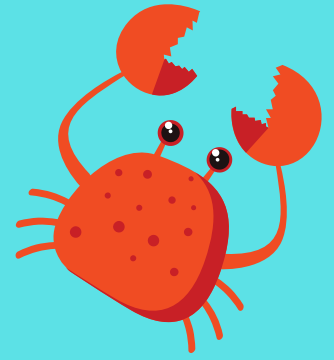




WELCOME! summer



Dear Byng Families,

Wow! It's been a wonderful year full of learning, growing and building community fun!

Along with celebrating all of our learning in June comes good-byes to some staff. We will miss them very much but know that they are off to new adventures and one lucky one; retirement!

Please join us in saying goodbye to the following staff:

Mrs. Dennis
Mrs. Harrington
Miss Bahd
Ms. Johns
Ms. Wong
Miss Wilson

Mr. Adams
Ms. MacLaren
Ms. Green
Mrs. Leithman
Mr. O'Reilly
Miss Cross

Mrs. Tezuka
Ms. Lucke
Mrs. Wolinsky
Ms. Dhillon
Miss Rainey

Our Grade 7 students are off to high school and so excited to make their mark in the next phase of their lives, such a wonderful time!

And a farewell to some of our Byng Bears that are moving on to different schools. We have really enjoyed having you here and wish you all the best at your new schools. We are so fortunate here at Byng to have a staff that cares so much for children and we thank each and every one of them for all that they do for our community. Working as a team with you as parents makes your child's school experience so much more meaningful.

We will email families in early September to let you know where to go on the first day back to school on Tuesday, September 5th.

Ms. Lee and I wish you all a fantastic summer full of fun, sun, and good health. We are looking forward to working with you all in the 2023-24 school year.

All the best!

Ms. Schulz and Ms. Lee





Hello families,

I was thinking of how I could come to symbolize my experiences and years at Byng, the other morning when I arrived at my usual start time of 7:30, and looked up at our magnificent oak tree, Mr. Oakley, as my Kindergarten class so many years ago came to name it, that grows just outside of my classroom door. Up high on its branches there was a squirrel, who was jumping from branch to branch, whilst a Sapsucker hammered away at the treasures hidden in the bark. I often purposefully walk across the grassy patch to and from my parking spot to touch its bark and admire its steadfastness.

The tree.

It has always been there.

Standing strong, year after year, season after season, providing opportunities for learning, reflection, and observation.

Each Fall brought the end of another growing season, when Oakley would drop its leaves and acorns. The branches bare, blanketed with the frost of Winters, soon would bear the buds of new leaves and grow into a canopy of green overhead. Year after year, for the past 80 or more years, Oakley has been rooted in that very spot. It has history.

Like the tree, so many of you and I too have history rooted here in this place we call Lord Byng. Some of you are long time residents of Steveston/Richmond and some are Lord Byng alumni! I first started my career at Byng in 1993, in a portable bought from the Surrey School District for a dollar. I was so very thankful I had finally got a job teaching Grades 3 /4 and eventually 2/3 where I would become rooted.

I was an acorn... still needing time to grow and to flourish in the presence of some pretty amazing people, teachers, parents, and children. From the early days of my career to my current role, I have learned so much from my years as a Primary teacher.

After 17-ish years, I decided I wanted to try my hand at teaching Kindergarten, so in 2010 I started on a new adventure! I have witnessed the joy, excitement, and nervousness of the newest Byng students for the past 13 years. I like them was an acorn, waiting to learn and to grow from the experiences we would share in our play.

And so the branches grew.... 30 years and thousands of little acorns have touched my heart. I have been blessed. We are all united by the experiences, the memories, and the stories we share in our community. We hold these in our hearts and in doing so let the history of this place live within us. I want to leave you with this quote from Maya Angelou which I feel reflects my heart today.

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Thank you for making me feel loved.

Mrs. Dennis

