

December 2016 Newsletter

The Bear Facts

Dear Parents,

December is a short month but a very busy month at BHP CNS. The children are going to be making lots of fun surprises for their families. We invite you to bring your family's holiday card to school to be part of our display in the front hallway. Simply bring your card to the office and we will add it to our holiday display.

Our ballet performance of the Nutcracker will be on December 7 at 1:45. Our annual Christmas Sing Alongs will be on December 15 and 16. All our holiday performances will be professionally videotaped. Dancers will receive 1 DVD of the performance. Additional dance DVDs may be ordered. Sing Along DVDs need to be pre-ordered for \$20 apiece and they will be distributed in early January. For full details see the side bar at right and the information listed in the More Important News section on page 5.

Registration for **children currently enrolled at BHP CNS** will be December 7 and 8. Applications are available on the BHP CNS website at www.bhpcns.org, for downloading. 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. Children currently enrolled in our 2s, 3s and 4s programs 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.** (For more registration info see page 4.)

Thank you also to everyone who supported the Parents' Group ornament fundraiser. Thank you to Ashely Schneider and her elf helpers for making this such a successful program. The ornaments are beautiful and will be treasured for years to come.

On behalf of myself, Carolyn, Sue, and the entire staff at BHP CNS we wish you and your families a joyous holiday season filled with safe travels, good friends, family reunions, holiday traditions, and much happiness. Wishing you joy and happiness in 2017!

Liz

Liz Sobrino,
BHP CNS Director



DECEMBER SHOWS!

Mark Your Calendars for Our
December Performances!



The Nutcracker:
December 7

The Bradley Hills Dance Troupe will present excerpts from the Nutcracker at 1:45 in Memorial Hall. All are welcome to attend this magical performance. After the recital there will be refreshments.

Christmas Sing Alongs: Dec. 15 & 16

On **Thursday, December 15** our T/TH 3s Room 113 class will perform a selection of holiday songs in Covenant Hall. The program will begin at 9:30.

On **Friday, December 16** our MWF, 3s & 4s and our M-F 3s & 4s will perform in the Sanctuary at 9:30 am.

Following the performances there will be parties in the classrooms. Children will be dismissed for the winter break after their classroom party between 10:30 and 11:00.

The Nutcracker and both Sing Alongs will be professionally recorded. All dancers will receive a DVD as part of their dance fee. Extra DVDs of the dance recital may be purchased for \$20 in the office. Sing Along DVDs may be purchased in the office or at the shows for \$20 per DVD. The DVDs make wonderful gifts for relatives who can't attend.

PARENTS' GROUP UPDATE

Happy holidays! We hope everyone had a fantastic Thanksgiving holiday and that you are looking forward to December's upcoming festivities. You're sure to hear about lots of fun projects at the nursery school this time of year. The children will enjoy making decorations, singing holiday songs, getting ready for holiday parties, and for many, the school concert.

Many thanks to everyone who ordered a holiday decoration (or several) as part of our fall fundraiser! You rocked our fundraiser with over 200 orders, with all profits going directly back to BHP CNS! This was a huge success and we are so grateful for your support. Each child's holiday decoration turned out beautifully and is a one of a kind keepsake. We had a great time helping your students create these gifts. Thank you to Laura O'Keefe, Deborah Williams, Taralee Moore, Nicole Wolven, Krishanthi Dharmasena, Garine Magary, Carolyn Bauduin, Kamila Pozyczka Mydlarz, Eliane Buback-Nicholas, and Kristi Bryan for donating their time to come in and help your children create their ornaments.

A big thank you to everyone who supported our photo fundraiser! You received some beautiful images of your children and helped us raise over \$760 for BHP CNS!

Don't forget to start labeling coats, hats, mittens, and boots with the cold weather approaching. Get new peel and stick labels from LabelDaddy! These labels are machine washable and don't require any ironing or sewing. LabelDaddy will give you 10% off your order and give 15% back to BHP CNS when you visit their website bhpcns.labeldaddy.com and enter code BHP CNS at checkout.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our Casino Night on February 10th! Get your tickets now! (\$70 a person or \$135 a couple) Consider donating your time, talent, or treasure to this event! We're looking for volunteers to help sell tickets, organize, and more leading up to, and during the event. We're also looking for a few more items for our event. Do you have sports tickets you're willing to donate? Or are you a personal trainer willing to donate a couple training sessions? We'd love to hear from you! Contact Ashley if you're interested in donating your time, talent, or treasure!

Thank you for your continual support to the school! We hope you have a wonderful holiday season!

Ashley Schneider
absilver@comcast.net

Mary Dunmire
mary.e.dunmire@gmail.com

BHP CNS BOARD UPDATE

It's great to see the school year progressing well. The Board is currently working on the annual budget for the 2017-2018 school year as well as reviewing our By-Laws. We meet bi-monthly. The meetings are open to all members of the community with 48 hours advance notice. Contact Board Chair Julie Hunter, at jhunter1100@gmail.com if you are interested in attending.

I wish everyone a joyous holiday season as well as a wonderful 2017.

Julie Hunter

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Maren Adams
Collin Bryan
Charlotte Beuhler
Christina Burkhard
Charlie Burley
Finn Gonzalez
Ravi Hennessey
Henry Hicks
Jackie Inati
Camilla Keeling



Claire Kusturiss
Remy McClintock
Aidan Monica
Grace Poffenroth
Gia Skandalis
Benjamin Stern
Julian Strauch
Anna & Mia Vincent
Mila Wang

Reminder:

When sending in birthday treats, please send in **small** cupcakes, mini muffins, fruit kabobs, etc., keeping classroom food allergies in mind. IF you bring in a home baked treat, please complete the allergy form located outside the office. We typically share birthday treats at snack time! If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's teacher or the office!

DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

Did you know the CDC, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, website has wonderful information regarding a child's development? I especially like this website because not only does it list age appropriate milestones, there are photos and videos of children performing the age-appropriate milestones as well!

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones/>

WEATHER RELATED CLOSINGS

BHPCNS follows Montgomery County Public Schools, MCPS, and emergency weather closings.

If MCPS schools are closed, BHPCNS will be closed.

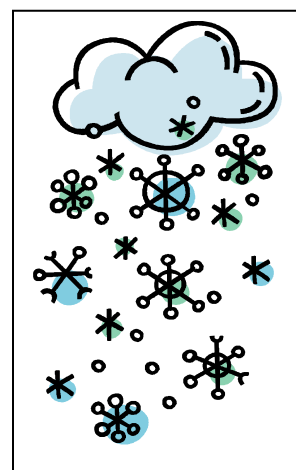
If MCPS has a two hour delay, BHPCNS will begin the school day at 11:00 am, except for Early Morning with Bradley Bear students who may arrive at 10 am.

Students in the 2 year old program may come at 11:00 am and stay until 12:30 pm.

We will provide a hearty snack. Children will be dropped off and picked up from their classrooms.

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

Signup for Montgomery County Alerts by [clicking here](#).



ANGEL GIFT TREE DONATION PROGRAM WITH BHPC



Bradley Hills Nursery School and Bradley Hills Church sponsor a toy drive each December. Toys donated will be shared with the children at the Women's' Collective, The Children's Center in Anacostia, and the Amigo Program. During this season of giving, talk with your child about helping others, especially those less fortunate than they are. Donations should be geared to children between 2 and 16 years of age. Bring an unwrapped gift to the bin outside the office by December 9th. Thank you!

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

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

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 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:

We are accepting applications for the siblings of currently enrolled students 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.

IF YOUR CHILD HAS A SUMMER BIRTHDAY AND YOU ARE CONSIDERING HAVING THEM DELAY THE START OF KINDERGARTEN PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE OPTIONS.

Play,
Grow,
Learn



with Bradley Bear

BRADLEY BEAR HOLIDAY ORNAMENTS



Bradley Bear Holiday Ornaments!

For just \$10 your Christmas tree can have one of a limited edition Bradley Bear ornaments. Stop by the office to purchase one today! Ornaments can be easily personalized with your child's name by writing on them with a Sharpie pen!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Please be respectful of our performers and our guests.

Recording and Photography of the Sing Alongs and Nutcracker Performance:

Our performers are very young. Singing and dancing in front of an audience can be very difficult for the children. We ask that you refrain from recording and using flash photography during the performances. If you wish to record the performances, we ask that you set up your equipment at the back of the hall or in the balcony of the sanctuary. This includes recording the shows on an iPad or iPhone. There will be lots of opportunities to take pictures during the parties following the performances. Please be respectful of the children and your fellow audience members and not record or take pictures during the shows. Thank you in advance.

Future Bradley Bear Photos/Baby Pictures:

If there's a new baby in your home we'd love a picture of them to add to our New Bradley Bear Cub display. Please drop off a picture of your new family member in the office and we will hang the picture with our Future Bradley Bears display outside the office.



Future
Bradley
Bears
Photos



BHPCNS Family Holiday Cards Wanted:

Please drop a holiday card off in the office to be posted on the walls when you come into the school. This annual tradition is a wonderful way for all our families to share their holiday greetings.

Drop In to Early Morning, Lunch Bunch, and Stay and Play: These programs are available on a drop in basis as space allows. Need an extra 2 hours one afternoon for holiday shopping, consider dropping your 3 or 4 year old into Stay and Play. Emergency dental appointment at 8:30 am, consider dropping your child off at Early Morning. 2 year olds can "drop into" Lunch Bunch too. Signup sheets are outside of the office. Be sure to tell your child's teacher too!

December Prorated Early Morning, Lunch Bunch, and Stay and Play Fees:

Please check in the office about your child's fees for December. For children who participate in these programs the fees will be prorated because it's a short month. Carolyn will be available to calculate your fees.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION CONTINUED

Playgrounds at BHP CNS:

The playgrounds are maintained by the Nursery School but are available to the communities surrounding BHP CNS. All children and their families are welcome to use the playgrounds as long as a class is not present on the playground. Please come out and play in the afternoons, on the weekends, and during holidays!



Emergency Clothes:

The children have all grown so much and the weather has gotten much cooler, so now is the time to swap out the summer emergency clothing with winter clothing for your child's classroom emergency clothes. Please bring in warmer clothing, pants, a shirt, possibly a sweat shirt, socks, and underwear. We will send home their summer shorts and t-shirts.



Safety Must Come First!
Slow Down When Driving!
Park Respectfully!
Be Careful of Walkers!
Be Patient & Kind!
Make Good Choices!

Carpool and Parking Reminders:

Pull up as far as possible in the carpool line so we can load as many cars as possible at once.

DO NOT PULL OUT OF THE CARPOOL LINE AND AROUND THE CAR IN FRONT OF YOU UNLESS DIRECTED TO DO SO BY A STAFF MEMBER.

PLEASE: Display your child's name tag by hanging it from your rearview mirror, at all times. If you need additional name tags, just ask at the office and we'll get you one.

Parking: Please do not block the sidewalk with your bumpers.

Do not park in the fire lane at any time.

Do not park in the handicapped spaces unless you have a sticker to do so.

MONTHLY SPECIALS AND GUEST READERS

Creative Movement, and Science will be on hiatus in December to allow our classes time to prepare their holiday surprises and get ready for our Christmas concerts.



**Music Class
for 2s, 3s and 4s**

Mr. Chip Reports:

In November, we had a wonderful time in music class as we continued our journey into musical food preparation! This month, we will explore the rhythms of words using the poem, "Jelly on a Plate" and will learn a group line dance in which the children get to dance individually as well as within the group setting. Additionally, we will cook some sausages and practice how they rest in the pan and then pop as they cook, and will play along to an Armenian folk tune. As always, we will continue to develop our sense of steady beat and motor control through play alongs and dances in which we match our movements to the instruments being played. I can't wait to see everyone soon for more musical fun!

MONTHLY SPECIALS AND GUEST READERS CONTINUED

Ms. Casey Reports:

December is a magical time to sing with children. There are so many wonderful holiday songs that children love to sing again, and again, and again, and again! It's so much fun to share these seasonal favorites with the children. We look forward to singing for you on December 15th and 16th!



Silent Night, Holy Night

Singing for 2s, 3s and 4s



The Christmas Story

Mrs. Jeanne Tustian, a former BHP CNS teacher and our Literature Lady is back to share the story of Christmas with our students. Jeanne will be reading to all the classes in the church sanctuary surrounded by a beautiful crèche. We are excited to have Mrs. Tustian back to share this special story with our children.

Mrs Cardoni Shares:

We've been learning about names of family members and will be adding many types of food to our vocabulary. We will learn how and when to say "I want" (*Yo quiero*) and "I have" (*Yo tengo*). We will also be learning and singing Spanish Christmas Carols (*Villancicos Navideños*). Each month we continue to review colors, numbers, weather, days of the week and add to our ever increasing Spanish vocabulary!! Feliz Navidad!!!



Spanish for the 4s

STAY AND PLAY UPDATES

Monday: The Artist Corner



Mrs. McCullough Reports:

Art stay and play is getting in the holiday spirit by decking the halls. We are making clay ornaments for your tree. Happy Holidays to all!!

Mrs. Cardoni Shares:

We will be preparing for the holidays experimenting with crystals and colors. Using only Borax and water we will be creating beautiful crystal ornaments fit for any Christmas tree! The last class of 2016 will be celebrated with an explosion of colors. We will be able to witness water, fat and proteins moving when we mix milk, food coloring and dish detergent. It is always exciting when the wiggling wizards are engaged in scientific experiments.

Tuesday

Wigglin' Wizards



**Tuesday & Wednesday
Bradley
Bear Dance
Company**

Mrs. Snyder Reports:

The Bradley Bears Dance Troupe has been busy preparing for their Recital. They are excited to present excerpts from The Nutcracker. Your little Angels, Flowers, and Clowns will be performing their ballet walks, jete's, plie's, and arabesques along with other ballet basics. We are so proud of the children! They have worked so hard all semester. There will be a very special surprise ending demonstrating a class-time favorite.

STAY AND PLAY UPDATES CONTINUED

Mrs. Senarathne Shares:

Our little chefs are expanding their kitchen repertoires. They've recently mastered making egg in a basket sandwiches, and delicious homemade chicken tenders. December is a short month, but we'll be busy making Christmas cookies and holiday trail mix. On December 7th, our chefs will attend the "Nutcracker" performance to see their friends waltz across the stage!



**Wednesday
In the Kitchen
with Bradley Bear**



**Thursday
Where in
the
World is
Bradley
Bear?**

Mrs. Cardoni's Travelogue:

In November we visited Italy in Europe!!! Daniel Hoopes' mother came in to help us learn about Italy, she brought in all types of pasta and each child made a collage. We sang children's songs in Italian. We learned about the Leaning Tower of Pisa (even attempted to recreate it), Venice and three of the most active volcanoes in the world; Mt Vesuvius, Mt Etna and Stromboli. We even made our own pizza! At the end of November we stamped our passports and prepared for our next country...Cuba!

Mrs. Leon Reports:

Fun Fridays: Every Friday is a new adventure! In November, we observed the changing seasons by looking for leaves and seeds on nature walks, and pretending to be bears preparing to hibernate in our dens. For December, we will be thinking about bulbs--but not the Christmas kind! We will be planting Paperwhite Amaryllis bulbs, which should hopefully bloom around New Year's Eve. Then we will end the year with a fun holiday craft!



Fun Fridays

Merry Christmas

