2004, Lord Byng has raised over $60,000 for the Marathon of Hope. Thank you for your contributions.

https://schools.terryfox.ca/140050

Hallowe'en Dance

Thank you to Ms. Webster and her team of helpers for organizing this fun event. The small gym was transformed. Thanks also to our Student Council for hosting a Halloween Fashion Show at lunch. The gym was full. Lots of spirit. We hope everyone had a safe and happy Hallowe'en weekend.



Assessment and Reporting

In advance of the mid-semester report card, and to ensure families new to Byng have information about report cards at their fingertips, I'm including some repeat information from the September opening newsletter.

The purpose of assessment is to facilitate learning and move it forward in an equitable and inclusive way. It helps students answer three questions about their learning:

- Where am I now?
- Where am I going?
- How do I get there?

Quality assessment is ongoing and responsive. It informs the instruction cycle and provides **teachers** with evidence to plan. It helps **families** understand and support their children's learning. Most importantly, it provides **students** with meaningful feedback to guide their learning and help them reflect on their growth.

The provincial reporting policy requires that students in grades 8 and 9 receive a proficiency scale (*Emerging, Developing, Proficient, Extending*), while students in grade 10-12 courses will receive a letter grade and percentage.

If you have questions or concerns about your child's progress, please reach out to their teacher as soon as possible. Teacher contact information is on the school website: https://www.vsb.bc.ca/lord-byng/page/2784/our-staff

Reporting Schedule: Semester Courses

	Informal Learning Update (Interim)	**Written Learning Update** (Mid-Semester Report)	**Parent-Teacher Conferences**	**Summary of Learning** (Final Semester Report)
Sem 1	Oct 15	Nov 20	Nov 26	Feb 4
Sem 2	Mar 11	Apr 30	May 6	June 29

Reporting Schedule: Full Year Courses

	Informal Learning Update (Interim)	**Parent-Teacher Conferences**	**Written Learning Update 1**	**Written Learning Update 2**	**Final Year Report**
FY	Nov 20	Nov 26	Feb 4	Apr 30	June 29

Report Cards Published Nov 20th

At the end of the day Nov 20th, we'll publish the report cards to MyEd. **We recommend that you download and save a copy of all report cards for future reference.** Report cards are only available in MyEd for the current school year.

Follow these steps to access MyEd BC (there is only one account shared between student and parent/guardian):

1. Go to https://myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/logon.do
2. The login ID is your child's student number and last successful password.
   *If you haven't logged in before, the default password is Dist$2027 (case sensitive).
3. If you've forgotten your password, click the "*I forgot my password*" function. A password will be sent to your email account. Please click here for more detailed log in information and links to how-to guides.

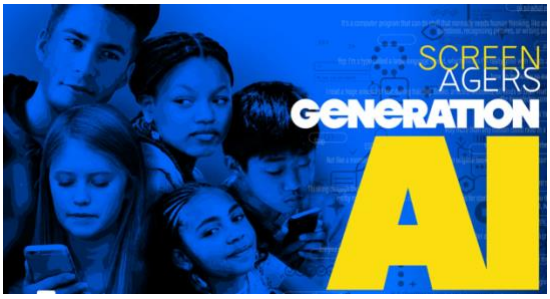
Core Competencies: All VSB Secondary students will be completing their Core Competencies self-assessments in the SpacesEDU platform. Please watch for an email from the VSB with a link to your child's digital portfolio. This email will be sent from the district office on Nov 27. If you do not receive an email by the end of November, it means that your child didn't complete their self-assessment. Please encourage them to do so, and if they need support please have them connect with their grade administrator (Grade 8-11 A-L: Albert Mann; Grade 8-11 M-Z: Diane Phillips; Grade 12: Krista Ediger).

Screenagers at Van Tech Secondary

Thank you to the team at Van Tech for sharing this opportunity with schools across the city.

Are you curious about how AI is shaping your child's learning, relationships, and mental health? Join us for a screening of ***Screenagers: Generation AI*** and a conversation about raising young people in the age of AI.

Date: Wednesday, November 25th **Time:** 7 - 9 pm (Doors Open at 6:30 pm) **Location**: Van Tech Auditorium (Free Parking Onsite) **Who:** Parents/caregivers and children in Grades 6 and up. **What:** Watch *Screenagers: Generation AI*, followed by a Q and A session **Cost:** Free!



Film Trailer: https://www.screenagersmovie.com/about-screenagers-generation-ai
Whether you're curious about AI and its impact, or simply looking for ways to support your child in an increasingly digital world, this evening will offer valuable insights and meaningful conversation. **Please note:** This film contains some discussion of suicide and death from substance use. Families are encouraged to consider whether these topics may be sensitive for individual viewers. Bring your family, friends, and neighbours. We look forward to learning together as a community.

Reserve Your Spot: Family Night Event: Screenagers: Generation AI – Fill out form





Traffic Notes

These reminders around e-bikes and scooters are from the Vancouver Police and are being shared with school communities across the city.

In addition, our adjustment to permanent daylight standard time means more daylight in the afternoon and darker mornings. However you get around, consider these tips to help make the school commute safer for everyone. These are taken from the Vancouver School District Website.

Walking and cycling: help drivers see you:

- Wear bright clothes or add reflective strips to backpacks and jackets.
- Use front and rear lights when cycling.
- Choose sidewalks and well-lit routes.
- Cross at marked crosswalks and follow traffic signals.
- Stop, look and listen before crossing.
- Make sure cars are stopped before stepping onto the road.
- Put phones and devices away.

Driving: please slow down during morning drop-offs and when driving near schools:

- Slow down and obey school-zone speed limits.
- Turn on your full headlights, not only daytime running lights.
- Watch for students at crosswalks and corners.
- Keep your phone out of reach.
- Leave a few extra minutes to avoid a rush.
- Follow your school's directions when you drop off and pick up students.

*At Byng, please note the sign at our driveway. No student drop-off or student parking during school hours. Wherever possible, it's most helpful to drop students off a couple of blocks away. Thank you for your cooperation.



PAC News

From the Grade 12 Grad Committee

The Grad Committee is continuing to raise money for the dinner & dance next June. We have a number of fundraisers coming up this month, including:

- **Garage sale** this Saturday, Nov. 7, from 10-3, at Dunbar Community Centre. Donate your pre-loved or new treasures before 9:30 a.m., or come by and see what's on offer during the sale.
- **Bottle drive** on Sunday, Nov. 15, from 10-4, in the Byng parking lot. Bring your empties and support Grad! Volunteers are also needed — sign up at https://forms.gle/DENbcztN8yiW7Wkq5.
- **Holiday plant sale**: Order your holiday plants and greenery by Nov. 19, and pick up at Byng on Dec. 4.
- **Purdys chocolates:** Order your winter treats and up to 30% of your purchase goes to our Grad event. Purdys will now ship anywhere in Canada, making their chocolates a perfect holiday gift.

Learn more about our events and fundraisers by signing up for our Grad email list. Signing up will also help us match you with your child when we get into ticket purchase season.

A message from Lord Byng PAC

Our next PAC meeting is November 18th at 6:30pm in the Lord Byng library. Everyone welcome.

Every contribution makes a difference. If you have time, skills, ideas, or simply a willingness to help, we'd love to hear from you!

Art News

Upcoming art events at Byng:

Friday, November 6th – Choir Concert, 6:30pm in the Theatre

Friday, November 13th – Band Concert, 6:30pm in the Theatre

Thursday, November 19th – Strings Concert, 6:30pm in the Theatre

December 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 7th – Drama 10 Presents *Haters*, 6:30pm in the Theatre

National Portfolio Day – Saturday, November 21st

Participating schools include local institutions Capilano University, Emily Carr University, and Kwantlen Polytechnic University; as well as Alberta University of the Arts, Concordia University, NSCAD University, OCAD University, and York University.

International participants include ArtCenter College of Design, California College of the Arts, California Institute of the Arts, College for Creative Studies, Maryland Institute College of Art, Otis College of Art and Design, Paris College of Art, Parsons School of Design and Parsons Paris at The New School, and the School of Visual Arts.

This is a one-day opportunity for your students to gain meaningful feedback and meet admissions representatives face-to-face.

Click HERE to Register and for more information on the event.

Byng Arts News

New Applicants to the Program – APPLICATION ENVELOPES NOW AVAILABLE

Online Portal Open November 16th: https://byng2.vsb.bc.ca/byngarts/HowToApply/BAHowToApply.html

The Byng Arts Mini School has a long history at Lord Byng. Established in 1999 to acknowledge the creative energy and strong programs in our senior Strings and Drama departments it has grown to encompass all grades and offer opportunities not only in Strings and Drama but also Visual Art, Band, Choir, and Media Arts, with further opportunities available in Literary Arts in Grade 11 and 12.

Byng Arts has all the benefits of a large high school, while also maintaining a strong sense of community. In addition to an enriched curriculum in their fine art focus, all students in Byng Arts participate in events that feature community artists, musicians, and performers, thereby strengthening the collaboration between Byng and the professional arts community.

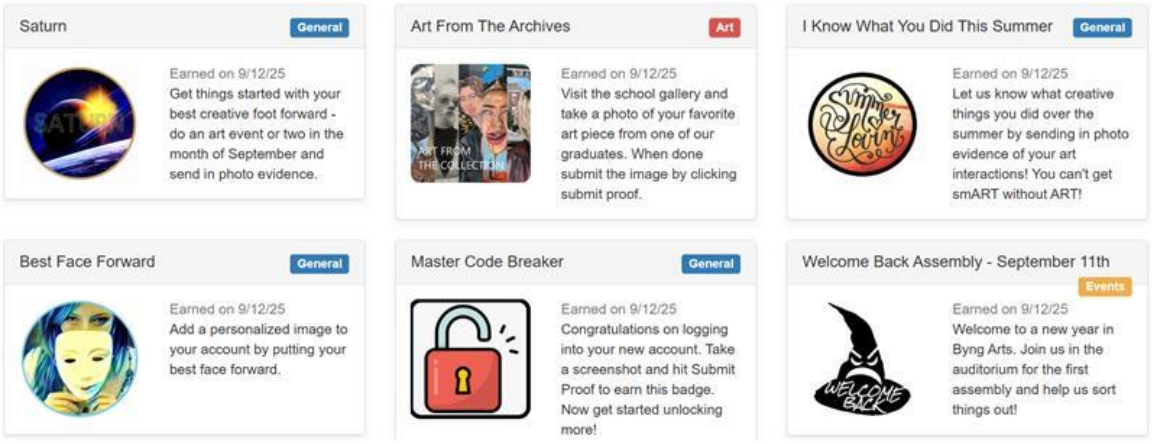
If you are interested in joining the Byng Arts program, please visit our website for the most up to date information on the application process: http://byng2.vsb.bc.ca/byngarts/ or email byngarts@vsb.bc.ca with your questions.

Byng Arts Passport: http://byngartspassport.ca/

Byng Arts values and rewards student involvement in both school-based and community arts activities. Track and showcase your participation by recording your experiences in your online Byng Arts Passport.

A trip to an art gallery, music performance, film fest event or a drama performance can all contribute to our artistic development. Involvement in a performance is also a great way to grow as an artist.

This is a fun, but mandatory part of your program at Byng Arts. Byng Arts Passports are reviewed every January and May and students are expected to have recorded seven or more events for each submission date. Students should log in using the steps in the post above, right away without delay. Start building your record of your involvement in the Arts!!!



Steps:

1. Log On http://byngartspassport.ca/
2. Upload a Profile Picture (small file size please)
3. Unlock a badge by uploading photo of you at the event or an image of a ticket of your art activities
   Badges to Unlock:
   - Master Code Breaker - Log on and submit a screen shot
   - Best Face Forward - Upload a profile picture
   - I Know What You Did Last Summer - send a photo of your summer ART activities by clicking "Submit Proof"
   - Saturn - share your September art activities
   - Arachne: share your October art activities
   - Neptune: share your November art activities

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

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 GALA

The Gala is our annual celebration for students in Byng Arts. The event takes place at the Roundhouse Community Centre on Tuesday, December 1st. Doors open at 4:30pm and students should be in their seats by 5:20pm. The event begins formally at 5:30. The evening ends at 9pm.

The evening begins with a series of student performances, so remember to be a good audience by staying focused and not talking while your fellow students are on stage. Dinner is often a healthy choice of pizza, chips, and soda.

We will conclude with a costume contest, dance, and games area for those who don't feel like dancing.

It's a school night and a school event so all the normal school expectations around behaviour apply.

Our theme is the red carpet, Hollywood, movies and TV, so start planning out your costume. Turn yourself into a character from your favorite movie, or dress up as a letter from the Hollywood sign with 9 of your friends - the possibilities are endless. Get started today, the event is less than a month away.

BYNG ARTS PARENT SURVEY

Although high school offers fewer opportunities for parental involvement, we have some upcoming initiatives that Byng Arts parents may be able to offer their expertise and energy. Please take a moment to complete this survey/contact list and help us review our potential resources within our parent community. Our Byng Arts Gala will take place in December and this form will give you a chance to put your name forward to help.

Byng Arts Parent Survey Link: Parent Contact List (2026) – Fill out form

We also have an active parent community and they have created a WhatsApp Group.

Parent What's App Group Link: https://chat.whatsapp.com/H2FICgB6fTY0qIEc4XmnzV

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

Week at a Glance Nov 9 – 13

Mon, Nov 9	Tues, Nov 10	Wed, Nov 11	Thurs, Nov 12	Fri, Nov 13
	No FIT today Remembrance Day Assemblies Univ of Waterloo @lunch	Remembrance Day School is not in session	Core Competencies in FIT	AMS 10/12 Math Contest in FIT Band Concert 6:30pm

Looking Ahead (Calendar Highlights)

Nov 2-6	Grade 12 Literacy Assessments
Nov 6	Choir Fall Concert 6:30pm Auditorium
Nov 10	Remembrance Day Assemblies
Nov 11	Remembrance Day (no school)
Nov 13	Band Fall Concert 6:30pm Auditorium
Nov 16	Block Flip: 2-1-4-3
Nov 19	Strings Fall Concert 6:30pm Auditorium
Nov 20	Report Cards Published 3pm
Nov 20	ProD Day District-wide
Nov 25	Collab Day – 10am start for students
Nov 26	Parent Teacher Conferences – Early Dismissal at 2pm

Dec 1	Byng Arts Gala
Dec 2	Immunization Clinic
Dec 2, 3, 4, 7	Byng Arts 10 Performance 6:30pm Tickets on SchoolCash Online or at the door (cash or tap)
Dec 8	Gr 8 ADST Rotation 3 begins
Dec 9	Elementary Music Concert
Dec 15, 17	Grade 8 Winter Fair (FIT and Period 4)
Dec 18	Airband in the afternoon in the Gym
Dec 21-Jan 1	Winter Break
Jan 4	First Day of School after Winter Break
Jan 12, 13, 14	Byng Arts 9 Performance 6:30pm Tickets on SchoolCash Online or at the door (cash or tap)
Jan 13	Course Planning Assemblies
Jan 18-22	Make-Up Literacy and Numeracy Assessments for Grade 11&12 students
Jan 20	Collab Day – Early Dismissal at 1:40
Jan 22	Strings/Choir Concert 6:30pm
Jan 28	Band Concert 6:30pm
Feb 1 & 2	Turnaround Days (teachers available but no classes)
Feb 3	Semester 2 Begins
Feb 4	Semester 1 Report Cards Published

The year-long calendar with the main dates (breaks, prod days) can be found here.