

Bettye Hyde Newsletter

December 2006



Co-operative Nursery School

The passing of Bettye Hyde

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of Bettye Hyde at the age of 88. She was one of the first people in Ottawa to see the benefit in child-centred play and to fully appreciate the importance of early childhood learning. Her contribution to the development of early childhood education in this area was legendary and she remained an active community campaigner until her death. For more information about this remarkable woman go to www.bettyehyde.com and follow the link to an article about her life.

Festival of Lights

It's time again for the annual Festival of Lights, brought to you by Bettye Hyde Cooperative Nursery School. The event is from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and the children's concert will start at 6:30 p.m. in the church gymnasium. Please bring your family and finger food for 4 – 6 people. You will also need your own glasses, cutlery and something to drink. Last year was a huge success and we look forward to a great turnout. Should you have any questions, feel free to ask one of the teachers or a board member.

The Great Grape Raffle

The Great Grape Raffle is rapidly approaching and the competition is heating up for top seller. Please, please, please try to sell as many tickets as you can. Our target is \$1500 – it would be fantastic to achieve or to surpass this mark. Many thanks for all your efforts!

Wine

If you haven't done so already please bring in **a bottle of wine** for the Great Grape Raffle **by no later than Friday, Dec 1**. Without the wine, there will be no prizes for the raffle and wow there will be some unhappy campers out there!

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Holiday Hamper

Each year BH provides a holiday hamper to a family in need in the community. BH families are asked to contribute to this hamper. A list of items required to fill the hamper will be posted at the school. Please sign your name against the item that you will donate and bring this item in by no later than Monday, December 18. Thank you.

Exciting News

When we return from the holidays in January we will have some changes to our excellent teaching staff. Our brave director Cindy will be heading out on an adventure with her husband and son to Australia. Cindy will be away for one year. Our ever capable teachers Janet and Lisa will step into Cindy's shoes and become co-directors. Our newest addition, Catherine will bump up to full time teacher and a newer face Claudia will join the team. Danielle will continue as part time. We have an excellent staff of teachers and they work very well together. If you have any questions, please ask any teacher or any member of the board. Please join us to bid a fond farewell 'til next year to Cindy. We will miss you and wish you and your family well on your Aussie adventure. Good day mate!!!!

Post Christmas clean up? Too many toys? Do you have gently used children's items (clothing, books, toys, snowsuits, etc.) to donate to the Bettye Hyde Spring Fair? If so please contact us at (613) 236-3108. Pick-up can be arranged. Tax receipts given for larger items. Many thanks for your help!!

Criminal Reference Checks (CRC)

Parents please bring your CRC's into BH School once you have received them from the police. The Director will then make a note of your "status" and return the forms to you for your records

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What's been happening lately???

Building Strong Boards Work Shop

BH Board members attended the "Building Strong Boards Work Shop" in November. This workshop is a Strong Boards/Volunteer Ottawa initiative funded by the Province of Ontario. The workshop focussed on board member roles and responsibilities. Both new and old board members alike found this to be a useful workshop and walked away with great tips to improve an already solidly functioning board.

Dream...The Symphony of Inclusion – Lisa Lajoie

On November 17th, I attended The Symphony Of Inclusion conference put on by Children's Integration Support Services. CISS is an organization that works in partnership with the childcare community to support the inclusion of children who have special needs.

CISS provides support to Bettye Hyde specifically, in two very important ways. Our school receives funding that allows for a program assistant five mornings a week, enabling the teachers to meet the individual needs of the children in our program. We are also fortunate enough to have a wonderful Integration Advisor, Ingrid Fish. Ingrid is most likely a familiar face to many of you already. She visits our school regularly to observe the program and provide the teachers with ideas and resources to help us create an environment at Bettye Hyde that is inclusive to all children.

Events such as the Symphony Of Inclusion conference is another way CISS offers support to the community. It was a well-organized day filled with dynamic keynote speakers and informative workshops that inspired me and truly reaffirmed that "all children belong".

CPR Course

Janet, Lisa and Catherine took part in a CPR course on November 19 to ensure they are ready in a case of an emergency.

Other odds and ends

Teacher's Wish List

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3 minute egg timer

Need a tax break?

In case you did not know, Bettye Hyde is a registered non-profit organization and as such any donations are tax deductible.

Reminders

P.D. Days

The P.D. day for this term will be Friday, December 8, 2006

The P.D. day for next term will be Friday, February 9, 2007

Other important dates

Christmas break December 24, 2006 to January 5, 2007

March break March 12 -16, 2007

Good Friday April 6, 2007

Easter Monday April 9, 2007

Mrs. Tiggy Winkle

If you are buying presents over the next few months please hang on to any Mrs. Tiggy Winkle's receipts. They give 10% of the receipt value to Bettye Hyde PLUS a gift certificate for the school. Last year we raised nearly \$200. We will put a collection box for the receipts in the coat changing area. Also tell your friends and family!! The more the better!

Outdoor footwear

Please remember no outdoor footwear past the new downstairs door. This will be especially important in the coming weeks when the snow and salt will start to come in on boots. Please carry your child's outdoor footwear into the school and put them on the red risers under the coat hooks. Your child's indoor shoes will be in cubby holes in a box with your child's name on it. Afternoon children will continue to use the new storage cubbies. Thank you for your participation.

Additional clothing

Please ensure that your child has one complete extra set of clothes available at all times. Each piece of clothing needs to be labelled including shoes and socks.

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Laundry

Every parent will be asked to take turns doing laundry throughout the year. **Please return all B.H. laundry** on your child's next scheduled day.

Parking

No parking or early drop-off in the Chapel Street parking lot is allowed unless it is your child's **special day**. Please respect this guideline!

What about a Fundraiser or how about a Co-Fundraiser???!?!!

It's not too late to step up to the plate if you are interested in sharing this position with another parent. Please let us know if you can help out. Organization for the Spring Fair should start in January 2007. Thank you!

www.bettyehyde.com – check it out!

The more hits our website gets, the greater chance **Google** will pick it up which gives our nursery school broader accessibility. Check it now!

Another useful website

www.liceguide.com - a website designed to answer the many questions parents have when confronted with head lice. It has instructional videos, fact sheets and product information that are easy to download.

Afternoon Program

We still have some spaces in the afternoon program. If you have friends with children aged between 3 and a half and five years old who are looking for a fantastic program for their child/children two, three or five days a week please tell them about Bettye Hyde. If they have questions, encourage them to ring one of the teachers, drop by or visit www.bettyehyde.com or contact our registrar Monika Michalska by email at monika.michalska@sympatico.ca or via phone at (613) 230-5492. Please take some of the flyers by the daily sign-in sheet to give to your friends, family and co-workers. We would love to meet them.

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Spending time in the kitchen with your child can measure up to plenty of fun!

Spending time in your kitchen with your child can be rewarding for both of you. Their age should not be an obstacle to include them in the cooking and food preparation adventure. It is fun and your child can develop great skills such as:

- ☉ Learning teamwork and sharing
- ☉ Building:
 - Organization skills
 - Math skills like counting, measuring, following directions, practicing fractions and multiplications
 - Reading skills
 - Sensory skills like tasting, hearing, touching, smelling and seeing the foods, a foundation for healthy habits and food and nutrition skill
 - Confidence, responsibility and self-esteem
- ☉ Encouraging creativity
- ☉ Fostering a bond between the parent and child while increasing communication
- ☉ Developing motor skills such as eye-hand coordination and manual dexterity
- ☉ Developing a child's interest in trying different foods while exposing them to new items. This may help children meet nutritional requirements
- ☉ Reinforcing family traditions and heritage by sharing recipes

Children can be involved from the start by helping to choose the recipe and creating a shopping list. Always begin your session in the kitchen by reviewing the recipe with the child

and making sure everyone understands what they need to do. Practice good food safety skills by washing your hands and the surface you will work on. Make sure everything is at the right height for everyone's safety. Adapt the environment to meet your child's needs. The use of a child sized apron and short sleeves will keep their clothes cleaner. Ask the child to find the ingredients and the utensils needed. Place them on the counter ready for use. This search will teach the child where to find common items in the kitchen. Keep it interesting by counting the items, letting him/her stir and keeping track of the time needed to do different tasks. Follow each step of the recipe before moving on to the next. Allow them to turn on the oven with your supervision and review safety measures. When you are finished make sure the child help in the clean up.

Children love challenges and responsibilities. Adapting the activities to suit your child's needs allows everyone to participate. The most important thing is to have fun! Enjoy sampling the finished product.

Why not create a personalized cooking kit for your child, capturing his/her name and favourite pictures?

The following are some items you may find at your local dollar store:

- ☑ Measuring cups
- ☑ Measuring spoons
- ☑ Apron
- ☑ Large spoons
- ☑ Oven mitts
- ☑ Mixing bowls
- ☑ Plastic container to hold all cooking utensils



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2006-2007 Board Members

Debra Nolan - President
Shirley Diener - Vice President
Monika Michalska - Registrar
Doug Ainslie - Secretary
Cheryl Hotchkiss - Parent Volunteer Coordinator
Fundraising – Position Vacant
Andrew Staples -Treasurer
Sarah Pantin - Publicity
Jane Powers - Newsletter Editor

Next Board Meeting

Date and details to be confirmed.

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Additional submission for the December issue of the Bettye Hyde Newsletter

Special Guests at Bettye Hyde

On Monday, Nov. 13th the afternoon children at Bettye Hyde were treated to a guest appearance by Bubbles the Clown and her sidekick Mr. C. (a reported ROCK STAR). Brendan's grandma (Lori Colbeck) and grandpa (James Colbeck) who are visiting from Yarmouth, Nova Scotia stopped by to visit with us. Bubbles the Clown showed us some amazing magic tricks and got us all laughing with her silly jokes. She even let us chase some real bubbles on the circle carpet. Mr. C., who is a member of The Shanty Men, talked to us about the famous Bluenose which can often be seen in Yarmouth. He brought a dime for each and every one of us so we could see what the Bluenose looks like. He also taught us a new song. Try singing it at home with your child:

What do you do with a sleepy sailor?

What do you do with a sleepy sailor?

What do you do with a sleepy sailor early in the morning?

Tickle his belly 'till he wakes up.

Tickle his belly 'till he wakes up.

Tickle his belly 'till he wakes up early in the morning.

Refrain: Yo ho and up she rises.

Yo ho and up she rises.

Yo ho and up she rises early in the morning.

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What do you do with a lazy sailor?
What do you do with a lazy sailor?
What do you do with a lazy sailor early in the morning?

Shave his belly with a rusty razor.
Shave his belly with a rusty razor.
Shave his belly with a rusty razor early in the morning.

Refrain

What do you do with a hungry sailor?
What do you do with a hungry sailor?
What do you do with a hungry sailor early in the morning?

Feed him pizza, lots of pizza.
Feed him pizza, lots of pizza.
Feed him pizza, lots of pizza early in the morning.