

Bettye Hyde Newsletter

May 2006



**Sweet April showers
Do spring May flowers.**

- Thomas Tusser, *A Hundred Good Points of Husbandry*, 1557

Mother's Day Breakfast (by Sharon Leiba O'Sullivan)

Though we'd been sleepwalking through the early morning rain, our senses awoke when we saw the feast that had been laid out on the counter for the Bettye Hyde Mother's Day breakfast: perfectly round little pancakes, a collection of jams, blueberry muffins, heaping fruit salad, fresh coffee and juice. Our children's artistic renderings of us had been taped to the walls, beside the "Mommopalooza" photo board. Handmade mother's day cards had been placed in their boxes, counting the ways in which we're loved. We were also treated to a "behind the scenes" video, which documented the week's steady preparations undertaken by both the staff and our little collection of munchkins. The parting gift of flowers capped the morning. Could even the most celebrated Sandy Hill bed-and-breakfast have offered a sweeter, more touching Mother's Day event? Hard to imagine. A heartfelt thank you to all of the Bettye Hyde staff for orchestrating this thoughtful event and lasting memory.

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Important Reminders and Notices

from the Registrar:

Post-dated cheques for the entire year, dated 1 August 2006 – 1 May 2007 are due back at the school on Thursday 1 June 2006 to secure your child(ren)'s spot (s) at Bettye Hyde Nursery School for September.

Without these cheques, your child's spot at Bettye Hyde is NOT secured and will be offered to children on the waiting list.

from the teachers:

Due to the popularity of the lunch program we are, unfortunately, going to have to limit the number of spaces that are available for occasional us between 11:30 and 1 p.m. If you need your child to stay for the lunch program, please tell a teacher as soon as possible and sign up on the sheet available in the kitchen.

Health and safety regulations require that the number of children be capped, so once these spaces have been taken for a particular day, no other children can be allowed to stay for lunch. Spaces are available on a first come first served basis, and can be booked up to 1 month ahead. These changes will take effect beginning 23 May 2006.

Friday 26 May is our student Robyn's last day at BH School. Many thanks, Robyn, for all of your work with the children!

Important Up-coming Events

SPRING FAIR, Saturday 3 June

The excitement is building! Our biggest fund raiser of the year is approaching! **Please check your closets and basements for the following much-needed items** to help make our Spring Fair a success:

Items we Need:

1) plastic children's hangers	6) barbeques
2) cardboard boxes	7) coolers
3) tarps	8) fanny packs
4) umbrellas (large ones for shade)	9) extension cords
5) **various colours of nail polish (for a Children's activity)**	

YARD SALE

Please remember that in order to help ensure the success of our Yard Sale, we are asking each family to donate \$50 to \$60 of good ticket items.

Items we Need:

- 1) High-end children's clothing (MEC, GAP, Osh Kosh)
- 2) Toys (Fisher Price, bikes)
- 3) Children's CDs, DVDs, books
- 4) Attractive (even coffee table-style) adult books
- 5) Workable household items (blenders, juicers, et cet.)

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BAKE SALE

If you haven't already, please sign up your family's contribution to the Bake Sale. Consider increasing the quantity of baked goods that you donate this year. Our Bake Sale ALWAYS runs out before the Fair is over.

Bake more! Bake often! Fill your freezer and bring your goodies to the BH Spring Fair Bake Sale!

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

These are some of the activities planned for the playground area:

- Fishing Game
- Wet Sponge
- Spoon Race
- Bean bag toss
- Face Painting/Smartie Toes
- Craft/Quiet Activity Table (shady location)
- Guitar and Singsong courtesy of Dave Fraser and Paul McKeaque
- Trampoline (*special thanks to Theresa DaSilva for once again lending us the trampoline!*)

Exciting Stuff Planned!! Tell your friends and neighbours!!

9:00 – 2:00	Jasmine Fire Safety House
9:30 – 10:30	Firetruck
10:30 – 11:30 –	Special Appearance by Kitty the Clown of Clownatec
11:00 – 1:00	Ottawa Police Cruiser and Identikit
1:00 – 1:45	Juggling by the “Plaid Guy” (TBD)

All of the above have been booked. We have flexibility on the time the Police Cruiser is present. The Juggling Act is tentatively booked.



Jasmine Fire Safety House	9:00 – 2:00
Firetruck	9:30 – 10:30

No Cost

Jasmine House is a portable trailer than can recreate various fire-in-the-home scenarios for children. It is a fun, non-threatening way to teach children valuable and potentially lifesaving lessons. Members of Ottawa Fire Services will be on hand to work with children and parents. When my son has visited Jasmine House at past events, Fire Services have provided colouring books and stickers. I will confirm, but I believe this is part of the service.

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Kitty the Clown

10:30 – 11:30

Cost: ~~\$225.00~~
\$125.00



Kitty will perform a “Magic Walkaround” to ensure that every child can spend some time up close with her and assist her with her magic tricks. I had originally thought a “show” would be better but based on her experience, Kitty has ensured that this is the best way to ensure that all the children can hear her well and feel that they have received some special attention from her.

Kitty will also be making balloon animals for the children, a service for which she will waive her usual \$100 fee in support of Bettye Hyde Nursery School.

Kitty has also offered to provide us with some colour posters, which we can display in the entrance of the school to build excitement in the children and the parents!

www.clownatec.com

Ottawa Police Cruiser and Identikit

NO COST

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The Ottawa Police will be providing a police cruiser for the children to climb in and yes, they are welcome to sound the sirens! They will also be making identikits available to the parents.

Juggling by the "Plaid Guy"

1:00 – 1:45

Cost: ~~\$350.00~~ \$100.00

Nick Miller is 'The Plaid Lad.' Originally from Halifax Nova Scotia, Nick has travelled the world juggling, singing, stilt-walking, and performing magic. He has agreed to provide us with a fabulous family oriented variety show not to be missed.



Important Up-coming Events (continued)

Bettye Hyde AGM

There will be a mandatory meeting for all Bettye Hyde families on **Wednesday 14 June** at **7 p.m.** in the school.

End-of-Year Picnic

Mark the evening of **Wednesday 28 June** on your calendars. We will gather for our annual end-of-year picnic and BH "Graduation" ceremony. More details to follow soon!

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Upcoming Events for All Saints Church

- 1) Strawberry Tea and Mega Art Sale: Be part of the fun on **24-25 June** at All Saints Church. The strawberry tea and art sale are well-loved annual events and important fund raisers for the church.

Of Note:

Again, **THANK YOU to Christa Nichols**, Harry and Bridget's mom, for so generously printing a great number of fabulous colour brochures to promote Bettye Hyde School. Ask the teachers to see these brochures, and be sure to pass them out to prospective new Bettye Hyde families!

THANK YOU to Cindy for donating her 35 mm camera to Bettye Hyde School!

The Teachers' Wish List

Our afternoon art program is almost over for this year, but we are in the process of collecting art calendars for next year's program. Please donate any art calendars you might have, especially those featuring Monet, Seurat, or van Gogh. We would be grateful.

In an effort to keep our downtown school safe, parents are asked to be more vigilant about strangers in or outside the church. Please ask such people some version of the following questions: "May I help you?" "Are you looking for someone in particular?" It takes a community effort to keep our children safe.

Please remember to drop off any used toner cartridges or cell phones in the recycling box which is now in the coatroom. Let's be good examples to our children about RECYCLING and RE-USING.

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BH website: Be sure to check out www.bettyhyde.com. Make sure to put your cursor on the pictures, because they change! The more hits the web site receives, the more chances that **Google** will pick it up for broader accessibility.

2005-2006 Board Members

Debra Nolan	(President)
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Monika Michalska	(Registrar)
Doug Ainslie	(Secretary)
Charlotte Masemann	(Treasurer)
Sarah Pantin	(Publicity)
Gwendolyn Guth	(Newsletter Editor)

Newsletter content and suggestions are always welcome

Contact: Gwendolyn Guth
gwen.guth@rogers.com

Betty Hyde Co-operative Nursery School

317 Chapel Street
Ottawa, ON
K1N-7Z2

Phone: (613) 236-3108

E-mail: info@bettyhyde.com

