

March 2017 Newsletter

The Bear Facts

Dear Parents,

Casino Night has come and gone. Thank you to Jenn Gogarty, Laura O'Keefe and Sarah Wickham, our event chairs, for a magical evening. Thank you to everyone who volunteered, donated, attended, and contributed to making the evening such a huge success. Monies raised will be used for several improvements, including playgrounds renovations, a bird sanctuary, a children's garden and big outdoor building blocks, which should arrive before May. Donations are still being accepted, just drop off in the office.

Upcoming Events:

March 6th: **"The Power and Possibilities of Rituals and Traditions in Parenting"** will be presented by Dr. Rebecca Hertzman. This hour long, parent education event will begin at 9:15 after drop off in Covenant Hall. Come to discuss how rituals and traditions, at home and at school, encourage secure attachment and emotional growth in children.

March 14th: Mark your calendar for **Family Pizza and John Henry English Night!** The nursery school and Parents' Group are hosting an evening filled with fun on Tuesday, March 14. We are looking forward to a great turnout of current and new BHP CNS families. Order Pizza or Bring Your Own Picnic.

April 19th: We will have 2 terrific events for parents. Our **Parent Resource Night** between 6:30 and 8:30 and our **Kindergarten Information Event** at 7:30 pm. These adult only event will answer your questions and concerns about services for your child and what to expect in kindergarten.

Financial Aid applications can be found on the BHP CNS website. All applications must be submitted by April 1st for consideration for next year.

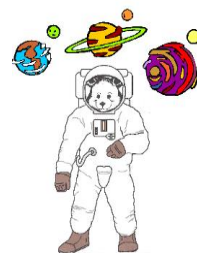
Camp planning is underway. We are currently accepting camp registrations. Camp is open to all children currently enrolled in our 2s program and ages 3 through 5. Friends, cousins, neighbors are all welcome. Campers do not need to be currently enrolled BHP CNS students. Campers do need to be potty trained.

Please know that the office door is always open and you are welcome to come in at any time to chat to discuss any and all things related to BHP CNS. Speaking of open doors, please always open the doors carefully! You never know when a child may be on the other side☺

Liz
Liz Sobrino, Director BHP CNS



GUIDE TO THE GALAXY BHP CNS' SUMMER CAMP



Flyers have been sent home with camp registration details. Additional flyers are available outside the office. This year our campers will be exploring outer space. Camp runs Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 am and 12:30 pm. There will be early morning drop off available too. Camp will be held the following 3 weeks:

- June 12 through the 15th
- June 19 through the 22nd
- June 26 through the 29th

All currently enrolled BHP CNS children are eligible to attend camp as are friends and neighbors. Make camp more memorable by signing up with a friend from outside the BHP CNS community.

Current 2 year olds/rising 3 year olds must be potty trained to participate in camp.

Questions or for more details, stop by the office. We'll be happy to help!



PARENTS' GROUP NEWSLETTER

Happy spring! Thank you to everyone who attended or participated in our Casino Night! Jenn Gogarty, Laura O'Keefe, and Sarah Wickham did such an amazing job planning our event and we are so grateful to everyone who donated their time, treasure, and talent to the evening. It was such a fun evening out spent with our wonderful community. You opened your hearts and your wallets and helped us far surpass our goal of \$25,000. We raised over \$33,000 and your generosity will directly benefit our children!

We are looking forward to our pizza night on March 14th! Come at 5:30 for a Potomac Pizza dinner or bring a picnic from home, and stay for songs, fun, and games with John Henry. Don't forget to preorder your Potomac Pizza dinner by March 10th.

Curious for some new tips and tricks to add to your parenting bucket? Look for more information regarding our Parent Resource Night. We will have guests from a number of local programs who are willing to answer your individual questions one on one and share information about the resources they have that might be helpful to you and your children. Additionally, if you have a four-year-old and Kindergarten is in your future, you'll want to join us this evening as well. We will have a MCPS Kindergarten teacher share an overview of MCPS Kindergarten and answer any questions you have regarding Kindergarten readiness. If you are a bit more experienced and already have a Kindergartener, we would love to have you attend this meeting as well. We love hearing about the individual schools, transitioning to Kindergarten, and Kindergarten overall from a parent perspective.

We'll need some help filling committee chair positions next year. Contact Ashley if you're willing to help with our Welcome Back Picnic, leading the Sunshine Committee, organizing monthly teacher snacks, organizing fundraisers, organizing family dine-out nights, selling totes and t-shirts during the Parent Open House, or other special events.

Thank you for your continual support! Without you, none of this is possible!

Ashley Schneider
absilver@comcast.net

Mary Dunmire
Mary.e.Dunmire@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE BHP CNS BOARD

Congratulations to the Parents Group for a successful auction. Thank you to all who helped and attended the event. A special thank you goes to the co-chairs, Jenn Gogarty, Sarah Wickham, and Laura O'Keefe. I'm excited to see the new blocks and storage sheds as well as the playground upgrades that the auction proceeds will fund.

The BHP CNS Board met for our fourth annual Sweets and Treats event on February 8th. Liz led a dynamic discussion describing the Nursery School and answered questions from the audience. Thank you to all parents, staff, and Board members who participated.

Our next Board meetings are typically the 1st Wednesday of each month. As always, we welcome any member of the school community to attend the meeting. If interested, notify Liz at lsobrino@bhpcns.org or me at bjahunter@aol.com at least two days prior to the meeting so that we can include you request in the agenda.

PARENT EDUCATION COFFEE: MARCH 6TH AT 9:15 AM



“The Power and Possibilities of Rituals and Traditions in Parenting” will be presented by Dr. Rebecca Hertzman on March 6th. This hour long, parent education event will begin at 9:15 after drop off in Covenant Hall. Come to discuss how rituals and traditions, at home and at school, encourage secure attachment and emotional growth in children. Come join us to learn more.

PIZZA PICNIC AND JOHN HENRY ON MARCH 14 BETWEEN 5:30 AND 7:00 PM IN MEMORIAL HALL



&



Come out for a fun filled evening of pizza and music.

Who: BHP CNS students and their families. This is not a drop off event. Children must be with an adult.

When: March 14th

Dinner Picnic between 5:30 and 6:15

John Henry performs between 6:15 and 7:00 pm on the stage.

Where: Memorial Hall

What: Preorder from Potomac Pizza, (order forms available outside the office or attached to the email that included this newsletter) or pack a picnic dinner from home. BHP CNS will provide lemonade, water, and ice cream sundaes for dessert.

Wanted: Volunteers to:

1. set up Memorial Hall on Tuesday morning after drop off
2. to assist with the distribution of dinner
3. to man ice cream station

If you are able to help or have questions, please contact Liz or Carolyn at info@bhpcns.org. Thank you!

IS THERE A RISING MCPS KINDERGARTENER IN YOUR HOUSE?

BHP CNS Kindergarten Information Night: April 19 between 7:30 and 9:00 pm in Covenant Hall

Kindergarten is a big transition for your child and your whole family.

- Do you have questions or concerns about what MCPS Kindergarten is all about?
- Want to know about MCPS' Language Immersion Kindergarten options?
- To find out more come to our **Kindergarten Information Night** on April 19 at 7:30 pm. A current MCPS Kindergarten teacher will be on hand to share her insights about Kindergarten readiness and what to expect come September.
- Parents of current or recent MCPS Kindergarteners will be attending for breakout, by elementary school, round table discussions. (If you have a child or have had a child recently attend a MCPS kindergarten and are interested in leading/facilitating one of our breakout groups, please email me at lsobrino@bhpcns.org.)
- If you have friends or neighbors who might be interested in attending, they are welcome to come as well.
- RSVP by emailing us at info@bhpcns.org or calling the school office, 301-365-2909. Please share with us the names of attendees and the elementary school your child will be attending. This is an adult only event.



MCPS Kindergarten Registration is Happening Now!

MCPS elementary schools need to know if your child will be attending their school in September. To register your child, call your local elementary school. It is very helpful to the elementary schools to know the number of children attending in the fall as soon as possible. Based on projected enrollments your child's elementary school may need to add another class, add another teacher, increase class size, and/or close a class. While your child won't start school until September the elementary schools are already making their staffing projections for the fall.

Local Elementary Schools and their phone numbers:

Ashburton: 240-740-1300
Bannockburn: 240-740-1270
Bethesda: 240-204-5300
Bradley Hills: 240-204-5210
Burning Tree: 240-740-1750
Carderock Springs: 240-740-0540

Chevy Chase: 301-657-4994
Garrett Park: 240-740-0700
Kensington Parkwood: 301-571-6949
Seven Locks: 240-740-0940
Wood Acres: 240-740-1120
Wyngate: 240-740-1080

When contacting your local elementary school ask if they are hosting any informational kindergarten meetings for parents. These events are a great way to learn more about your child's transition to your neighborhood school.

For more information about MCPS and Kindergarten, visit the MCPS website by clicking [here](#). Kindergarten orientation dates are available on the MCPS website as well.

From NAEYC, the National Association for the Education of Young Children, 4 Tips Every Kindergarten Teachers Wants You to Know: <http://families.naeyc.org/learning-and-development/4-things-kindergarten-teachers-want-you-know>

PARENT RESOURCE NIGHT: APRIL 19



Parent Resource Night

April 19...6:30 to 8:30 pm...BHPC Gathering Space



Are you looking for tips to help you navigate the joys and pitfalls of parenting?

Do you want to know more about the benefits for your child(ren) of:

- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Working with a licensed clinical social worker on behavioral issues, self-esteem, childhood fears, & more
- Potty training/challenges
- PEP: Parent Encouragement Programs on how to be a better parent and raise happier kids
- Creating daily routines and systems to make your household run smoothly
- Services provided by Montgomery County for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers

Trained professionals will be on hand to talk with families one on one about their concerns and questions. This informative evening will include many resources and professionals for families. The program is free and open to all BHPCNS families and the community at large. Bring your friends, and neighbors to learn more. And if you have a rising kindergartener, stay for our **Everything You've Ever Wanted to Know About Kindergarten** Event at 7:30. Questions: contact us at 301-365-2909 or email me at Lsobrino@bhpcns.org.



IMPORTANT NEWS FOR BHPCNS FAMILIES

Financial Aid Requests for 2017-2018 School Year:

If you are in need of financial aid for next school year, the paperwork can be found on the BHPCNS website under tuition or by [clicking here](#). Applications for financial aid are due April 1, 2017 and will be reviewed at the BHPCNS April Finance Committee meeting. Applicants will be notified shortly thereafter. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Lotions and Medications:

BHPCNS cannot administer lotions, creams, medications, to your child without a medical directive from your child's doctor. This includes prescription and non-prescription medicals. If you'd like more details, contact Liz or Carolyn in the office.

Sick Kids: Over the past few weeks children in our program have been diagnosed with strep throat, flu, conjunctivitis, and other communicable diseases. If your child is ill, running a fever, throwing up, has pink eye, etc. they may not return to school until they have been symptom free for 24 hours. If your child requires Tylenol or Motrin to keep their fever down to attend school, they MAY NOT be at school until they have been fever free, without medication for 24 hours.

Lunch at BHPCNS: Just a reminder that the State of Maryland Department of Education requires us to put out a child's lunch in its entirety. If your child has a cookie or a piece of candy in their lunch bag we are not allowed to tell them to eat their healthy foods first. If you would like your child to eat their "growing" foods first, I'd suggest saving the treat until after school.

BHPCNS STAFFING FOR 2017-2018



Do you love children? Do you love to play? Are you looking for a fun, exciting, rewarding, part-time job, then you are in luck. BHPCNS may be hiring teachers for the 2017-2018 school year. We are also looking for wonderful substitutes if you do not want a regular/consistent classroom assignment. Requirements are a love of children and a willingness to learn. If you or someone you know is interested in working at BHPCNS, have them contact Liz at lsobrino@bhpcns.org or 301-365-2909.

BHPCNS MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Adam Al-Attar
Charlotte Buehler
Michael Dixon
Una Dulany
Andrew Goodstein
Vivian Huntley



Lizzie Inati
Jack Mufarrij
Isabel Nicholas
Luke Schulman
John Shooshan
Anay Sood
Jackson "Jack" Williams

Wish these Bradley Bear Cubs a happy day!!!!

Reminder: If sending in birthday treats, please send in **small** cupcakes, mini muffins, fruit kabobs, etc., keeping classroom food allergies in mind. We share birthday treats at snack time!

SPRING BREAK

BHPCNS will be closed for spring break beginning Friday, April 7th and reopening on Tuesday, April 18th. We wish everyone a joyous Easter season and fun times with your families.



STAY AND PLAY UPDATES



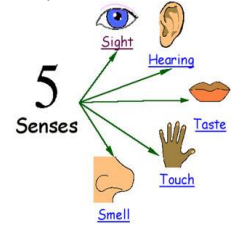
Monday: The Artist's Corner

By Mrs. McCullough

Art Stay and Play in the month of April will head into SPRING! Nature will be our muse. Claude Monet painted beautiful garden scenes, our interpretation uses tissue paper and glue to create a transparent garden. Later in the month we will help create a fairy garden. Painting rocks and twisting twigs will help the fairies feel at home.

Our Wiggling Wizards are about half way through our study of our 5 senses; taste, smell, touch, sound and sight. We are learning about all the different ways we gain information about the world around us using our wonderful senses. Toward the end of the month we switch courses and study water and vibrations. First we will be making a hypothesis about different items; whether they will sink or float. We will then experiment with those items to get the results. Later in the month we will use different mediums to see how sound waves travel through the air. We will be using water, glasses, saran wrap and rice. Want to know how we're going to use all these items to see sound? Join us!!

Tuesday: Wigglin' Wizards By Mrs. Cardoni



Tuesday & Wednesday: Bradley Bear Dance Co.

By Mrs. Smith



The Bradley Bears are devotin' full time to floatin' under the sea this semester! Our little crabs, mermaids, and other sea life are dancing up a storm in preparation for our spring show. This month will find us in the beginning stages of learning show choreography as we continue to introduce new syllabus material such as coupé. This is a classical ballet term meaning "cut" or "cutting," and resembles a small passe. Ask your dancer for a demonstration! We look forward to our continued work 'Under the Sea.'

March Madness is here! This month in cooking with Bradley Bear we will be preparing a variety of treats your child can share with the whole family while you cheer on your favorite college teams. On the menu this month are Sweet Sixteen Pepperoni Swizzle Sticks; Elite Eight Chicken and Cheese Won Tons; Final Four Frozen Fruit Smoothies and our Championship Chicken Wings. For St. Patrick's Day, (and our Notre Dame fans), we will be making our own version of Irish Soda Bread. Cooking is a great opportunity for some quality family fun while introducing mathematical concepts and new vocabulary. And when children have a hand in preparing a dish they are more likely to eat that dish! Enjoy!

Wednesday: In the Kitchen with Bradley Bear By Mrs. Myers



Thursday: Where in the World is Bradley Bear?

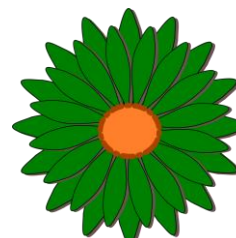
By Mrs. Skoff



We spent our last day in Australia learning about the Outback. We made origami boomerangs and learned about all of the inhabitants that occupy this vast land. We will say goodbye to this wonderful country, stamp our passports and travel to our next destination: Japan. Here in the land of the rising sun, we will eat sushi, dress in beautiful kimonos, write some Japanese characters and learn some karate moves. How timely that the cherry blossoms will be in full bloom here while we learn about this Pacific beauty.

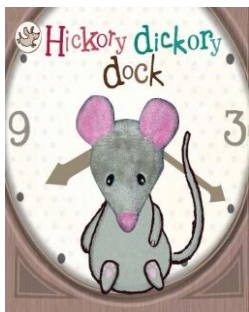
FUN FRIDAYS with Ms. Allen and Mrs. Leon in March will be going green!

We will start seeds, make botanical prints, dye green carnations through transpiration, and go on a bug/worm hunt expedition. Lots of exploring to do now that spring has sprung!



Fun Fridays: By Ms. Allen

MONTHLY SPECIAL CLASSES AND GUEST PERFORMERS



**Music with
Mr. Chip
2s, 3s, & 4s**

Mr. Chip Reports:

As we have proceeded into our new curriculum, Sing Me A Story, we have had some fun with different activities related to Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star. Several classes enjoyed learning that this song was written by Mozart and was based in part on a French folk tune. Perhaps the best part of this discussion was the fact that the original words weren't about the stars, but were about candy! The original folk tune translates as,

Ah! Let me tell you, Mother, What's the cause of my torment? Papa wants me to reason

Like a grown-up. Me, I say that candy has Greater value than reason.

It's hard to argue with that reason. As we move into March, we will transition to activities related to Hickory Dickory Dock. We will follow sounds up and down like the mouse in the clock, and will play a movement game involving cats and mice. We will also use Zoltan Kodaly's "Viennese Musical Clock" (from the Hary Janos Suite) as a foundation for moving in various ways while following the form of the music. As always, we will sing and dance and play, and I am sure the kids will continue to come up with new ideas for me to try!

Mrs. Sutherland reports:

We'll be taking a lot of deep breaths in Science this month as we focus on the topic of air and wind! Through observations, the children will discover that even though we can't see it, air is everywhere and it takes up space. They will learn that all living things need air and that without it, people would have to carry tanks of air around with them like astronauts and scuba divers. They will become familiar with how the plants and trees help us by providing us with the good air (oxygen) that we need. The children will discover that moving air is wind which can be as gentle as our breaths or as strong as a hurricane. We will have a lot of fun experimenting with wind!



**Science Class
3s & 4s**



**Creative
Movement
2s, 3s, & 4s**

Mrs. Stevens Reports:

This month in Creative Movement we will continue our parachute play. The children will bounce monkeys on the parachute to the song Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed. We will also shake barnyard animals on the parachute to Old McDonald Had a Farm. As spring is quickly approaching, the children will fly like ladybugs, birds, and butterflies to the song, Spring is here. They will also enjoy driving the fire truck, climbing the ladder, and squirting the water to their favorite song, Hurry, Hurry, Drive the Firetruck.

Mrs. Cardoni Reports:

This month in Spanish we continue to review vocabulary on feelings (sentimientos) and our body (el cuerpo). We will learn how to talk about our daily routine and what we choose to wear each day depending on the weather; wake up in the morning and get up out of bed (me despierto y me levanto de la cama) and then wash for the day and get dressed; "I put on my shirt, I put on my socks"-"Me pongo la camisa, me pongo los calcetines." Toward the end of the month we will start learning the names for all types of animals and sing the Itsy Bitsy Araña and Los Pollitos. We're looking forward to reading Harry the Dirty Dog in Spanish; Harry El Perrito Sucio by Gene Zion. We continue to review colors, body parts (we danced the Hokey Pokey in Spanish!), food, numbers, days of the week and the four seasons. We can't wait for Spring- La Primavera!!!



**Spanish for
the 4's**



**Music with
Ms. Casey
2s, 3s & 4s**

Ms. Casey Reports:

Spring is coming! Last month the kids learned what a difference listening makes when singing in a "band." As the weather warms we'll incorporate some new songs into our sessions ("Here Comes The Sun" by The Beatles and "Skidamarink" to name a couple.) With an eye towards our next performance look for a focus on classic favorites as well as some new songs, including "What A Wonderful World" and "Yellow Submarine." Singing should be fun for the entire class (teachers too!) so if you have any suggestions for future pieces - especially contemporary ones - please share!

St. Patrick's Day Celebrations will be held on March 16th and 17th, except for the MW Young 2s who will celebrate on March 15th. There will be lots of green treats, and leprechaun shenanigans & fun! Thank you to all our room parents for helping with the celebrations.

