

BETTYE HYDE NEWS

October 2008

Trivia Night coming Nov 22nd....

Mark your calendars for Bettye Hyde Co-operative Nursery School's 2nd Annual Trivia Night!

Back by popular demand, this fundraising event is designed to test your knowledge, tempt your taste buds, and try your luck for some fabulous prizes.

- Who:** Parents, friends, family, and neighbours are all welcome
- What:** The night's activities will include a team trivia contest, silent auction, and other games (plus lots of eating and socializing!)
- Where:** All Saints Anglican Church, 317 Chapel Street
- When:** Saturday, November 22 at 8:00 pm
- Why:** All proceeds from the event will help to support the Bettye Hyde Co-operative Nursery School program
- How:** To register a team of eight or to sign up individually, email Shannon Fisher at shed38@sympatico.ca. A sign-up sheet will also be posted inside the nursery school. Admission is \$20 per person at the door.

If you would like donate a prize for this event, please let Shannon know.

BYOB and an appetizer dish to share (no nuts or seeds please!). Please also bring your own cups/plates/cutlery.

We hope to see you all there!



Co-operative Nursery School

Important Dates for the Fall

October 10th & 16th	Field Trips
November 22nd	Trivia Night

Fall Field Trips



AM Program: October 16th—Valleyview Farm

PM Program: October 10th—Saunders Farm

Please dress appropriately and be prepared to have a lot of fun!



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Quote of the month (from one of the afternoon kids)

"When her dad isn't looking, we are going to go on a date with the Jonas brothers"

Let the Children Play: Nature's Answer to Early Learning

As a way to enrich parents' understanding of early childhood education philosophy and principles, we are starting a feature article in the Bettye Hyde newsletter each month.

Play and Literacy

There are consistent findings in research about the close relationship between symbolic play and literacy development and good evidence that increasing opportunities for rich symbolic play can have a positive influence on literacy development.^[18]

Pretend play with peers engages children in the same kind of representational thinking needed in early literacy activities. Children develop complex narratives in their pretend play. They begin to link objects, actions, and language together in combinations and narrative sequences. They generate language suited to different perspectives and roles.

"Young children learn the most important things not by being told but by constructing knowledge for themselves in interaction with the physical world and with other children—and the way they do this is by playing."^[20]

"Children don't play in order to learn, although they are learning while they are playing."^[22]

"The pedagogical value of play does not lie in its use as a way to teach children a specific set of skills through structured activities called 'play.'"^[23]

"Supporting children's play is more active than simply saying you believe that it is important. When children's play culture is taken seriously, the conditions which make it flourish are carefully created. Children's play culture does not just happen naturally. Play needs time and space. It needs mental and material stimulation to be offered in abundance. Creating a rich play environment means creating good learning environments for children."^[24]

"The skillful teacher of young children is one who makes....play possible and helps children keep getting better and better at it."^[25]

The Value of Outdoor Play

Nature has a positive impact on children's physical and mental well-being.^[26],^[27],^[28],^[29] Parents and early educators must design outdoor play environments with the same care and attention paid to indoor environments.

Natural landscapes in the outdoors typically provide:

- rich, diverse, multisensory experiences;
- opportunities for noisy, boisterous, vigorous, physically active play;
- opportunities for physical challenge and risk-taking that are inherent in the value of play;
- rough, uneven surfaces, with opportunities for the development of physical strength, balance, and coordination; and
- natural elements and loose parts that children can combine, manipulate, and adapt for their own purposes.

- excerpts from "Let the Children Play" - Prepared by the *Early Childhood Learning Knowledge Centre*

<http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/Reports/LessonsInLearning/LinL20061010LearninPlay.htm?Language=EN>

Hey Parents! Read This.....

Smocks anyone?

Attention all returning families: Do you have the Bettye Hyde smocks? At the end of last year we sent our blue art smocks home to be washed and they have not yet been returned. If you have them please get in touch with one of the teachers. Thanks.

Staff News—Professional Development

Cindy will be attending an upcoming professional development workshop entitled ***Communicating and Building Partnerships with Families*** organized by CISS. Bettye Hyde staff will also be attending the AGM and one-day conference of the ***Ottawa-Carleton Head Start Association for Pre-schools OSHAP 2008***.

Feeding Fussy Toddlers and Pre-schoolers

An interesting article was found on the New York Times website on September 15th outlining some of the “mistakes” parents make when feeding their kids. Some of the suggestions for accommodating picky eaters includes:

1. Make available a variety of healthy foods and get their children exposed to foods.
2. Involve children in meal preparation as an important first step to getting them to try new foods.
3. Nutritionists say parents shouldn't be afraid to dress up the vegetables. Adding a little butter, cheese sauce or brown sugar to a vegetable dish can significantly improve its kid appeal.
4. Children's tastes change often, so keep trying some foods to see if your child will finally want to try it.

For the full article go to:

http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/15/health/healthspecial2/15eat.html?_r=1&ei=5070&em



Co-operative Nursery School

317 Chapel Street

Ottawa, ON

K1N-7Z2

Phone: (613) 236-3108

BettyeHydeOttawa@gmail.com

Board News

2008-2009 Board Members

President— Doug Ainslie

Vice President — Sarah Pantin

Registrar — Linda Boushey

Secretary— Sandra MacPherson

Parent Volunteer Coordinator— Anndrea Hughes

Fundraising – Brad Fisher

Treasurer—Carolyn Nolan

Publicity—Tamara Radar

Newsletter Editor—Christine Earnshaw

Next board meeting: Wed Oct 23rd, 7-9pm at Drumlin's

www.bettyehyde.com

Xchange Board coming soon



Have you got children's winter wear that is too small for your kids but you'd like to trade them for something bigger? Are you looking for a babysitter or have a pile of books that your kids don't read anymore?

Well you are in luck!

Bettye Hyde will be launching an Xchange Board at the church for parents, as well as other tenants of the building, to post up for sale, for trade, wanted, and for free signs.

The Board will be up soon but, in the meantime, bring in your messages to the school.

Hey Bettye Hyde Alumni!

One of the greatest vehicles for promoting Bettye Hyde is through the website.

Many prospective Bettye Hyde families check the website and read the comments made by previous parents and children about the school.

If parents are interested, they can support this promotion of Bettye Hyde by sending short comments / reviews about their experience at Bettye Hyde to the Bettye Hyde e-mail address:

bettyehydeottawa@gmail.com

Please be sure to indicate that you would allow your comment to be used for promotional purposes on the BH website.