

BETTYE HYDE NEWS

NOVEMBER 2007

Hallowe'en at Seniors' Residence

A group of princesses, animals, super heroes, and ghoulish creatures set out from Bettye Hyde Wednesday afternoon, headed for the annual Hallowe'en party at the Sandy Hill Seniors' Residence.

We were treated to a performance by a very entertaining magician. Michael, Molly and Maja were all chosen from the audience to assist the magician with some of his tricks. He even let us in on some of his secrets! The children were all given treat bags from the seniors before we said good-bye. Before returning to the school, we took advantage of the beautiful sunny day by having snack and playing in the park.



Co-operative Nursery School

Important Dates Coming Up

Remembrance Day—November 11th (BH open)

Snowflake Bazaar—November 17th

Festival of Lights —December 5th

PD Day—Friday December 7th—(BH closed)

Great Grape Raffle—December 19th

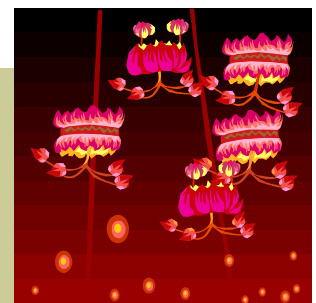
Update: The Great Grape Raffle and the Festival of Lights

As planned, the Festival of Lights, Bettye Hyde's winter celebration, will take place on December 5th in the evening.

The draw for the Great Grape Raffle will be held on December 19th. In late November and early December we'll all have lots of time to sell raffle tickets.

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A

The Teacher with the Great Laugh

Lisa, originally from Kincardine, ON, was planning on pursuing Teachers' College after graduating from university and, knowing that it was difficult to get accepted into a program, she decided to undertake a diploma in Early Childhood Education (ECE) to boost her application. During her time studying ECE, she had placements at a few different daycares and realized how much she enjoyed working with pre-school age kids. She worked in various daycares for 3 years following the program and it was during this time that she met Janet, who was working at Bettye Hyde at the time. When Janet let her know that a position was open at Bettye Hyde, Lisa jumped at the chance to work with her.



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

MARGARET MEAD

Since she started working at Bettye Hyde 8 years ago, Lisa has appreciated the nursery school for many reasons. One is the fact that Bettye Hyde has so much parent involvement through its cooperative nature. "Bettye Hyde is like one big family", she exclaimed when I spoke to her, and she feels fortunate that the staff all get along so well and the school is small enough that they get to know each and every child, as well as many of the parents.

When asked about a favourite memory or one that encapsulates how she feels about working at Bettye Hyde, she responded by saying that she thought the trip to the National Gallery two years ago was magical. Seeing the children's reactions to the artists and their works that they had been learning about was amazing. Now that the school has the funds for 3 bus trips, they are going to make the gallery visit an annual event for the afternoon group when they do their 'Discovering the Masters' program. She also cherishes the days when the school takes trips to the Sandy Hill Seniors' Residence. She loves the connections made by the seniors and preschoolers as both groups have so much to offer to each other.

After our interview Lisa's lip was feeling better. Earlier on one of the children had bonked his head on her chin and she had bitten her lip. With humour, she takes the occupational hazards in stride!

Education is peacebuilding by another name.

KOFI ANNAN

Mrs. Tiggy Winkles Fundraiser

Please save your Mrs. Tiggy Winkle receipts and bring them into the school. We receive 10% from the total of the receipts we submit to them. The receipts from last year were just added up and we received a cheque for \$179.30. This is a great fundraiser that helps to support a local business, and raise money for our school at the same time!

Hey Parents! Read This!

Messages from Teachers and Community News

Circle Time Visitors

The teachers would like to extend an invitation to any parents who would like to come in during circle time to share any special talents (musicians, artists, chef etc.) or to talk about family traditions and celebrations. We welcome parent visitors, it is a wonderful opportunity to be involved and to celebrate the diversity we have at our co-operative school. If you have something you would like to share with the children please speak to a teacher to arrange a day.

Stroller Reminder

A friendly reminder to all parents who bring strollers to Bettye Hyde: You are welcome to leave your stroller at the school while your child is here, however they cannot be brought into the building. The minister of All Saint's is legally blind and has asked that we keep the indoor space free from obstructions. You are welcome to keep your stroller in the gated area behind our outdoor toy shed. Thank-you for your co-operation.

Parents Supervision

Please remember to supervise your child on the playground during the 11:30 and 3:30 pick ups. You are welcome to stay but supervising your child is necessary because the ratio between children and teacher drops at these time. Thanks.

TAKE ACTION: Plant a Native Tree—for FREE

The City of Ottawa's Trees Reforestation and Environmental Enhancement (TREE) Program aims to plant 100,000 trees between 2007 and 2010. Trees are now available, free of charge on a first-come, first served basis, but for spring 2008 planting, you must order by December 1st, 2007. Order yours and/or suggest appropriate community locations for additional trees. For more information and to register for a free tree, visit:

http://ottawa.ca/residents/healthy_lawns/forestry/tree_program/index_en.html

Ottawa Children's Festival at the Museum of Civilization

The Alcatel-Lucent Ottawa International Festival is a five-day festival over 4 months of theatre, dance, arts and music from local and international artists. The shows are for children aged 3 to 15. There are five shows between December and April. For information call 613-241-0999 or visit www.ottawachildrensfestival.ca

FARM VISIT, HAY! By Brent Charbonneau, father of Logan



I had a great opportunity to escort many happy faces on an all too brief visit to ValleyView Farms. Being a first year Bettye Hyde parent, this was my first field trip experience since my days in school. I have forgotten how these journeys can excite and nurture us by taking us out of the everyday and immersing us in an altogether different place.

We boarded the bus at 9:10 with much anticipation and made our way to the animal sculptures of monkeys, cows, pigs and a very large green horse! The wide open barn doors offered us chatty birds and some impatient goats all too eager for the out thrust hands tipping over with "goatmeal". From the barn we wandered outdoors where we witnessed some sheep happily feasting from an overflowing trough. We also saw some horses, a tiny pony, some llama, emus, peacocks, duck, geese, deer and donkeys.

We had a chance to rest our feet as we were towed behind a small tractor through the corn field and surrounding pasture. Perhaps the highlight of our trip was choosing a pumpkin and holding on to it for the ride home as we thought of faces to carve into it and memories of playful goats and green horses.

Thank you, ValleyView Farms, for the great adventure and the pumpkins.



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Board News

On November 6th, Bettye Hyde's Board Members and Staff participated in a workshop designed specifically for board members of nursery schools. The purpose of the workshop was to build skills and capacity of board members, and to review the expertise and experience needed to oversee Bettye Hyde. The workshop was organized and led by the Parent Cooperative Preschool Corporation.

Next board meeting:

Wed, Nov. 19th at Drumlin's pub 7-9pm

www.bettyehyde.com

Snowflake Bazaar

Saturday, Nov 17th, from 10am-2pm at All Saints' Church

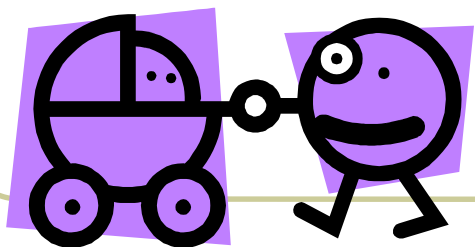
Come and enjoy a children's magic show at 11:30am!

Look for Collectibles, Crafts, Baked Goods & have lunch!

Parent Resources

The Canadian Association of Family Resource Programs (FRP) Canada is pleased to announce the launch of Parents Matter, www.parentsmatter.ca, a new website for parents and those who work with them. This site is also the home of the Making Choices Parenting Program Inventory.

The site will include links to other sites, directories, inventory of parenting programs, and resources for parent educators and family resource practitioners.



Bettye Hyde Wish List

This is the "wanted", freecycle, and classifieds section.

Please keep looking out for these things to donate to the school:

- scrap paper for the free art area
- bread ties, concentrated juice lids and other interesting bits for gluing in the free art area
- notebooks, cards, postcards for the writing center
- a small, lockable filing cabinet

If you have something you think we might be able to use at the school let us know. We're always looking for fun and interesting things to add to the program. Thanks!