

# BETTYE HYDE NEWS

September 2008

## Welcome to Bettye Hyde 2008/09

As a kick-off to the year we hope to see everyone out on September 17<sup>th</sup> for the **Orientation and Meet and Greet**.

We ask that ALL NEW FAMILIES attend the orientation session from 6:30-7:00 pm in the Chapel. Returning families are asked to arrive at 7pm

Children are welcome. Families are asked to bring a sweet or savoury snack for 6 people . This is an opportunity to see old friends, meet new families and get to know the teachers and board members.

During the evening, you will receive valuable information that is vital for day-to-day life at Bettye Hyde.

## Message from BH President

**I would like to welcome all new and returning families to Bettye Hyde Co-Operative Nursery School. I hope that you have all had an enjoyable summer and are ready for another great year at Bettye Hyde.**

**As the new President of the Board, I look forward to meeting the new families, reconnecting with the returning families. One of my goals is to increase our get togethers, so that all our families can get to know each other better and take full advantage of being part of a Co-Operative.**

**If you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding Bettye Hyde, please do not hesitate to contact me. Wishing you all an excellent year!**

**Doug Ainslie**



**Co-operative Nursery School**

## Important Dates for the Year

September 17th	Meet and Greet
November 22nd	Trivia Night
December 5 <sup>th</sup>	P.D. Day
December 17th	Festival of Lights
December 19th	last day of school
January 5th	return to school
February 13 <sup>th</sup>	P.D. Day
February 25th	Open House
March 16th—20th	March Break
June 17th	AGM
June 26th	last day of school
June 26th	graduation party

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## AFRICAN PROVERB

**It takes a village to raise a child.**

## Enhancing children's development and well-being and providing a foundation for life-long 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.*

Child development research strongly supports the idea that ECEC services play an important developmental role in early childhood. If ECEC is high quality, it provides intellectual and social stimulation that promotes cognitive development and social competence. These effects can persist into elementary school to establish a foundation for later success. Research shows that the quality of ECEC services is absolutely critical in determining how developmentally effective they are - that is, whether they enhance "early learning". These benefits of high quality ECEC programs apply to all children (although poor children may derive more benefit) and whether or not the mother is in the paid workforce.

The term "high quality" is shorthand for the characteristics of ECEC programs that go beyond basic health and safety to environments that support children's well-being, development, learning and quality of life. "High quality" ECEC services employ educators/staff who are well educated for their work; have decent working conditions and wages; work with groups of children of manageable size; provide non-didactic, creative, enjoyable, age-appropriate activities for children; ensure consistent adults and peer groups; and offer stable social and physical environments. They are responsive to diverse populations of children and parents, include children with disabilities in a meaningful way; and are adequately supported by infrastructure like regulation and funding.

Participation in high quality ECEC programs helps lay the groundwork for school success, higher education and life-long learning. However, while much of the child development ECEC literature is focused more on the child's value in the future - through language, cognitive, social and emotional development - than on child well-being at the present time, an important complementary idea is that ECEC services play a role in ensuring that children have a good quality of life "here-and-now". This perspective treats childhood as an important phase of life, not merely as a way station to adulthood, and the child as an active, competent learner. This presumes that ECEC programs are an institution for meeting children's own interests outside the private sphere of the family and an important part of children's culture.

### Staff News

There are four main staff this year, namely Cindy, Janet, Lisa and Catherine. For staff bios, please refer to last year's newsletters as each of our staff were highlighted in last year's newsletters. Newsletters are archived on the Bettye Hyde website.

## Hey Parents! Read This.....

### Litter-less lunches

Just a reminder to parents that Bettye Hyde is trying hard to reduce our impact on the environment and the garbage that is produced at the School, so we are encouraging you to send your child's lunch in reusable tupperware / sealable containers. Please ask the teachers for advice. This also applies to parents bringing the snack for your child's special day.

### Lunch spaces

While we're on the subject of lunches.... Just a reminder that there are still some spaces available in the lunch program. Contact the teachers for details.

### Newsletter and Board Meeting Minutes

This monthly newsletter is one of the tools to communicate important announcements, dates, and share information about specific initiatives, etc. related to the school. We will post this newsletter in the coat room, as well as send it out electronically, usually in the middle of the month. Minutes from the monthly board meetings will also be posted in the coat room. This minutes are for all Bettye Hyde members to read, and any questions you have can be directed to one of the teachers who will pass your question/concern on to the appropriate Board members.

### 5:00pm pickup

As was the case last year, Bettye Hyde is open extended hours until 5pm. If you would like to find out more about this later pick-up time, and the cost associated with this service, please ask any of the BH staff. Coupons are available for purchase if you would like to use this service on a needs basis.

### New Neighbours

This year, the Parsifal Waldorf school will be operating several classes in the church. One class, the grade 8 students, will be using the chapel room downstairs beside Bettye Hyde. Parents are asked to be considerate of the students of our new neighbours and to come in and out of the shared hallway quietly.



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## **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 Sept 25th, 7-9pm at Drumlin's*

**[www.bettyehyde.com](http://www.bettyehyde.com)**

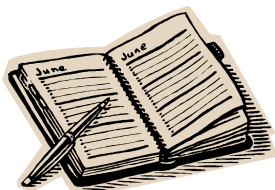
## **Publicizing Bettye Hyde**

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

It is possible to increase the likelihood that someone searching for childcare and preschools or nursery schools will come across the Bettye Hyde website if there are lots of comments or reviews about Bettye Hyde through Google. As Cindy noted, the reviews on Google seem to work well.

If parents are interested, they can support this promotion of Bettye Hyde by writing reviews in Google about Bettye Hyde that use the key search words like "Ottawa Child Care" "Early Childhood Education Ottawa" and "Schools Ottawa". Try it out and contact a staff or board member if you need some help with this.

## **Parent Resources**



Looking for tips on child development, parenting and more?

Check out our updated resource library located in the coatroom.

We have a selection of books and videos that are available for parents to borrow. Please see a teacher if you would like to sign something out.