

# October 2016 Newsletter

## *The Bear Facts*

Dear Parents,

In the blink of an eye September has flown by. BHP CNS is thrilled to have over 184 children enrolled for the 2016-2017 school year and a dedicated staff of 35 who love and care for your children. The teachers have been busy getting to know your children and the children have been equally as busy making friends and learning classroom routines. We are all excited for a school year filled with playing, learning, and growing!

I was sorry to miss the Back-to-School Picnic. Thank you to the Parents' Group and especially the Picnic Committee Chair, Carolyn Bauduin for a fabulous picnic on a beautiful afternoon. Thank you to all the parents who volunteered, brought food, and manned the moon bounce to make this a special day for the children and their families.

Check out our Spirit Wear display in the hallway outside the Rainy Day Room. Spirit Wear is optional, but does make for a quick and easy school outfit.

The fun will continue in October as we begin our Creative Movement, Music with Mr. Chip, Singing with Ms. Casey, for all the children. Our 3s and 4s will begin their Science classes. And Spanish lessons begin for the 4s.

Other October highlights include:

- 2017-2018 Registration for Siblings & Friends
- BHP CNS Spirit Wear Sales
- Potty Training Seminar
- Speech Screenings
- Shoe and Boot Swap
- Donuts with Dad
- Halloween Fun at BHP CNS

Please remember to check your child's folder for your class' monthly calendar of activities. Questions? Pop into the office or give us a call. The door is always open.

Thank you for your children. I love to see their smiling faces every day! Wishing you all a wonderful, safe, and happy Halloween.

Liz

Liz Sobrino, Director



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### OCTOBER 20 AND 21

##### Donuts with Dad!



Dads or any special person in your child's life are invited to breakfast in Memorial Hall. Come out for coffee, juice, and donuts! T/TH classes are invited to come on October 20<sup>nd</sup>.

MWF and M-F classes are invited to come on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Join us between 8:15 and 9:00 am.

#### OCTOBER 27 AND 31

### HALLOWEEN FUN

Halloween can be a scary time for young children. At BHP CNS we keep the celebrations simple. Instead of costumes the 3s and 4s make masks to wear to our Halloween sing alongs. (Please do not send your child to school in a costume.) There will be classroom parties for all the classes, including 2s. The room parents for your child's class will be reaching out to all the parents to help with the parties. Thank you in advance for making our celebrations fun and festive!



## PARENTS' GROUP NEWS

Welcome back everyone! What a great way to kick-off our school year with our back-to-school picnic! A big round of applause goes to this year's picnic organizer, Carolyn Bauduin! Thank you to all the parents that volunteered their time at the picnic and brought a dish to share.

We are so grateful to all of our parent volunteers and BHP CNS teachers who bravely volunteered as babysitters during orientation. Also, a big thanks to Lacey Castellanos and Laura O'Keefe for selling our tote bags and lunch bags during orientation!

Be sure to check out our spirit wear in the hallway outside the Rainy Day Room! Pick up an order form and order your t-shirts and sweatshirts before October 7<sup>th</sup>! Also, don't forget to order your peel and stick labels from LabelDaddy! The cooler weather is approaching and this is a great way to label coats and hoodies that often get misplaced at school. 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](http://bhpcns.labeldaddy.com) and enter code BHP CNS at checkout. Be on the lookout for information regarding our winter ornament fundraiser!

Thank you to all of the parents who have volunteered as room parents, we are grateful for all of your help! We will have a room parents meeting on Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00. If you have any interest in volunteering to assist our committee chairs or room parents please let them know.

If potty training is in your future, be sure to mark your calendars for Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>! The Parents' Group will sponsor an informative seminar in Covenant Hall, beginning at 7:00pm. Many parents have used Sally Neuberger's tips effectively over the years. If you want "The Scoop on Poop" we will look forward to seeing you on October 6th. Be sure to RSVP with the office.

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## BHP CNS BOARD UPDATE

This year is off to a great start. The Board held its first meeting on September 21st. We welcomed new Board member Mary Dunmire, co-chair of the Parents' Group. Liz shared the details of the summer redesign of the classrooms. I think the school looks wonderful. Our initial focus will be completing a financial review of the books. We look forward to supporting Liz and her staff in providing your children an excellent nursery school experience. Our next meeting will be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 BHP CNS Board.

## BHP CNS 2017-2018 REGISTRATION BEGINS NOW!

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



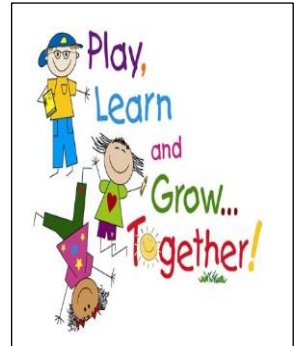
October is the time to submit an application for the 2017-2018 school year for siblings of currently enrolled children. Applications are available in the office and online now for children who will be starting BHP CNS in September 2016. Registration for currently enrolled students will begin in December. Acceptance or Wait List notifications will be sent home in late January. Applications are available on the BHP CNS website at [www.bhpcns.org](http://www.bhpcns.org)

### Friends, And Neighbors:

Encourage your friends and neighbors to call the office to learn more about BHP CNS and to schedule a tour of our school. 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 all children to play, grow, and learn! Spots fill up quickly. The sooner we receive an application the more likely we will be able to offer a new family a place next year.

## Registration for Current BHP CNS Students:

Registration for **children currently enrolled at BHP CNS** will be December 10 and 11. 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 10 and no later than December 11 in order to be given priority in enrollment. Please recognize that children currently enrolled in our 2s and 3s program as well as those children who are enrolled in the 4s 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. Families will be notified in late January as to their child's placement for the 2017-2018 school



## BHP CNS IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### DID YOU KNOW THAT BHP CNS HAS A YAHOO GROUP?

The BHP CNS Yahoo group is an excellent way to be in the know about all things related to BHP CNS and the greater community. Looking for a nanny, post a message. Want to sell outgrown clothing, place an ad. Want to volunteer at BHP CNS, opportunities are posted on Yahoo. To join go to:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bhpcnsstudents/>.

You will need to set up a Yahoo profile and user name if you do not already have one. Once your account is set up you may choose digest or individual message format. Contact the office if you need assistance signing up.



BHP CNS is on Facebook. Like our business page, Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church Nursery School for informative articles and info about BHP CNS. Friend our Bradley Hills page to see what Bradley Bear's new cubs are doing.

### Tuition Payments:

Payments are due the first of each month, Sept.-May, and are considered late if not received by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. If your payment is not received by the 15<sup>th</sup>, a 10% late fee will be assessed. If you have set up an automated "bill payer" system, please be sure the words Nursery School appear on the check to make sure your payment is received at the Nursery School and not deposited with the Church's donations by mistake.

### Student Absences:

If your child is ill and will be missing school, please call the office, or send us an email. If your child has a communicable disease strep throat, head lice, etc. we need to know to be able to share that information with the rest of your child's class. We will never identify your child or family but we are obligated to share communicable disease information with the other families.

### Student Records:

We are doing a thorough check of all our student's records. We will notify you of any missing paperwork, immunizations, etc. We ask that you submit any missing paperwork promptly. We appreciate your help in making sure our records are compliant with state regulations.

### School Directory:

The school directory will be coming home in October. The Directory is a great way to connect with other parents and children at BHP CNS.

## Donations:

### Before you throw it out donate it to BHP CNS.

- Large oatmeal canisters to be crafted into drums.
- We participate in the Ronald McDonald House Pop Tab Recycling Program. Pull off those tabs from your soda cans, cat food cans, and other cans that have one. When you've got a bunch, bring them to school and we will send them off!
- BHP CNS also collects used ink cartridges. Drop yours by the office.

## Children's Lunches:

BHP CNS provides organic 1% milk at lunch each day. Children are offered a choice of milk or water at lunch time. You do not need to pack a drink with your child's lunch.

Please pack healthy, nutritious lunches for your children. BHP CNS teachers are not allowed by our licensing agency to make the children eat their "growing" foods first. If you pack a cookie and your child wants to eat that instead of their sandwich, we are technically not allowed to have them eat their sandwich first.

We will send home any easily wrapped, uneaten lunch foods. Uneaten yogurts, apple sauce cups, etc. will be tossed. Lunch is a social time. Children like to talk and share their lives at lunch. Sometimes this gets in the way of eating their whole lunch. Many children choose to finish their lunches in their car on the way home.

## Lunch Bags:

Soft sided, small lunch bags **without** freezer packs and bento boxes are perfect for our refrigerators. Large, rigid, lunch boxes and containers are not acceptable for school. Questions? Pop into the office.

## BHP CNS Open Door Policy:

If at any time during the school year, you have a concern, complaint, an idea, or suggestions, please email, text, come to the office, or call us. We truly want to know your thoughts. Your ideas, suggestions, and critiques provide us with vital information that we can use to improve our programming. No issue is too small. If you have a concern at any time, please bring it to our attention.

## Parent Bulletin Board:

Located by the bathrooms is a parents' bulletin board. We post information about parenting classes, upcoming special events, programming for children announcements and the like on our bulletin board. Check it out.

## CARPOOL UPDATES



In an effort to make carpool run smoothly, quickly, and fair for everyone we need you to follow these protocols:

1. Caregivers who walk to the doorways, please leave space for us to walk children to their cars.
2. You **MUST REMAIN IN YOUR CAR**. We will bring your child to the car. At that time, you may exit the car to buckle your child into their car seat.
3. Carpool is not the time to have a conversation with your child's teacher. If you have an issue you wish to discuss, please call the school or email the teacher to chat.
4. **FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY:** Wait patiently for the cars in front of you to pull away from the school before pulling forward. **DO NOT** reverse your car to get out of the line while there are children being placed in cars in front of you. The only time you should go around a car in front of you is when directed to do so by a staff member.

The goal of carpool is to get children to their cars as quickly as possible. Adhering to our policies makes that possible. Thank you for sharing this information with anyone who will be collecting your child in the carpool line. If we all work together the carpool line will move much quicker.

## MANA FOOD DRIVE: BHP CNS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BJC



Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church Nursery School is pleased to join with the Bethesda Jewish Congregation and Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church Nursery School in providing food for Manna Food Center. Manna Food Center is the main Food Bank in Montgomery County, and nearly every County non-profit organization relies on Manna to provide essential food to their clients. Please consider filling the grocery bag sent home and returning it to the gathering space located outside Covenant Hall between 10/10 and 10/14. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## CONSULTANTS AT BHP CNS

Throughout the school year there will be consultants working with BHP CNS staff and students. The consultants working with the children and staff may include, para educators, speech pathologists, occupational specialists, physical therapists, interns exploring the early childhood education field, social and emotional development specialists, overall best practice in child development mentors, and such. These specialists could be from the Montgomery County Public School system, Montgomery County Social Services, or private practices. It's possible your child will come home and share that there was an extra "teacher" in their classroom. These "extra" teachers will all be approved by the office prior to working in our school. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

## SPEECH SCREENINGS OCTOBER 10 AND NOVEMBER 10



On October 10<sup>th</sup> and November 10<sup>th</sup>, BHP CNS 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.

## CONSIGNMENT DONATIONS

In keeping with good stewardship of the earth, Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church Nursery School is conducting two on-going recycling fundraisers. There's nothing to buy. We are simply asking you to help protect the environment by donating your used consumer electronics and unwanted, broken or mismatched fine jewelry, as well as gently used adult clothing and accessories as well as small household items (artwork, knickknacks, china, etc.). Your used item(s) may be tax deductible and will be sold\* at a consignment shop or recycled in accordance with EPA regulations. 100% of the proceeds will help fund programming at Nursery School, directly benefiting your children.

We are currently collecting the following items:

Cell Phones	iPads & Tablets	Inkjet Cartridges	Smart Watches	Gold, Silver & Platinum Jewelry
Adult Clothing	Formal Wear	Costume Jewelry	Accessories	Knickknacks
China	Glassware	Artwork	Coffee Table Books	

Please drop off any items you would like to recycle/donate at the school office. Tax receipts available.



## CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE TO BENEFIT LOCAL CHARITIES



BHPCNS is happy to be helping the GFWC Metropolitan Community Women's Club sell beautiful 22" double-sided balsam wreaths with a red bow. Each wreath is only \$25 and the proceeds are used to support local charities. Order your wreath by October 14 and it will arrive at school the week after Thanksgiving. Order forms have come home in the tote bags. Extra forms are available outside the office. Drop off completed forms and checks in the envelope in the office.

## BHPCNS OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Riley Russell  
George Pickle  
MJ Foist  
Charlie Fiorentino  
Ewan Grant

Cole Unikel  
Ajay Singh  
Connor DuFour  
Julianna Shea  
Maggie Boland



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

## EMERGENCY PREPARATION INFORMATION

The American Academy of Pediatrics has created a wonderful publication for families to prepare for emergency situations. To learn more go to: [www.aap.org/en-us/Documents/disasters\\_family\\_readiness\\_kit.pdf](http://www.aap.org/en-us/Documents/disasters_family_readiness_kit.pdf).

## BOOT, SHOE, CLEAT, BALLET SLIPPER, SWAP!



## Boots, Shoes, & Cleat Swap

Has your Bradley Bear Cub outgrown their snow or rain boots, ballet slippers, dress shoes, sneakers, and/or cleats? Bring their outgrown footwear, toddler through children's sizes to BHPCNS

You do not need to bring a pair to take a pair and you don't need to take a pair to bring a pair.

We will line the hallways with boots and cleats for families to swap.

**Boot/Shoe Swap October 17 through October 28!**

## EVERYTHING ABOUT POTTY TRAINING & MORE! OCTOBER 6

Is toilet training your child in your future?  
Are you struggling with toilet training your child?  
Are you thinking there must be a better way to reach this childhood milestone?  
If you've answered yes to any of the above questions, you **MUST** come to our Potty Training seminar, sponsored by the Parents' Group on October 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm. Sally Neuberger, the Potty Training guru, will be here to share her expertise about all things potty, how to train, how to deal with setbacks, when to train, and more! Bring your questions but not your child. This is an adult only program. RSVP by signing up on the clipboard outside the office.



**POTTY TRAINING**  
101

## BHPCNS SPIRIT WEAR FUNDRAISER



BHPCNS has designed a line of school spirit wear! Show your school pride by purchasing you and/or your child a BHPCNS sweatshirt or tshirt.

Orders forms are available in the hallway and should be returned with cash or check by October 7. Thank you for your support.

## NOTED PARENTING AUTHOR SERIES SPONSORED BY PEP

On November 18<sup>th</sup>, Alyson Schafer will be at BHPCNS sharing her expertise with more than 200 parents from the DC Metro area. More details will follow, but mark your calendars to be a part of this exciting morning program.



Please join PEP for our Noted Parenting Author series. PEP's annual author showcase brings together more than 500 area parents to share new insights and research about parenting and children. This year, PEP is welcoming Alyson Schafer, author of the best-selling books *Honey, I Wrecked the Kids* and *Ain't Misbehavin'*.

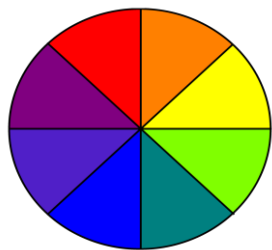
The two events the first at Bethesda's Landon School in the evening of November 17 and the second in the morning at Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church on November 17 and 18 will feature presentations by Schafer and lively discussions.



*Educating parents.  
Enriching families.*

For more information on PEP visit their website at <http://pepparent.org/>.

## STAY AND PLAY NEWS!



### Monday: Art

Art Stay and Play has started with a neckwear installation, you can visit the work and add your own symbolism. The neckwear has been woven into the playground fence. It symbolizes families intertwined watching over our children. This past week we had an introduction of the color wheel and we blended new colors and finger painted with them, look for them to be incorporated into an Eric Carle replica. In October, Andy Warhol portraits and Halloween fun is on tap. Happy Fall!

We are learning about all things fall. We will have a class on acorns. What are acorns, where do they come from, who eats them, etc. We will then go outside and collect these nuts and bring them in for a sorting game. The following week we'll talk about bats and the many different species of this mammal. We'll learn what they eat, where and how they live and how they use echolocation to help them see at night. The last class in October, we'll talk about the pumpkin life cycle. It starts with one small seed and it turns into one great pumpkin. We'll carve one in class and enjoy a yummy, healthy pumpkin treat.



### Tuesday: Science



### Wednesday: Cooking

Bradley Bear's Cubs have been busy learning kitchen fundamentals!

Week 1 the children made yummy muffin pizza.

Week 2 we made delicious grilled cheese sandwiches.

The children are so proud of their cooking skills.



### Tuesday & Wednesday: Dance Company

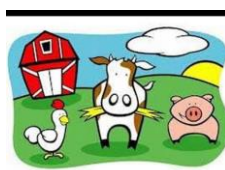
In October, Miss Chelsea will continue introducing dance vocabulary such as the names of positions and basic dance steps for example: Bourre' and Chase'. The children are working with long ribbon sticks as they expand their range of motion while learning the structure of dance class. We will be playing with the theme of animals and how they might hop, stretch, spin, move slowly and heavily or quickly and lightly. Each of the movements learned, will lead up to our combinations for the December Recital.

We are learning about directions, continents, maps and the globe. During this year, we will be "visiting" at least one country from every continent, 10 countries in all. We will create a passport for our travels and add a sheet for each country that we visit. We will be visiting; United States, Perú, Italy, Zimbabwe, Antarctica, Greece, Australia, Japan, Poland and Cuba. If you have special knowledge of one of these country and want to share with us, please let us know!! In October we will be leaving the United States and learning about our first country Perú. We are very excited to learn about our neighbors to the South! ¡Buen Viaje!

### Thursday: Geography



### Friday Fun



Fun Fridays: On Fun Fridays in October, we will be exploring farms! We will learn about some of the things we get from farms, including milk, wool, and delicious fruits and vegetables. The children will all work together to create a barn out of cardboard. We will learn about cows, and make our own butter from heavy cream. We will read about sheep, and learn how to make felted wool. We will end the month by talking about pumpkins and painting a pumpkin to take home!





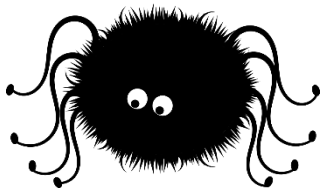
**Music Mr. Chip**  
For 2s, 3s, & 4s

**Mr. Chip Reports:** Fall is here and it is time to sing and dance and play in music with Mr. Chip! This fall our focus will be on cooking, food, and the kitchen in general. In addition to mixing up some alligator stew (which is particularly tasty after the children have come up with ingredients to add), we will make music using bowls, spoons, and other kitchen items. While making the stew, we will explore smooth and bumpy (legato and staccato) motions as we wash and chop the ingredients, and after eating it all up we will of course explore many ways to move. Through the use of the song "Rig a Jig Jig," we will practice moving in duple (walking, marching, etc) and triple (skipping, galloping, etc.) meters. I am looking forward to another wonderful year of making music at Bradley Hills.

**Mrs. Sutherland Shares:** The falling leaves of Autumn will take center stage this month in Science as we explore the life of trees. How do they grow? What do they eat? Why do their leaves change color? And, what is a tree ring??? We will be answering these questions and more, as well as learning about the many wonderful things that trees provide us and our animal friends.



**Science Class**  
For 3s & 4s



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

**Mrs. Stevens Reports:** The children will have their first Creative Movement class of the new school year in October. Movement stimulation is important for everyone, but it is crucial for a child's developing mind. The children will run, jump, skip, hop, and gallop as we play the freeze dance game. With Halloween approaching the children will stretch like cats, fly like bats, stomp like monsters, crawl like spiders, and dance like skeletons. Creative Movement is just that lots of fun motions to get everyone up and moving. Don't forget to take lots of wiggle breaks every day!

**Ms. Casey Shares:** Welcome back to school! Singing with Ms. Casey starts up in October - my favorite month of the year! I'm seeing lots of familiar smiling faces in the hall and look forward to rekindling the kids' love of music. I encourage families to bolster their children's creative thought by playing music around the house and in the car. Make sure the songs are something that you enjoy as well - Tears for Fears, Taylor Swift, and Bob Marley are just as infectious as Raffi!



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



**Spanish for 4s**

**Sra. Cardoni Reports:** In October we will start our weekly Spanish class with the 4s. We will be learning how to greet each other *Hola, ¿cómo estás?*, Hello, how are you?. We will also be talking about the weather in Spanish, learning colors, counting and singing, a lot! Toward the end of the month we will be singing our very popular Halloween song, *Los Monstruos!* and will learn how to say spider-araña, ghost-fantasma, witch-bruja, bat-murcielago, very important words this time of year!

[Click here](#) to learn our song!