

# November 2016 Newsletter

## *The Bear Facts*

Dear Parents,

It's November, a time to be thankful for our many blessings. We are thankful for your children and your continued support of our school.

Believe it or not, November also marks the beginning of the registration process for the 2016-2017 school year. Registration for **children currently enrolled at BHP CNS** will be December 7 and 8. Applications will be available on the BHP CNS website at [www.bhpcns.org](http://www.bhpcns.org), after Thanksgiving. Download and complete the application. Applications should be returned to BHP CNS no earlier than December 7 and no later than December 8 in order to be given priority in enrollment. Please recognize that children currently enrolled in our 2's and 3's programs as well as those children who are enrolled in the 4's program but are not age eligible for Kindergarten are guaranteed a place, but it may not be your first choice. Acceptance is based on a first come, first serve basis.

**Applications may be mailed or dropped off early, but they will not be processed until after those received on December 7 and 8.** (See More Registration info on page 3.)

To recap October, all our students have had fun learning our classroom routines, and enjoying Creative Movement and our Music programs for the first time. Our 3s and 4s explored leaves in Science. And our 4s began their weekly Spanish classes. The halls were filled with Halloween songs, including [this favorite](#) from Spanish class. Donuts with Dad was a big hit with all our families. John Henry the Guitar Playing Man had everyone singing and dancing.

We rounded out the month with Halloween fun, songs, and parties.

November promises to be a busy time too! Bill Jenkins will be here to introduce the children to Native American Music. All our classes will be exploring what it means to be thankful. There will be a school-wide Thanksgiving feast for our 4s, a special classroom Thanksgiving celebrations for our 2s and 3s. Thank you to the teachers and room parents for organizing these celebrations. Wishing you and your family a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

Liz

Liz Sobrino, Director

**BHP CNS will be OPEN on Election Day, November 8, 2016!**



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### THANKSGIVING FUN

##### Thanksgiving Celebrations:

MWF and all 4s classes will have their Thanksgiving celebrations on Monday, November 21.

T/Th classes and our 5 day 3s in room 102 will have their Thanksgiving celebrations on November 22.

BHP CNS will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday Wednesday November 23 through November 27.

#### THANKSGIVING LINKS

In doing some research for our school Thanksgiving celebrations I came across these links which had fun and educational ideas on how to make Thanksgiving meaningful for your children.

[CBS Chicago](#)

[Today Parents](#)

[National Geographic](#)



## PARENTS' GROUP LETTER

Happy autumn! Our school year is in full swing! Thank you for your continued support as our school year continues.

We are grateful to all of those who have volunteered to be room parents this year. Thank you for organizing “getting to know you coffees” and being a liaison between the parents and teachers. You are vital to making the year run smoothly.

We are very excited about our fall fundraiser opportunities! Thank you so much to everyone who ordered pictures in October! We hope you love your adorable images and we are thrilled that Lauren Sheintal will donate 30% of your total back to the school! We also have one more fall fundraising opportunity for you! Our ornaments were so successful in 2014 and 2015; we are thrilled to bring you a new ornament for 2016! You should have received a flyer in your child's tote bag detailing our handcrafted holiday decorations. This decoration is perfect as an ornament on a tree, hanging from a window, or on display on a shelf. They also make wonderful gifts for someone special, order one for you and several for grandparents, aunts, uncles, and special friends! Order as many as you like and we will send them home ready for gift giving. Return your order forms and money to the box outside the office. Be sure to check out the samples while you are there! Orders are due Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. We will need some help making these masterpieces! Check your email for the link to a signup genius if you can donate some time. Feel free to contact Ashley Schneider [absilver@comcast.net](mailto:absilver@comcast.net) if you have any questions or are willing to help.

With the cold weather approaching, now is the time to start labeling coats, hats, mittens, and boots! Check out LabelDaddy for labels that are machine washable and don't require any ironing or sewing. LabelDaddy will give you 10% off your order and give 15% back to BHCNS when you visit their website [bhpcns.labeldaddy.com](http://bhpcns.labeldaddy.com) and enter code BHCNS at checkout.

Finally, we are well into our planning for Casino Night! Book your babysitters for Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> for a fun evening out with friends! Stay tuned for information regarding tickets, sponsorships, and ways you can help! Feel free to contact Ashley [absilver@comcast.net](mailto:absilver@comcast.net) if you have questions or would like to help.

We hope you and your family have a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving holiday! We are thankful for your wonderful support!

Ashley Schneider  
[absilver@comcast.net](mailto:absilver@comcast.net)

Mary Dunmire  
[mary.e.dunmire@gmail.com](mailto:mary.e.dunmire@gmail.com)

## BHCNS BOARD UPDATE

Every time I happen to be in Church during Nursery School Hours, I am delighted to see your children engaged, energized, and excited to be at school. I want to thank to Liz and her staff for this accomplishment. I want to thank the Parents' Group as well for their support. The Board is in the process of reviewing the By-Laws for the Board as well as continuing preparations for the financial review of the Nursery School.

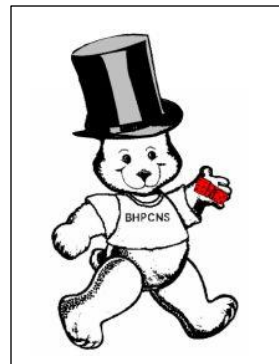
The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday November 2nd at 7:00 pm. Meetings are open to all members of the community with 48 hours advance notice. Contact Board Chair Julie Hunter at [bjahunter@aol.com](mailto:bjahunter@aol.com) for more information about the BHCNS Board.

Best wishes to you and your family for a wonderful Thanksgiving.

## CASINO NIGHT FUNDRAISER FEBRUARY 10, 2017

Every other year the BHP CNS Parents' Group holds a major fundraising event. Our Casino Night party and auction will be held on Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at Bethesda Country Club. Mark your calendars now! We hope to use some of the funds raised to enhance the playground and create new outdoor experiences for our children. Stay tuned for information regarding ticket pricing, sponsorship opportunities, and ways to donate your time, talent, or treasure.

Jenn Gogarty, Laura O'Keefe, and Sarah Wickham



## BHPC LECTURE ON PROGRESSIVE THEOLOGY

Susan R. Andrews Lecture on Progressive Theology  
Sunday, November 6 from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Biblical Storyteller Tracy Radosevic:

### **Banishing Bible Boredom: Scriptures that Engage the Child in All of Us**

Is the Bible a boring, ancient, irrelevant book? How can we experience the Biblical text as engaging, exciting, and interesting? Join the 2016 Susan R. Andrews Lecturer, Tracy Radosevic, in Covenant Hall on Sunday, November 6 from 12:00 to 1:00 pm for a presentation and discussion of engaging scripture in creative ways. Come and be inspired in hearing the Bible come alive as Tracy shares Biblical stories, and gain practical insights into how to read the Bible with your children and grandchildren in ways which enhance their interest and help young people learn to appreciate and understand God's word.

Tracy Radosevic is an internationally acclaimed Biblical storyteller who particularly enjoys telling stories that provide food for thought, encouraging her listeners to look at usual occurrences in unusual ways. She is currently adjunct faculty at the Ecumenical Institute of Theology in Baltimore and Wesley Theological Seminary and the Dean of the Academy for Biblical Storytellers.

Tracy will also lead worship at Bradley Hills at 8:30 and 10:30 am on Sunday, November 6 through her dramatic Biblical Storytelling.

## PARENTS' GROUP ORNAMENT FUNDRAISER! ORDER NOW!!!!



We also have one more fall fundraising opportunity for you! You should have received a flyer in your child's tote bag detailing our handcrafted holiday decorations. This decoration is perfect as an ornament on a tree, hanging from a window, or on display on a shelf. They also make wonderful gifts for someone special, order one for you and several for grandparents, aunts, uncles, and special friends! Order as many as you like and we will send them home ready for gift giving. Return your order forms and money to the box outside the office. Be sure to check out the samples while you are there! Orders are due Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.



## ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT NEWS ITEMS

**Left Over Halloween Candy:** The office will be collecting left over Halloween candy. Mrs. McCauley will take the extra candy to the USO at Dulles airport where she is a volunteer.

**Angel Giving Tree:** BHPCNS will once again participate in the toy collection for children for the holidays sponsored by BHPC. Please donate an unwrapped toy for a young child in the collection bin outside the office by December 9, 2016. We will begin accepting donations in mid-November.

**Snack Allergen Forms:** These forms were distributed to all children via their folders in late October. Please complete this form whenever you are bringing a snack or special food item into school. Additional forms are on the website or available in the office.

**Parent Volunteers:** The BHPCNS office is looking for a few parent volunteers to help with our various screenings throughout the year. If you are interested in donating some time, please call or pop into the office and talk with either Liz or Carolyn.

**Car Magnets:** Show your BHPCNS pride with one of our fabulous car magnets. If you have lost yours there are lots more in the office. Stop by and get one!

**Bringing Objects From Home:** Please keep “special” items at home. We are seeing lots of children bringing in special headbands, jewelry, sweaters, small toys, etc. These items are easily lost and often not labeled. If they stay home then there are no tears when the items have been lost.

**Donuts with Dad** was a huge success. Thank you to the Niroo family and the Maloney family for picking up the donuts and coffee and delivering them to school in time for everyone to have a fun morning. Moms don't fret, **Muffins with Mom** will be May 11 and May 12. Mark your calendars now!

**Jumpstart's Read for the Record:** On October 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, BHPCNS' 4 year old classes participated in Jumpstart's Read for the Record. I loved sharing, The Bear Who Ate Your Sandwich with the classes. Our 67 readers joined over a million readers enjoying the same book!

**Bradley Bear's Dance Troupe Winter Recital:** Mark your calendars for our annual winter dance recital on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:45. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Amazon Smile:** When purchasing items from Amazon, you may designate, BHPC to receive 5% of your purchase price. Just go to Smile.Amazon to register. You may also sign up by visiting the BHPCNS website at [www.BHPCNS.org](http://www.BHPCNS.org).

## SPEECH SCREENINGS ON NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> AND 10<sup>TH</sup>



On November 7<sup>th</sup> and November 10<sup>th</sup>, BHPCNS will have a speech pathologist at school to screen children for speech issues. It is a brief screening and not an assessment. Teachers will recommend children to be screened. The office will send you a letter telling you that your child has been referred to be screened. You may opt out of the screening by returning the form to school. Parents may also request a speech screening. Please notify the office or your child's teacher if you'd like your child screened.

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Please  
wish our  
bear cubs  
a happy  
birthday!

Tyler Coffey  
Manu De Sousa  
Jackson Favretto  
Ruka Funatsu  
Reme Guerrero  
Daniel Hoopes  
Lila Judge  
Evie Liu  
Anna McHugh

Clare Pollard  
Betsy Pritchett  
Fionn Rowell-Mackenzie  
Joe Saunders  
Taj Schouten  
Rei Seto  
Erin Clare Urgo  
Wells Wickham  
Mattias Miksatko  
Alex Moulton

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! If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's teacher or the office!

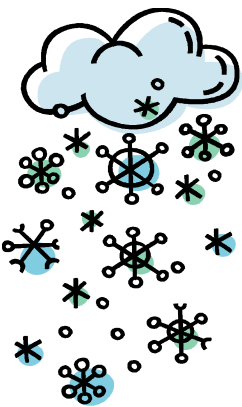
## LABELING CHILDREN'S CLOTHING

### PLEASE LABEL YOUR CHILDREN'S BELONGINGS

BHPCNS goes outside almost every day. As the temperatures get colder, the need for jackets, hats, and mittens, gets greater. **Please label your children's belongings.** Our lost and found, located by room 113, is filling up with items that are unmarked and we can't figure out the owners. Many children have the same jackets and without a name inside it's very hard for the teachers to keep the right child in the right jacket.



## WEATHER RELATED CLOSINGS



BHPCNS follows Montgomery County Public Schools, MCPS, emergency weather closings. To be in the know signup for MCPS Alerts [click here](#).

**If MCPS schools are closed, BHPCNS will be closed.**

**If MCPS has a two hour delay, BHPCNS will begin the school day at 11:00 am, except for Early Morning with Bradley Bear students who may arrive at 10 am.**

Students in the 2-year-old program may come at 11:00 am and stay until 12:30 pm. Lunch Bunch will be canceled. We will provide a hearty snack. Children will be collected from their classrooms.

**If MCPS closes schools early, BHPCNS will close at 11:30 for the 2s and 12:30 for the 3s and 4s. Stay and Play will be cancelled.**

## THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE WITH BHPC AND BJC

BHPCNS is partnership with BHPC and BJC are participating in a Thanksgiving food drive to feed 40 local families in need. Please drop off your non-perishable contributions in the hallway upstairs by the BJC office by November Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. See flyer that was sent home for a list of suggested donations.

## IMPORTANCE OF PRETEND PLAY

Did you know that Scholastic Books has wonderful parent resources? Here's the first paragraph of a great article about the importance of pretend play. *Young children learn by imagining and doing. Have you ever watched your child pick up a stone and pretend it is a zooming car, or hop a Lego across the table as if it were a person or a bunny? Your child is using an object to represent something else while giving it action and motion. But this pretend play is not as simple as it may seem. The process of pretending builds skills in many essential developmental areas.* [Click here](#) to access the full article.

## AND THE IMPORTANCE OF PLAY DATES

We love having your child in our classes and activities where there is lots of large group socialization. To supplement the large group experience we recommend playdates. Playdates provide children with the opportunity to play one on one with a peer, the chance to share, take turns, practice manners. These are all very important skills for our children to master. Talk with your child about who their special friends are at school and arrange a playdate at your home or the park. While a school setting provides lots of group dynamics it's important for a child to just play with a friend in an unstructured environment. For more information on playdates go to:

[http://www.education.com/magazine/article/The\\_Importanceofplaydates](http://www.education.com/magazine/article/The_Importanceofplaydates)



**Playdates are great  
for our Bear Cubs!**

## BRIGHT AND BOWTIFUL HAIR ACCESSORIES ARE BACK!



Handmade hair accessories created by former BHP CNS Director, Hilah Gaba, and her daughter, Carmody Daman will be for sale at BHP CNS on November 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> in the morning during drop off. These adorable hair accessories make wonderful gifts or are the perfect accessory for your daughter's holiday outfits. Check them out on [Brightandbowtiful](#) on Etsy.



## 2017-2018 REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### 2017-2018 Registration Information

#### Registration Options:

5 day 4s, Monday through Friday  
3 day 4s, Monday-Wednesday-Friday  
5 day 3s, Monday through Friday  
3 day 3s, Monday-Wednesday-Friday  
2 day 3s, Tuesday-Thursday  
3 day 2s, Monday-Wednesday-Friday  
2 day 2s, Tuesday-Thursday

**Young 2s:** Beginning in January, if space allows and there are enough students we will offer either a 1 day or possibly 2 day young 2s class. This class would be for children who turn 2 between September 1 and December 31.

#### Registration for Current BHP CNS Students:

Registration for the 2017-2018 school year will soon be underway.

- Applications will be available for current students at the BHP CNS website, [www.bhpcns.org](http://www.bhpcns.org) under the Application/Registration tab after the Thanksgiving break.
- Download an application, or collect one in the office, complete the information, and return the form on either December 7 or December 8. **Returning students must have their applications turned in no later than Thursday, December 8 to guarantee placement.**
- Remember to indicate a first and second choice. While we guarantee placement for students currently enrolled in our 2 and 3-year-old programs and for students enrolled in the 4s who do not meet the age eligibility for public school kindergarten, **we do not guarantee your first choice.**
- Acceptance is based on a first-come, first-served basis. The earlier you submit your application, the greater your chances of being accepted into your first choice program.
- Applications received before December 7 will be placed after those received on December 8.

#### Registration for Siblings Not Currently Enrolled in BHP CNS:

October and November are the months to submit applications for currently enrolled siblings for the 2017-2018 school year. Applications are available in the office and online for your children who will be starting BHP CNS in September 2017. Registration for currently enrolled students will begin in December. Acceptance or Wait List notifications will be sent home in January.

#### New Applicants to BHP CNS:

Encourage your friends and neighbors to call the office to learn more and schedule a tour of BHP CNS. New families say they chose Bradley Hills because their friend, neighbor, co-worker spoke highly of our program. We love that you love us! Help us spread the word about what a wonderful place BHP CNS is for children to play, grow, and learn! Applications are available online for new students.

**BHP CNS follows Montgomery County Public Schools with regard to birthdate cut-off dates for admission. Children must be 2 by September 1, 2017 to enroll in the 2's, 3 by September 1, 2017, to enroll in the 3's, and 4 by September 1, 2017 to enroll in the 4's.**

Play,

Grow,

Learn ..... with Bradley Bear



## MONTHLY SPECIAL CLASSES AND GUEST PERFORMERS:

Stay and Play is an optional after school program for our 3 and 4 year olds. Stay and Play meets daily between 12:30 and 2:30. Children may sign up for an extended period of time or may drop into the program once and a while.

Nancy McCullough Shares: Art Stay and Play will be looking at animation in November. We'll start out with printed leaf people and how facial features totally change the illustration.

### Monday: The Artist Corner



### Tuesday: Wigglin' Wizards



Bowden Skoff Reports: In November our scientific cubs, will be planting acorns that we collected last month. We have watched the acorns grow roots and will put them in soil and continue to monitor them and take care of them so we can plant them in the ground come spring. We will then start our unit on Aerodynamics. We will make Gyrocopters, paper airplanes and even make a rocket balloon by taping an inflated balloon to a straw, threading a string through the straw and watching what happens when we release the air. Before Thanksgiving break, we'll make our own butter, discuss the process that allows this to happen and even eat it for our snack. We'll end the month making birdseed feeders and talk about the importance of feeding birds during the winter when their food sources are scarce.

Colleen Snyders Reports: Our Bradley Bears Dance Troupe has been busy learning their ballet positions, body part identification and articulation, as well as the steps that will make up their recital routine. They have experimented with props and rhythms while learning fundamental movements such as chase', plie, and saute'. In November, the dancers will work on their recital combinations as they prepare their Nutcracker themed pieces. They will learn how to enter and exit the stage safely; but most importantly, enjoy lots of creative fun! Show date is December 7<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 1:30 and the performance begins at 1:45!

### Tuesday & Wednesday: Dance



### Wednesday: Cooking with Bradley Bear

**Cooking is fun!**

Marybeth Meyers Reports: Cooking with Bradley Bear is off to a great start. We have enjoyed a variety of dishes while learning about portions, spreading, rolling, baking as well as safety in the kitchen. From grilled cheese (made with mayonnaise), chicken and cheese quesadillas, to pigs in a blanket and our Halloween treat, witches broomsticks made with cheese and pretzels and our scary spider cookies, the children have had a great time getting their "hands dirty" in the process of cooking.

Heather Stevens Shares: In October, our bear cubs boarded an "airplane" and flew to Peru on the continent of South America. We learned that most people in Peru speak Spanish, soccer and surfing are popular sports, and many of the people who live in Peru dress just like us. We tried churros, multi colored potato chips, roasted plantain chips and Inca cola. Fun fact- there are over 4,000 different kinds of potatoes grown in Peru. The children learned about Machu Picchu and built their own Lost City out of blocks and legos.

### Thursday: Where in the World is Bradley Bear?



### Fun Fridays:



Liz Allen Reports on Fun Fridays: On Fun Fridays in November, we will celebrate the Harvest and the changing world around us. We will search for a variety of seeds and discuss how animals and people store up food for the cold months ahead. We will talk about the bounty nature provides and how we celebrate this being thankful with friends and family. We will explore animal hibernation and bird migration. With any luck, we will be able to see and hear a flock of geese fly over and follow a squirrel to his nest in a tree!

## MONTHLY SPECIAL CLASSES AND GUEST PERFORMERS:

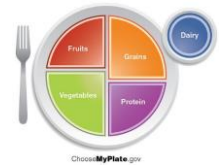


### Music Class

2s, 3s, & 4s

Music is off to a great start this year! In October, we had a great time making Alligator Stew, dancing, and playing with bells. As we move into November we will continue our musical journey into the kitchen. Using Beethoven's Ecossaise, we will follow the patterns of the music as it guides our motions and we prepare a yummy soup. We also will explore ways to play loudly and quietly on my drums, draw a poem in which we grow a plant, and sing about various foods that Mr. Chip isn't sure he wants to eat. As always, we will focus on many ways to develop our inhibitory control, creative expression, and motor development. I can't wait until the next time I am able to stop by for merry music making!

Mrs. Sutherland Shares: In November, our budding scientists will focus their investigation inward as we explore our amazing bodies and learn about some essential things we need to do to take care of them. We will learn that our heart beats like a pump, our bones give us shape and our lungs fill up with air like balloons. We will discover how food provides fuel for our bodies and gives us energy. We'll talk about different kinds of foods. Which ones are good for our bones and teeth? Which ones help our muscles get stronger? USDA's *MyPlate* will be incorporated into our lesson. More information can be found at [www.choosemyplate.gov/children](http://www.choosemyplate.gov/children).



### Science

3s and 4s



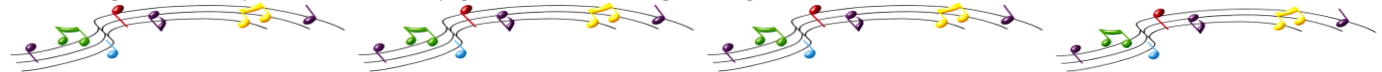
### Creative Movement 2s, 3s, and 4s

Mrs. Stevens Reports:

This month in Creative Movement the children will gobble like turkeys to the chicken dance. The children will be challenged to do a Very Simple Dance where they will add on actions after each verse. Then, they will put the whole dance together going faster and faster each time. Finally, the children will all get a chance to Shake Their Sillies Out! Remember movement is vital to the developing brain!

Ms. Casey Reports:

Fall is here; hear the yell! Cooler weather and thankful sentiments will punctuate the children's set list this month. The children are being reacquainted with old standards and some new songs. For many of the two's and three's this is the first they will hear of Yellow Submarine and She'll Be Comin' Round The Mountain! Thanksgiving and the bounty it brings looms large at Bradley Hills. It certainly gives us something to sing about!



Music with Ms. Casey for our 2s, 3s, and 4s

Mrs. Cardoni Shares: We're so sorry October is over and we've said *adios* to the Monstrous song! In November, we'll continue to build our vocabulary. We'll learn the names of family members (madre-mother, padre-father, hermanos-siblings, abuelos-grandparents). We'll be learning a Thanksgiving song where we'll learn how to show our gratitude for all we have. Thanksgiving Day is *El Día de Acción de Gracias*. We'll also be learning the names of food (pavo-turkey, patata-potato, verduras-vegetables) and how to ask politely for food. This should come in handy around the table at Thanksgiving!



Spanish  
For the 4s

### Bill Jenkins Native American Music

Bill Jenkins will be here to share his collection of Native American instruments. The children will beat drums, shake bells, and more as they sing and dance to traditional Native American music as well as some familiar nursery school songs. Bill Jenkins is a musician and educator offering hands-on programs for all ages with instruments from around the world. His extensive instrument collection has grown to over 200 and is the largest of its kind outside of a museum. We are thrilled to have Bill preform and teach our Bradley Bears.