



# October Newsletter

(604) 713-8171 | [www.vsb.bc.ca/lord-byng](http://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

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 - لطفاً ترجمه کنید

Важная информация - переведите, пожалуйста

מידע חשוב - אנא תרגם

## One Month Exactly...

...from the first full day of school. Hard (for us) to believe.

In the pages to come we continue to share school-opening reminders, while also highlighting some of what we've been up to this month. Importantly, we have completed our staffing process and we welcome these teachers new to Lord Byng's staff: Troy Collins (Science and Resource), Heather Froste (Indigenous Education Teacher-Fridays), Jacob Schwartz (Math), Marissa Serafini (English), Andrea Webster (Art), Elizabeth Weiler (English and Resource). We also welcome staff covering leaves this year: Jeff Christensen (English), Claudine Davies (Counselling), Serena Lee (Art), Mary Smith (Counselling), Hanna Wu (English).

September brings change as teachers and support staff and students get to know each other and establish class norms and routines. By the end of the month, things have settled as much as they ever settle in a busy high school. Our conversations with students also shift from "Can I help you find your class" to "What are you learning and why is it important?" We know how essential relevance and meaning are for learning and it's our collective work to support students to articulate and uncover connections between the classroom and what lies beyond.

Thank you for your patience through the start-up. We're excited for the fall.

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

## Grade 8 Camp

A reminder to arrive at 6am Wednesday morning and to bring a bagged lunch. Any questions? Please email Ms. Anderson or Mr. Sandher: [landerson@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:landerson@vsb.bc.ca) or [ksandher@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:ksandher@vsb.bc.ca) -thank you and we can't wait!

## Terry Fox Run



The weather couldn't have been better despite the forecast. We had a wonderful event. Most of our students walked the trails, supported by staff and student helpers. Thank you to all those who participated, and a special thank you to Mr. Jack, Mr. Sandher and his Leadership class, and all the students and staff who ran and who cheered everyone on so positively on the field.

Our school goal this year is to raise \$10,000 in support of the Terry Fox Foundation. If you would like to donate directly to the Terry Fox Foundation

Lord Byng Account, [please use this link](#). Thank you for supporting this meaningful event.

## Orange Shirt Day

Thank you to Mr. McKeen and Ms. Tarnowsky for sharing their thinking around Elder Albert Marshall's concept of Two-Eyed Seeing with the school community, and to everyone who participated in the conversations on Monday. We listened to Indigenous knowledge-keepers from the Mi'kmaq and Musqueam Nations and highlighted the importance of centering Indigenous voices and knowledge not only in and around the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, but throughout the year.



## Grade 8 rotation



Grade 8 students have already completed their first Applied Skills rotation and are onto their next course. The rotation gives them a chance to sample a variety of classes. This is what they made in their Textiles class.

## Immunization Consent Forms – Due Oct 8<sup>th</sup> (Gr 9s)

Immunization consent forms were handed out to grade 9 students and students who require immunization. Please return signed forms to the school office by Wednesday, Oct 8<sup>th</sup>. The immunization clinic will take place in the morning on Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> in the lower cafeteria.

Any questions, please contact our school nurse: Kylie Dawson, RN(C), BScN, Public Health Nurse, Child & Youth Team. Email: [kylie.dawson@vch.ca](mailto:kylie.dawson@vch.ca)

## Parent Session: Raising AI Ready Youth

The VSB is proud to present a live virtual presentation with The White Hatter, open to all VSB parents. Sign up with your email and the name of the school your child(ren) attend(s). Our team will send a video conference link and pass code closer to the day. [This is the registration link](#). Please register today if this is of interest to you. The White Hatter has presented at many Vancouver schools and schools across the lower mainland and beyond. He's an engaging speaker and shares a lot of good information. [Learn more about The White Hatter here](#). (You will have received an email about this already—this is the same engagement session that was described in the email that was sent to all parents in the VSB on Wednesday, Oct 1<sup>st</sup>.)

**Date:** Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 6pm-7:30pm

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## Raising Digitally Responsible Youth

Safer Schools Together has published [an updated guide for parents and caregivers](#). It's comprehensive and provides an overview of social media apps and video gaming. Even if we don't use certain apps, it's helpful to know a little bit about them to support our kids as they navigate these digital platforms. There's an important disclaimer that the information is current as of publication given how quickly things shift in the on-line world. They've also included a section that includes general household suggestions, "tips [that] are intended to be used in whole or in part alongside your personal parenting methods." Below are three suggestions from the guide.

**Have a central charging station!** If possible, have a central charging station for all portable digital devices. The kitchen table or island, living room, or another communal area in your house is a great place to keep *all* household devices charged at night, including your own. Modeling digitally responsible behavior and setting an example for our children that we do not need to sleep with our device(s) helps our children understand they do not need to either.

**Know our children's passwords.** It is your parental and caregiving right. You paid for the device your child uses, which means...you guessed it. You own it. You have the right to spot-check devices that belong to you, including the ones that you gave your child. It is also essential for us to know our children's passwords in case anything happens and is to their benefit in case they forget their passwords.

**Remember the permanency of the internet.** We must remind our children about their digital tattoo and how what they post online and send electronically can have lasting impacts. Not *everything* we post online stays, but we do not get to decide what stays and what does not.

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## Grade 12 Literacy Assessment

As part of the BC graduation program, all students need to complete the Grade 10 Literacy Assessment, the Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment and the Grade 12 Literacy Assessment. The Grade 12 Literacy Assessment is scheduled for the week of **November 3<sup>rd</sup> – November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. (The Grade 10 Literacy and Numeracy Assessments will be scheduled in the spring.)

For more details on the Grade 12 Literacy Assessment, including what the assessment looks like and samples, please go to this link: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-12-literacy-assessment>. The schedule for students will be posted mid-October in front of the main office and on the Grade 12 Teams Channel. Please make sure to take note of the date and time for your scheduled assessment. All assessments will be written in the library.

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## School Fees

School fees are now available to view and pay online through [SchoolCashOnline](#). Families must set up an account to pay for school fees using debit or a credit card, or a cheque online. Please pay as soon as possible. Thank you.

## Student Absences

'Tis about to become the season. When a student is ill, or away for an excused reason, a parent/guardian must email the school at [byngabsences@vsb.bc.ca](mailto: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.

## Counselling Department Information

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. There was a parent night for grade 12s last Monday evening. If you missed it or would like to refer to the slides, [please use this link](#).

### For Grade 10-12 Parents:

EducationPlannerBC is hosting the **Parents as Education and Career Coaches (PECC)** virtual presentation to parents and student supporters in the **Vancouver Region on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, from 6:30pm-7:45pm**. Learn about post-secondary education and career opportunities, and resources to support your student in planning for their future. The information will be especially helpful for families with students in grades 10-12.

**Register at:** <https://www.educationplannerbc.ca/events/pecc-oct7>

Visit our [Parents & supporters](#) website for our event calendar and helpful resources.

For more information, contact [support@educationplannerbc.ca](mailto:support@educationplannerbc.ca)

Counsellor	Email	Students' Last Names
Ms. Milinazzo	<a href="mailto:kmilinazzo@vsb.bc.ca">kmilinazzo@vsb.bc.ca</a>	A-G
Ms. Radic	<a href="mailto:jradic@vsb.bc.ca">jradic@vsb.bc.ca</a>	H-L
Ms. Davies (until Oct 10)/Ms. Smith (from Oct 14-end Dec)	<a href="mailto:cdavies@vsb.bc.ca">cdavies@vsb.bc.ca</a> / <a href="mailto:msmith@vsb.bc.ca">msmith@vsb.bc.ca</a>	M-T
Ms. Vanderklippe/Ms. Davies	<a href="mailto:mvanderklippe@vsb.bc.ca">mvanderklippe@vsb.bc.ca</a> / <a href="mailto:cdavies@vsb.bc.ca">cdavies@vsb.bc.ca</a>	U-Z

## Assessment and Reporting

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?

## LORD BYNG OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

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** (we made an error in the September newsletter; we've highlighted the corrections)

### Semester Courses

	Informal Learning Update (Interim)	Written Learning Update (Mid-Semester Report)	Parent-Teacher Conferences	Summary of Learning (Final Semester Report)
<b>Sem 1</b>	Oct 9	Nov 14	Nov 20	Jan 29
<b>Sem 2</b>	Mar 5	Apr 24	Apr 30	June 25

### Full Year Courses

	Informal Learning Update (Interim)	Parent-Teacher Conferences	Written Learning Update 1	Written Learning Update 2	Final Year Report
<b>FY</b>	Nov 19	Nov 20	Jan 29	Apr 29	June 25

Your child's report card is electronic and will be published to their MyEducation BC account. **We recommend that you download and save a copy of all report cards for future reference.**

## Week at a Glance Oct 6 – Oct 10

Mon, Oct 6	Tues, Oct 7	Wed, Oct 8	Thurs, Oct 9	Fri, Oct 10
University of Victoria visit 11:30 AUD		Grade 8 Camp  Career Education Assemblies for grade 9-11 students	Grade 8 Camp  Career Education Assemblies for grade 9-11 students (No FIT)  Semester 1 Interim Reports Published	ProD Day: No School for Students



## World Teachers' Day Oct 5, 2025

Please join us in thanking teachers at Byng for their dedication, skill, and passion. We celebrate their work and the energy they bring to helping students grow their understanding of the world and their place within it. One day feels—not enough. This day gives me the chance to pause and think back to my favourite teacher—he taught me Math and Science in grade 8, 9, and 10. I went on to study English Lit, so it wasn't the subject, it was his manner. He was fully engaged, and we engaged alongside him. He gave us no choice in the best way possible. He reminds me of Einstein's words: "It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge."



## Art News

### Upcoming art events at Byng:

Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> – Band Concert, 6:30pm in the Theatre  
Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> – Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup> – Drama 9 Presents “Clash in Character”  
7pm in the Theatre  
Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> – Choir Concert, 6:30pm in the Theatre  
Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup> – Band Concert, 6:30pm in the Theatre  
Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> – Strings Concert, 6:30pm in the Theatre

### Call for Artists! We Need Your Help!



Hey artists, we want your artwork for the next show in the gallery. Drop off your art creations in the gallery for our October show. Thank you to those who have already submitted their artwork. I was happy to see that you included your name and contact info on the back of your artwork. We look forward to adding it to the gallery next week. Keep your artwork coming!  
See Mr. Hartley-Folz in the gallery or upstairs in the art room if you have any questions.

### Emily Carr Open House

Get a behind-the-scenes look at our studios, experience hands-on learning in action, and meet the next generation of artists, designers, and makers. Experience the vibrancy of ECU's campus and discover how creativity is driving innovation across culture, industry, and society.

#### Event Details

Location: Emily Carr University of Art + Design, 520 E 1st Ave, Vancouver

Date: October 10, 2025

Time: 10:30am to 11:15pm - Commemorative Launch

We welcome you to explore the ECU 100 Open House following the commemorative launch. From 11:15am to 2:00pm, enjoy activities and activations at your leisure.

### [RSVP TO ATTEND](#)

## National Portfolio Day – Saturday, November 8th

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.

## National Youth Orchestra – Applications Open

Youth musicians from across Canada can apply for a 5-week summer training institute and 3-week tour. Under the direction of a globally recognized conductor and world-renowned faculty of professional musicians and educators, participants receive individual, sectional, chamber, and orchestral instruction, including masterclasses and workshops.

Program Dates: Mid-June to Early August 2026

Location: Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo Campus

Important Dates

October 1: Applications Open

February 1: Auditions Due

March: Orchestra Announced

Find out more: [2026 Preview – NYO Canada](#)

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## Byng Arts News

New Applicants to the Program – **APPLICATION ENVELOPES NOW AVAILABLE**

**INFO NIGHT – October 21st**

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.

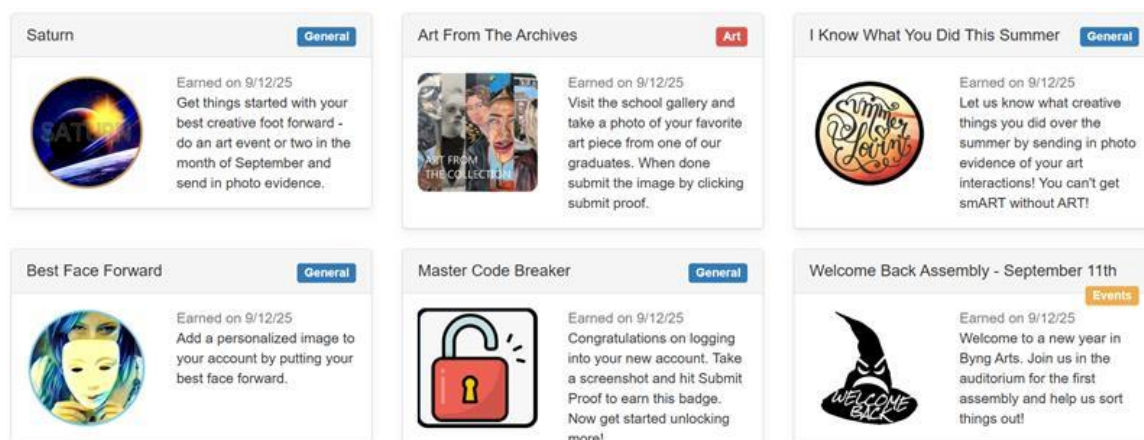
If you are interested in joining the Byng Arts program, please visit our website for the most up to date information on the application process: <http://byng2.vsb.bc.ca/byngarts/>

### Byng Arts Passport: [passport.lordbyng.net](http://passport.lordbyng.net)

Byng Arts students are encouraged to and rewarded for their participation in school-based and community-based arts events. Record your interactions 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://passport.lordbyng.net/>
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



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

Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/JyvcTW3tPG>



### MAKING A STRONG START – You can't spell start without ART.

Staff and students in the mini-school did their best to put ART into our September start. We greeted our new Grade 8s with the traditional House sorting followed by the Byng Arts Sports Day event. The House competition between the five Houses of Shakespeare, Da Vinci, Mozart, Hepburn, and Fitzgerald has begun for all grades and we have launched our first year of Art Connoisseurs (Tourism 12) for our graduating students. This week we welcomed Shayna Jones for a morning performance of African stories and music. Student Council is hard at work planning for our October 20<sup>th</sup> Coffee House and our December 1<sup>st</sup> Gala. Stay tuned for more updates on volunteer opportunities.

*Welcome Back, I look forward to a fun and creative year ahead.*

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

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## PAC News

### From the Grad Committee to Gr 12 Parents

[Please use this link](#) to a google form that will help us gather contact information. Thank you in advance.

### A message from Lord Byng PAC

Consider joining our PAC executive. We are in need of folks to fill positions such as VP, Secretary, Treasurer, and many Member-at-Large positions. All are welcome. Please email [lordbyngschoolpac@gmail.com](mailto:lordbyngschoolpac@gmail.com)

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