



# BYRON SOMERSET PUBLIC SCHOOL

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**Newsletter #8**

**June 1, 2021**



## Principal's Message

Once again we find ourselves in the month of June!! It has been and continues to be a crazy ride! The staff at Byron Somerset P.S., wish to extend their sincere thanks and appreciation for all your support this past year. We know it has not been easy.

A couple of housekeeping items to note. Thank you to all our families for completing the Declaration of Learning Model for next year. This deadline has now passed. All families who were unable to provide a response will be counted as part of our in-person organization. All schools will be looking forward to receiving their updated school organizations in the week ahead in order to best plan for the fall!

As with every June, we have some staffing changes to announce at this time. To begin, Mrs. Jane Murray, one of our amazing EA team members has retired this past April 30<sup>th</sup>. Jane was an anchor of our EA team for many years and will be missed. Replacing Jane is Miss Jessica Fleming – congratulations on your first permanent contract Jess!! You are an amazing addition to Somerset and we are lucky to have you. I would also like to welcome Ms. Mary Mungar to our EA team who began with us this past February!

Unfortunately, we also have to say goodbye to Mrs. Tracy Weightman, as she is also retiring. Mrs. Weightman has only been with us for a couple years but has left an unforgettable mark on the many children she has taught over the years in the variety of roles she has held. We will miss you but wish you all the best in the years ahead!

I would also like to formally welcome a new Long Term Occasional teacher, Miss Mhegan Kusi-Appiah who has taken over for Miss Furgal until the end of the year in the Gr. 4/5 class. In the fall we are super excited to welcome back Mrs. Kali Best from her recent maternity leave. Additionally, I want to thank Mrs. Sri and Miss Noddle who have filled in for Ms. Pasko this past year. They have been amazing additions to our school and will be greatly missed!! We look forward to welcoming back Ms. Pasko in the fall! I also want to thank Mrs. Gasparik who was an amazing ECE 'partner in crime', with Mrs. JeKl this year. Welcome back Mrs. Fania this past month, from her maternity leave!

New staff to Somerset are Ms. Danielle Crukley, coming to us from University Heights P.S., Mrs. Launa Lopez coming to us from Northbrae P.S. and Mrs. Laura Leeper coming to us from Sir

Arthur Currie P.S. Each of these teachers will also be amazing additions to our Somerset staff and I know are super excited to also be joining our Somerset team!

This past spring, several staff members, parents, community members and two Gr. 8 students, took some time to focus discussion on Byron Somerset's Safe and Inclusive School Plan (SISP). In examining school data specific to our school needs, we identified that Somerset would benefit from further work in the area of supporting our ever-increasing **student diversity**. Please take a moment to look at some of our school data as well as our SISP plan. This data and our plan has also been shared with our School Council members, for their input as well. We are excited to be more intentional around this work come the fall, when hopefully we are back to living a more 'normal' school experience.

First Day Procedures for September 2021, will be communicated to all families later in August, once student and staff safety protocols are clear for the fall.

A final word of personal gratitude and appreciation to each of our families, as I transition from Somerset to Parkview P.S., beginning June 29<sup>th</sup>. It has been my honour and privilege serving you and our students these past six years. I wish all you the best in good health and happiness.

Kindest regards.  
Mr. Pratt

# Thames Valley District School Board



Byron Somerset is committed to providing all students with a safe, caring, and inclusive learning environment free from bullying and harassment that promotes respect, acceptance, and empathy.

Byron Somerset staff, students, parents, and community will work together as a team to make our school safe and welcoming for everyone.

## Safe and Inclusive School Plan

### Ensuring Positive Learning Environments



This year we are focusing on creating an inclusive environment that is equitable and celebrates diversity.

We are doing this because Byron Somerset is becoming an increasingly diverse community. In doing this we will see an improvement in student well-being and sense of belonging.



#### Throughout the year, we will be:

1. Facilitating 'Student Voice' (Student Parliament, Student Council, etc.)
2. Engaging with our community partners and families/guardians about diversity and fostering equity and inclusion.
3. Acknowledging cultural celebrations within our school community and beyond through Classroom Activities, Library Learning Commons, School Newsletter, Assemblies and Announcements.



#### Community/Home Connections

Ask your child about the different cultural celebrations discussed at school.

Encourage your child/children to use their voice for advocacy and to be an Upstander.



Check out this resource LUSO ([lusocentre.org](http://lusocentre.org)) a multicultural neighbourhood resource centre servicing London.



Languages Spoken at Byron Somerset PS

