

February 2017 Newsletter

The Bear Facts

Dear Parents,

February marks the mid-point of our school year. How have 5 months passed by so quickly? This short month is chocked full of activities for you and our cubs.

For parents there are 2 upcoming evening events:

- The BHP CNS Board of Directors and I will be hosting our annual **Sweets and Treats Night on February 8th** at 7:30 in the lounge. Join us to meet other parents, ask questions, and share your hopes and/or concerns for our school with the Board. Coffee and treats will be served.
- The Parents' Group will be hosting an amazing **Casino Night Fundraiser on February 10th** at 7:00 pm at Bethesda Country Club. Monies raised at this event will directly fund new playground and outdoor equipment for our students. Please consider supporting this event.

Our Parent/Teacher conferences will be held in February. See side bar for more details and tips on how to get the most out of your conference time.

Thank you to everyone who purchased Scholastic books. Mrs. Mac-n-Cheese reports that thanks to your generosity BHP CNS was able to purchase 30 new hard cover books for our library.

Our 2017-2018 acceptance letters were sent home the last week of January. If you did not receive your child's acceptance letter stop by the office for a copy. At this point in time we are almost fully enrolled for the 2017-2018 school year. Thank you. If you have friends who are looking for next year, ask them to contact the office ASAP to tour and apply. If you have questions regarding your child's placement, please contact the office.

In honor of Valentine's Day your classroom teachers and room parents will be sending you more information on the class parties and valentines.

Please know you are welcome to come in at any time to chat. Or, you may call me on my cell at 301-642-8166 or email me at Lsobrino@bhpcns.org to discuss any and all things related to BHP CNS.

Liz
Liz Sobrino, Director BHP CNS



PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES



Parent/Teacher conferences have been scheduled and sign-up sheets have been posted outside your child's classroom. Here are some guidelines we ask you to follow:

- Sign-up sheets have been posted outside each classroom. If you haven't signed up yet, please email your child's teacher for a time slot.
- Each conference is scheduled for 15 minutes. In an effort to keep the conferences moving smoothly it is vital to adhere to the 15 minutes scheduled. Please be on time or notify the office if you are running late for your conference. If you think you will need more than 15 minutes, please make special arrangements with your child's teacher in advance.
- Conferences are for adults only and baby-sitting arrangements should be made for your child and/or siblings.
- Classes are held on conference days. Drop your child off in their classroom as usual and proceed to your conference.

If you have any questions about the conference process or afterwards, contact your child's teacher or the office to discuss further.

CASINO NIGHT
February 10, 2017



We hope your 2017 is off to a great start! Mark your calendars for Sweets and Treats on Wednesday, February 8th. You'll be able to meet board members, ask questions, or share your ideas for the future of BHPCNS.

We also have our much-anticipated Casino Night on February 10th! Stop by the office with a check or use the paypal link to buy tickets with a credit card, www.paypal.me.BHPCNSCasinoNight. Tickets are \$70 for one and \$135 per couple. Your ticket price includes dinner, beer, wine, and your first \$50 in gambling money. You can purchase tickets at the door, but prices will go up! We can also use a few more volunteers to help make our night a success. Consider donating 30 minutes of your time to help sell cocktail and raffle tickets during the event.

www.signupgenius.com/go20f084ba5af22a2f49-casino

If you are unable to attend the event but would still like to purchase raffle tickets, let the office know. You're still eligible to win! Buy 5 for \$5, 15 for \$10, 30 for \$20!

We have such wonderful staff at BHPCNS that love to take our little ones out to play even on chilly days! Don't forget to label their warm coats, hats, mittens, and snow boots when you send them to school. Check out LabelDaddy for new peel and stick labels to make labeling all your child's winter play clothes so much easier! 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 BHPCNS when you visit their website labeldaddy.com and enter code BHPCNS at checkout.

As always, thank you for your support! We can't wait to see you at Sweets and Treats and our Casino Night! Stay tuned for information regarding our family dinner night at BHPCNS in March!

Ashley Schneider
absilver@comcast.net

Mary Dunmire
Mary.E.Dunmire@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE BHPCNS BOARD

It's hard to believe that we are half way through the school year. It's always so rewarding to see smiling children engaged in their activities together. The Board has approved both the calendar and the budget for 2017-2018. The by-laws revisions should be completed shortly. I hope to see you at the next Sweet 'n Treats, February 8th, in the BHPC Lounge.

Sweets and Treats: February 8 at 7:30!
Your chance to meet the Board and Director.
Come and share your ideas for BHPCNS!



VALENTINE'S DAY PARTIES AT BHPCNS



Valentine's Day Parties will be held on:

February 13 for our Monday, Wednesday, Friday classes

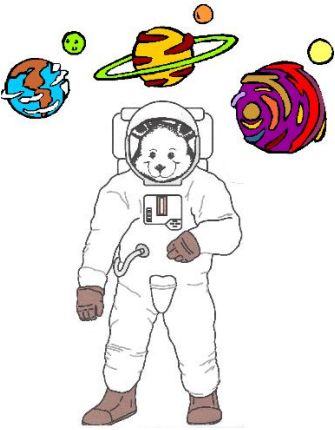
February 14 for our Tuesday/Thursday and Monday through Friday classes

Children should bring a valentine for each child in their class, but do not address the valentines to individual children. Just sign your child's name on the cards. Include a card for your child. They like to put a card in for themselves!

Party details will be shared with all families via your child's teacher or your room parents.

Thank you in advance for making Valentine's Day so much fun!

BHPCNS 2017 SUMMER CAMP: A PRESCHOOLERS GUIDE TO THE GALAXY



Sign up ASAP to take advantage of the Early Registration Fee!

Camp flyers with registration details have been sent home. If you need another one they are in the bin outside the office.

This year our campers will be exploring outer space at our Preschoolers Guide to the Galaxy Camp. Our space themed camp will run each day, 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 22th

June 26 through the 29th

All currently enrolled BHPCNS children are eligible to attend camp.

All campers must be potty trained to participate in camp.

Early Bear Discounted fee is \$175 until 2-28-2017. After that camp is \$200 per week. For more details, stop by the office.

IS THERE A RISING MCPS KINDERGARTENER IN YOUR HOUSE?



MCPS elementary schools need to know if your child will be attending their school in September 2017. To register your child, call your local elementary school. It is very helpful to the elementary schools to know the number of children attending for next 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	301-571-6959	Chevy Chase	301-657-4994
Bannockburn	301-320-6555	Garrett Park	301-929-2170
Bethesda	301-657-4979	Kensington Parkwood	301-571-6949
Bradley Hills	301-571-6966	Seven Locks	301-469-1038
Burning Tree	301-320-6510	Wood Acres	301-320-6502
Carderock Springs	301-469-1034	Wyngate	301-571-6979

When contacting your local elementary school ask if they are hosting any informational kindergarten meetings for parents. Several schools have monthly tours available to give you an overview of their 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR BHCNS' KINDERGARTEN INFORMATIONAL MEETING ON 4/19! DETAILS TO FOLLOW.

MORE IMPORTANT NEWS FOR BHCNS FAMILIES

Presidents' Day: February 20th BHCNS is closed!

February is Pediatric Dental Month: We are very excited to have Dr. Despina Markogiannakis, aka Dr. Marko or Demi's mom, presenting dental hygiene to all our classes on **February 23rd and 24th**. Thank you Dr. Marko!
FUN FACT: Did you know that it takes only 20 seconds for bacteria in a child's mouth to convert sugar into tooth-enamel-destroying-acid, according to the dental hygiene company CLOSYS.

Lost and Found Bin: The Lost and Found bin, by Room 117, is getting filled with warm jackets, hair bows, sweaters, & other lost items. Please check the bin for any missing belongings. We will be donating unclaimed items.

Boots for Outdoor Playtime: Please continue to send your children to school with boots that can be worn outside to the playgrounds. Snowy or muddy playgrounds will not keep us indoors!

Picture Days: will be February 21 and 22nd. Check your child's tote bag for more details later in the month.

March 14: will be **PIZZA & JOHN HENRY NIGHT!** Mark your calendars 5:30 to 7:00 pm for this fun evening.

Spring Break: BHCNS will close on Thursday April 6th after Stay and Play classes are dismissed at 2:30. On Friday, April 7th the nursery school staff will have a professional day, including a training session on Intentionally Teaching Social-Emotional Skills to preschoolers. We will reopen on Tuesday, April 18th.

BHCNS Office Number: Please add the office number 301-365-2909 to your contacts in your cell phones. This way you'll never miss a call from the office because you didn't recognize the school's phone number. You never know when the power will go out or there is some other unexpected emergency that requires us to call you.

Facebook: Friend Bradley Bear and like the Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church Nursery School to stay in the know!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Evie Bross
Fiona Bird
Harper Hussion
Isabelle Fiorentino
Abigail Datch
Dahlia Hertig
Megan McHugh



**Happy
Birthday to
These
Cubs!**

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!

STAY AND PLAY UPDATES



Monday: The Artist's Corner

By Mrs.
McCullough

Using the toy of the year, an air marker sprayer, we will be crafting a negative transfer snowflake project. On the second Monday we'll string up a sweet Valentine gift. Our artists will miss class on Presidents' Day, and on the last Monday of the month a Monet garden will start blooming.

The underlying theme in January was opposites. We learned about convection by watching how heat moved from a hot place to a cold place. The next week, our topic was air pressure. We pushed a hard-boiled, peeled egg into a glass bottle using only a match and a piece of paper generating two opposing pressurized environments. The third week we learned about static electricity and its positive and negative charges. We had fun with balloons, tissue paper and pencils to demonstrate this theory. In February, our cubs will turn into penny wizards. We will compare a new penny with an old one and discuss how the oxide is formed. We then will use several household items to clean these pennies. The rest of the month will be all about the senses and show how much we rely on them and how we use them simultaneously without even knowing it.

Tuesday: Wigglin' Wizards By Mrs. Skoff



Tuesday & Wednesday: Bradley Bear Dance Co.



In January, our dancers rediscovered ballet vocabulary, and were introduced to batch of new "Dance with Me" tunes. Our new favorite is undeniably "The Wiggly Worm." February will find us exploring opposites in dance such as fast and slow (a.k.a. allegro and adagio), and advancing into various forms of turning. We will also begin to experiment with movement phrases for our spring show, Under the Sea! Mermaids, crabs, and octopi! Oh My!

Our Bradley Bears are fending off the frigid February weather with some fabulous, filing meals. On our menu this month will be Crescent Rolls with ham and cheese, (fromage), bacon wrapped tater tots, the classic BLT and for Valentine's Day crescent rolls with jam and Nutella. We practice our listening skills, following directions, fine motor skills, along with layering, counting, and rolling during our cooking classes. The best part is eating our delicious creations. It's always fun to cook with Bradley Bear!

Wednesday: Cooking with Bradley Bear

By Mrs. Myers



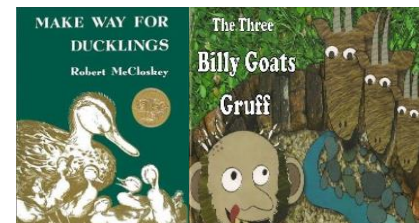
Thursday: Where in the World is Bradley Bear?

By Mrs. Cardoni



Even though the weather never really felt like we were in Antarctica we had fun learning about the fascinating continent. We walked like penguins, ate flavor ice, performed a blubber experiment and learned about icebergs. We say goodbye to Antarctica and we're boarding a "plane" to Greece. In this beautiful country we will be studying Greek Mythology, the Parthenon, the language, alphabet and learn a Greek dance typically performed at celebrations. We will also have a special guest Mom visit to share more about her wonderful Greek culture. Toward the end of the month we will again be on the move "down under". That's right, we're visiting the country and continent of Australia. Dingos, Great Barrier Reef, Aborigines, Kangaroos, we'll learn about all of them!! Happy Travels!!!

Fun Fridays are going to be going from Snow Business to Show Business! After exploring winter and snow in January, we are going to get in touch with our dramatic sides in February. The children will act out familiar stories, including Make Way for Ducklings and The Three Billy Goats Gruff. We will also play theater games to get our bodies moving!



Fun
Fridays:
By Mrs. Leon

MONTHLY SPECIAL CLASSES UPDATES



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

Mr. Chip Reports:

As January's weather demonstrated, things never go exactly as you plan! We had a wonderful time in music class this month and are poised to continue our journey into books and music. In February we will sing and move to a favorite book by Eric Carle and explore many ways to move with and without streamers while we sing "Jim Along Josie," an infectious tune that lends itself to a lot of creative movements! We will discover some instruments that make a twinkle sound as well as some ways to move and twinkle in the stars. I will also bring back my drums for a rousing play along to Twinkle Twinkle Little Star (my secret jazzy version) and teach a new way to improve listening while dancing to Ring Around the Rosie. It promises to be another fun filled and busy month in music class!

Mrs. Sutherland Reports:

We'll be taking a lot of deep breaths in Science this month as we focus on the topic of air & wind! Through observations, the children will discover that even though we can't see it, air is everywhere & it takes up space. They will learn that all living things need air & that without it, people would have to carry tanks of air around with them like astronauts & scuba divers. They will become familiar with how the plants & 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 to see how it can make activities easier when it pushes us from behind & how it can make things more difficult when it is facing us.



Science Class 3s & 4s



Creative Movement 2s, 3s, & 4s

Mrs. Stevens Reports:

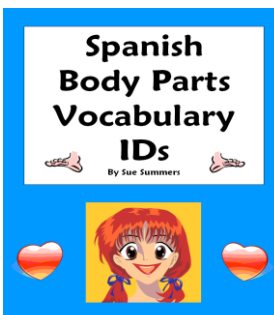
In Creative Movement this month, we will play with the parachute. The children really love it! The parachute encourages the children to work together and utilize their listening skills. Parachute games strengthen the upper torso, building language skills, and developing a sense of rhythm are a few of the benefits of parachute play. Don't forget to ask your child about popping popcorn on the parachute! The children, also will play with the ribbon rainbow while skating to the song Snow Flakes Falling Down! The children also work on their impulse control and listening skills while dancing to the Freeze Dance song.

Ms. Casey Sings:

It's so wonderful to come to Bradley Hills and sing with the children each month. They love to sing along with me and my guitar. We have been busy singing all kinds of fun songs, folk songs, rhyming songs, classics, "Twinkle Twinkle" and some dancing songs. The children love to get up and dance to the music and sometimes they will sing along too. We will be starting to practice our show songs next month!



Singing with Ms. Casey 2s, 3s, & 4s



Spanish for the 4's

Mrs. Cardoni Reports:

In Spanish we finished up our lesson on our body (cuerpo). We have learned Spanish words for our body parts and can sing Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes in Spanish (Cabeza, Hombros, Piernas, Pies)! We read De la Cabeza a Los Pies, the Eric Carle book (From Head to Toe) translated into Spanish. In February we will be learning about feelings (sentimientos). The children will be singing If You're Happy and You Know It in Spanish but changing the words a bit to sing if you're happy (feliz)- clap (aplauda), if you're mad (enojado)-stomp (pisa), if you're sad (triste)-cry (llora) and if you're silly (tonto)-yell (grita). We will be reading Asi Me Siento Yo (The Way I Feel) by Janan Cain, a lovely rhyming book about feelings and How Do Dinosaurs Say "I'm Mad" by Jane Yolen. We continue to review all of the words we've learned and are amassing quite a vocabulary!

Picture Day will soon be here!

Splendid Photography will be at BHPCNS on February 21 and 22. Details on how to order, what your ordering options are, costs, etc. will be sent home soon. There will be a picture makeup day in March. For more information from Splendid Photography about how to prepare for Picture Day, [click here](#).

School Picture Days

