

Bettye Hyde Newsletter

November 2006



Co-operative Nursery School

A few words from our President

A **GIANT THANK YOU** to those parents who came on Friday, October 27th to help move the school. The space looks amazing and the teachers really are happy to back downstairs. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Festival of Lights on Wednesday, December 6th. Don't forget to bring in your bottle of wine and sell, sell, sell those tickets.

Debra Nolan

Parents

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 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.

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

Have you thought about sharing this position with another parent? Two great minds thinking alike – wouldn't that bring fundraising to a new level for Bettye Hyde?! Please let us know if you can help out. Organization for the Spring Fair should start in January 2007. No need to hesitate, someone can show you the ropes to help you along the way. Thank you!

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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.

Have you been receiving emails from *pcpctoronto.org*?

Bettye Hyde is now a member which means every family is a member!

Operating since 1974, Parent Co-operative Pre-school Corporation (PCPC) is a non-profit, charitable organization in Ontario. PCPC is recognized for providing outstanding benefits to families and are dedicated to the goal of quality early childhood and parent education. PCPC has had a website for many years www.pcpctoronto.org and is constantly updating information for their members and the general public.

Centre Membership Benefits:

- Professional Development workshops for ECE development
- Education and Training for the nonprofit Board of Directors
- Parent Education
- Special Needs Services/Early Childhood Services
- Consulting Services
- Networking, sharing knowledge and resources
- Comprehensive range of group health and liability insurance plans for your board, centre, staff
- Access to resources, manuals and tip sheets especially developed to assist child care centres
- Marketing and fund-raising strategies
- Assist with policies, procedures and bylaws
- Website - free listing for your centre and valuable links
- Free advertising for job openings at the centre - to over 2,500 email addresses
- Free Members-only section on the PCPC website - free handbooks, tip sheets, fundraising, etc.

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- An annual salary and benefits survey (**Continued on next page**)
- Keeping you connected - PCPC email news notifier
- Educational forums during the year
- Discounts on professional development events
- Use of PCPC's charitable status number
- Advocacy at community and government levels

Please check out their "umbrella organizations" website to see how you can best make use of PCPC services.

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

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!

First Words Workshop

I recently attended a workshop entitled, "Stick out your tongue! Say 'Supercallifragilisticexpealedocious'" presented by First Words. It was a great opportunity to refresh my knowledge of the milestones in language development and learn some new activities to promote speech/language development. A sheet summarizing these topics is available at Bettye Hyde for all the parents. It also lists some key risk factors for oral and speech impairments. I hope this is useful and please feel free to ask me any questions if you'd like more information.

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Catherine Crawford

Peacocks, pumpkins and pirate ships at Valleyview

If your son or daughter has been asking you for a pet peacock, don't get perplexed; it just means they had a great time at Valleyview Little Animal Farm, the location of Bettye Hyde's fall field trip for the children in the morning program.

The morning began with parents, students and teachers boarding a big yellow school bus, which soon put them in view of the tall storage silos that make Valleyview a landmark in rural Ottawa. Although the morning was cool and overcast, the students eagerly disembarked and were soon removing their mittens as the group entered the Little Animal Barn, with teachers doling out handfuls of feed pellets. Tentative hands poked through the animal pens, with shrieks of delight following as goats, sheep and llamas scrambled for a tasty treat.

A ride on the Funny Farm Express followed snack time, giving the students a glimpse of some antique farm equipment and some very big pumpkins. The group then toddled off to the Creative Farm Play Area (stopping to admire the peacock on the way). The Play Area includes a wooden pirate ship, fort and jeep, and plenty of standard playground fare.

Of course, all well planned trips save the best for last, and so the morning ended with each student visiting the pumpkin patch to personally choose their very own gourd. A pumpkin is no peacock, but it was enough to get the children back on the bus with a smile and a little souvenir from their trip to the farm.

Eppo Maertens

The Saunders Farm Outing

As a new parent to the Bettye Hyde family, I must confess certain awe and admiration for the organizers of this, the first outing of the year, as they managed to arrange for an absolutely beautiful day to be on hand after a long run of miserable weather.

Saunders farm is located about 45 minutes west of Ottawa and has been haunting kids and adults alike every October for about 15 years. We were led through a variety of different activities that included play houses, huge walk through mazes, a well performed puppet show and an excursion up to the top of a 30 ft high observation tower.

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The highlight of the afternoon, however, was the wagon ride! Normally an evening affair for adults (I have been reliably informed that it IS very frightening), our ride took us through the forest and the children took great delight in the props (which at night are augmented by lighting, movement and sounds), especially going through the 3 ft deep water past the sunken pirate ship, and all the skeletons.

No Halloween experience would be authentic without a treat, and just before boarding the bus for the return trip, the children were each given a mini pumpkin to take home. We were also allowed to chose one large pumpkin for the school.

The whole outing was well put together and very well coordinated. There were several other schools there at the same time but we were very skillfully maneuvered around each other so we at no time ever felt crowded. Thanks to all who put it together.

Peter Lewis

Upcoming events

- On **November 8** and on **November 18** there will be a “Building Strong Boards Work Shop” that the BH Board members will be attending.
- On **November 16** and **17** Lisa will be attending the “Symphony of Inclusion Workshop”.

AND don't forget the:

Festival of Lights

Make a date in your diary to join us for the Festival of Lights on the 6th December from 6 until 8 p.m. at the school for an evening of singing, music and celebrating! You need to bring: •**Your family** • **Finger food to feed 4 to 6 people and your own glasses, cutlery plus something to drink.** Last year was a HUGE success. We do hope you can join us!



The Great Grape Raffle

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Once again this year we are organizing the Great Grape Raffle. This is a great opportunity to not only to raise funds for Bettye Hyde, but also to reap pleasant rewards!! We are asking that each family donates a bottle of wine. Each family will receive tickets to sell to friends, family, neighbours and co-workers. There will be three each consisting of one case of wine, as well as a prize for the top seller. The cost of tickets is one for \$2 or 3 for \$5.

The wine draw will be held the same night as the Festival of Lights – Wednesday, December 6th.

Newsletter Submissions

Newsletter content and suggestions are always welcome. If there is information you would like to include for the November issue of the Bettye Hyde Newsletter, please send by no later than Friday, November 24, 2006 to: **Jane Powers** via email: jane.powers@international.gc.ca

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

Thursday, November 16, 2006
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. inclusive
Drumlin's Pub (corner of Somerset and Blackburn)

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Ottawa, ON
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