

# January 2017 Newsletter

## *The Bear Facts*

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school! I wish everyone a very happy, healthy, and fun 2017!

Thank you for wonderful holiday treats for the office, teachers and staff at BHP CNS. Your generosity with the class parties, your gifts to teachers, and your donations to the Angel Giving Tree, were amazing and we appreciate all that you do for our school and the greater community. Thank you also to the Parents' Group and Rachel Currie for the beautiful poinsettias that were delivered to the entire staff in December.

January will be another busy month at school. We are excited to welcome 20 new "Little Twos" to our program. We will be closed on January 16<sup>th</sup> for the Martin Luther King holiday. Vision Screening for all our 3s and 4s classes will take place on January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. We will begin our Hearing Screenings on January 27<sup>th</sup>. Finally we will close the month with John Henry, The Guitar Playing Man, for all classes, on January 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>.

During January the teachers will be busy assessing your child's development at school. They will be using a developmentally age appropriate checklist of tasks with your child. These assessments/tasks are done in a fun and playful manner. The results will be shared at our Parent Teacher conferences. See sidebar for more details. These assessments are a snapshot of your child in their school setting.

Our 2017-2018 school year registration process is well under way. Classes are filling up! If you have not yet submitted an application, please get one into the office asap. For the applications we have received we are busy processing them and will be getting acceptance and wait list letters sent home in late January. If your child will be applying to a private school for the 2017-2018 school year, please submit your requests for letters of recommendation or evaluations to your child's teacher or the office asap so we have ample time to prepare the necessary information and return it to the school you are applying to in a timely fashion.

Thank you again for your generosity but thank you most of all for your children. They are an amazing gift that you share with us each and every day.

Liz  
Liz Sobrino, BHP CNS Director



### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES



Parent/Teacher Conferences will be scheduled in February and March. More details will be coming from your child's teacher and the office as we get closer to conference time. Guidelines:

- Sign-up sheets will be placed on each classroom door. If you do not drop your child at school, please have your caregiver sign up for a conference time slot for you or email your child's teacher for a time slot.
- Conferences are 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.
- For families with multiple children in the school we will work with you to schedule your conferences back to back whenever possible.
- Conferences are for adults only and baby-sitting arrangements should be for your child and/or siblings.

BHP CNS is blessed with a truly remarkable staff who want to share their experiences with your child with you. If you have any questions, contact your child's teacher or the office.

## PARENTS' GROUP NEWS

Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful holiday break! A big thank you to all the teachers and staff for working with our children to put on an amazing Christmas sing-a-long. We would also like to thank Rachel Currie for distributing poinsettias to our wonderful teachers and staff. Finally, thank you to the room parents for organizing teacher gifts and holiday treats!

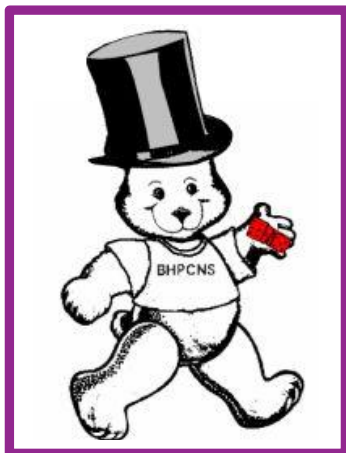
Mark your calendars for our Casino Night on February 10<sup>th</sup>! Get your tickets for \$70 per ticket or \$135 a couple! Don't forget to consider donating your time, treasure or talent to our biggest fundraiser! Thank you to everyone who has already purchased tickets and/or a sponsorship!

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](http://bhpcns.labeldaddy.com) and enter code BHP CNS at checkout. Look for a flyer attached to the newsletter and to come home in your child's bag! As always, thank you for your support! Stay warm!

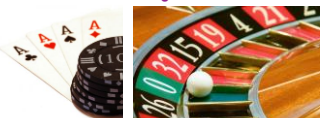
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## BHP CNS PARENTS' GROUP CASINO NIGHT FUNDRAISER



### CASINO NIGHT February 10, 2017



Join us **February 10, 2017 at 7 pm, at Bethesda Country Club** for Casino Night! Enjoy cocktails, great food and lots of fun all while raising money for our amazing school! You'll have the chance to win **FRONT ROW SEATS** at: Graduation, Ballet Performances, Holiday Sing-Alongs, **4 Star Getaways** and so much more!

We'll be selling tickets, sponsorships and 50/50 raffle tickets starting January 9th from 8:30 am to 9:30 am.

Tickets are **\$70** a person or **\$135** per couple (includes all food, beer and wine). Bring friends and get the word out to the parents of Bradley Hills alumni who would like to have some fun with us. Sponsorships can be made in your family or business name and even split with a friend or two. Don't miss a great night of mingling and mixing with our great community!

If you prefer to pay online with PAYPAL send a message to [lkhaser@yahoo.com](mailto:lkhaser@yahoo.com) with a note for BHP CNS Casino Night.

This goes directly to the school's PAYPAL account which feeds directly to the school's bank account. It's one way - deposit only.

## BHP CNS BOARD NEWS

Welcome back. I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season. The Board is currently finalizing next school year's budget as well as a revision to the By-Laws. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 11th at 7:00pm. As always, we welcome any member of the school community to attend the meeting. If interested, notify Liz at [lsobrino@bhpcns.org](mailto:lsobrino@bhpcns.org) or me at [bjahutner@aol.com](mailto:bjahutner@aol.com) at least two days prior to the meeting so that we can include your request in the agenda.

Best wishes for a happy New Year! Julie Hunter

## BHPCNS JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Maia Folio  
Charlotte Groves  
James Mense  
Leo Hoopes  
Sloan Coakley  
Amanda Meier  
Anja Krimitzas



Sebastian Mendoza  
Audrey Castro  
Zara Bracciale  
Tad Michael  
Saheli Senarathne  
Avery Teeters

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

Reminder: When sending in birthday treats, please send in small cupcakes, mini muffins, fruit kabobs, etc. Remember to label the treats with the ingredients used so we can keep everyone safe at school. We typically share birthday treats at snack time! If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's teacher or the office!

## BHPCNS FUTURE BRADLEY BEAR PHOTOS



### Is there a baby in your house?

Send a picture of your little one to the office and we will post the picture on the bulletin board outside the office for all to see our Future Bradley Bears.



## WEATHER RELATED CLOSINGS AND DELAYED OPENINGS

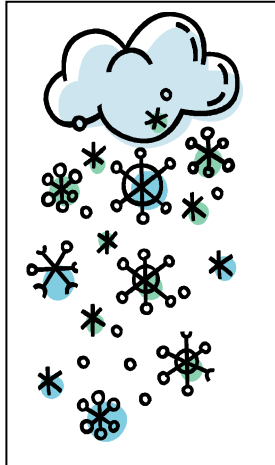
BHPCNS follows Montgomery County Public Schools, MCPS, and emergency weather closings.

**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. 2 year old 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.**

**To know about weather closings or delayed openings sign up for Alert Montgomery. Register to have alert messages emailed or texted to you click [here](#).**



## VISION AND HEARING SCREENINGS FOR BHPCNS STUDENTS:

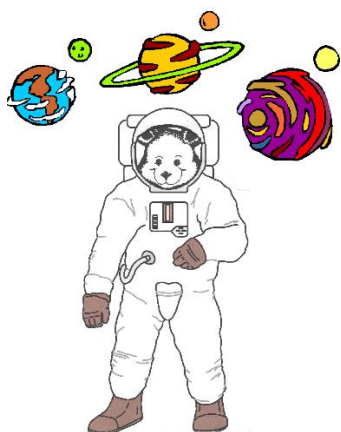
**Hearing Screenings:** For all 3 and 4 year old classes will begin January 27<sup>th</sup> and be wrapped up in February by a licensed audiologist.



**Vision Screenings:** For all 3 and 4 year old classes will take place on January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. The Society for the Prevention of Blindness will perform the screenings.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the office and let us know. Thank you.

## 2017 SUMMER CAMP: A PRESCHOOLERS GUIDE TO THE GALAXY



Details will soon be available for BHP CNS' annual summer camp. 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

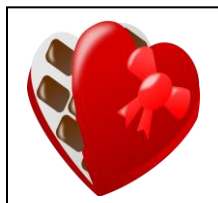
All currently enrolled BHP CNS children are eligible to attend camp. All children must be potty trained to participate in camp.

For more details, stop by the office. Registration forms will be available shortly. There will be an early registration discount.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS:

**January 16: BHP CNS Closed: Martin Luther King Holiday**

**February 8: Sweets and Treats Night**



### **BHP CNS Annual Sweets and Treats Night**

Everyone is invited to come out to meet the BHP CNS Board, and BHP CNS Director Liz Sobrino for an evening of sweet treats and discussions about BHP CNS. Come to ask your questions about the school, share ideas for the future, other BHP CNS and to meet other parents. 7:30 in the Lounge.

**February 20: BHP CNS Closed: Presidents' Day**

## MORE IMPORTANT NEWS:

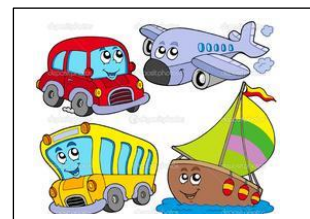
**Car Magnets:** Show your BHP CNS pride with one of our fabulous car magnets. If you have lost yours there are lots more in the office. Stop by and get one!

**Lost and Found Bin:** The Lost and Found bin, outside room 117, is getting filled with warm jackets, hair bows, sweaters, and other lost items. Please check the bin for any missing belongings.

**Playgrounds at 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 and on the weekends.

**Emergency Clothes:** 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 and take home their summer shorts and shirts.

### **Transportation Days:**



Transportation Days are coming in May. If you have any cool vehicles for land, air, water, construction equipment, fancy cars, horses, motorcycles, etc. we'd love to have them be part of our transportation display. The dates are May 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. The children love to explore, ask questions, and learn all about transportation!



## STAY AND PLAY NEWS:



### **Monday: The Artist Corner**

Mrs. McCullough Reports:

LET IT SNOW!! We will be making art with the elements, cutting and painting snowflakes. Hopefully we don't get so much that school is cancelled.

Chief Scientist Mrs. Cardoni Reports:

The Bradley Bear scientists really enjoyed our unit on Aerodynamics. In January we will be moving to a new unit on the five senses. We'll start with taste and learn how different spots on the tongue determine whether something is sweet, salty, sour or bitter. Week two will be focused on our sense of smell. We'll blindfold the children and see if they can guess what's in the jar. The third week will be touch. They will use only their hands to determine the shape of various objects in a bag. When we get to the last week in January, we will learn about our sense of hearing by playing a game where the children are once again blindfolded and have to point to the direction where the sound came from. Each week we will also talk about how we use many of our senses together and how removing one from the mix, can change our thought process. The first week of February will cover our sense of sight and end the senses unit.



### **Tuesday: Wigglin' Wizards**



### **Tuesday & Wednesday Bradley Bear Dance Company**

Mrs. Snyder Reports:

Happy New Year! We are so proud of all of our dancers and their performance in the Nutcracker and the Freeze Dance Finale! They did a lovely job and I hope they all had fun.

In January, it's back to basics for the stay and play dancers. We will review all of the positions and continue to add on to our lexicon of dance vocabulary covering a variety of dance styles. We will explore balance and directionality such as high, low, and side to side. In the spirit of winter, we will try some improv with large snowflake props and imagine how a snowflake falls. We will continue to build healthy muscles and minds now and throughout the year.

Chef Myers Reports:

Bonne année 2017! Wednesday's chefs are visiting Paris this January, preparing and cooking a variety of breakfast items. On our menu this month are scrambled eggs and toast with butter or jelly, crepes with Nutella and bananas, chocolate croissants and oatmeal with fresh fruit and freshly squeezed orange juice. We will practice sequencing and measuring while reinforcing safe cooking techniques. Cooking is a great venue to introduce vocabulary, develop fine motor skills and practice table manners while having fun!



### **Wednesday In the Kitchen with Bradley Bear**



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

Mrs. Skoff Shares: The children spent their December in the beautiful country of Cuba. We had so much fun dancing, singing and eating like Cubans. We will board a "plane" for our next adventure: Antarctica. We will stay on this virtually uninhabited continent for the next three weeks. Did you know that not only does Antarctica have the highest elevation of all the continents but it is considered a desert with annual precipitation of only 8 inches along the coast and far less inland? We will learn about all of the animals that inhabit this vast area and do an experiment that will teach us how their blubber allows them to survive.

Ms. Allen Shares: January offers our Fun Fridays group opportunities inside and out to explore! We will discuss why our days are short but already getting longer, and go out to discover shadows. We will look at the shadows of trees, play equipment, and ourselves! With the help of some sidewalk chalk we will trace our shadows and see how they change as the afternoon wears on. Even if we don't have "real" snow, we will work together to create an indoor snowman, work on some individual abstract snow art, and even have a snowball toss! So "bundle up" for winter fun!



### **Fun Fridays**



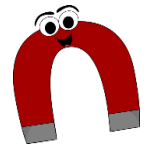
**Music with  
Mr. Chip  
2s, 3s, & 4s**

### Mr. Chip Reports:

Brrr...it sure got cold in December. In order to make the most of the cold weather, many classes practiced ice skating with paper plates in class. This activity is fun and easy to do at home and also provides a great opportunity to work on some gross motor skills while being forced to move more slowly (ideal for indoor days!) We also began learning a line dance that involves coordinating movements with a partner as well as moving independently and within a large group. It was rather fun, and we will continue to practice it next month. Also, in January, we will begin transitioning from our food oriented fall curriculum to Little Hands' new story based curriculum, Sing Me A Story! We will sing about my friend Lucy, who lives at the library and goes on adventures with the books, play along to a jazzy version of Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star, and dance in different ways to Jim Along Josie. If we have time we will also follow guided movements to Eric Satie's beautiful piece, Trois Gymnopedie #1. We have a lot to do, and I can't wait to be back making music with your children soon!

### Mrs. Sutherland Reports:

The interesting properties of magnets and magnetism will be our focus in Science this month. We will discover what kinds of objects magnets stick to and whether or not they can work through different materials, such as paper and water. We will also learn that all magnets have two strong places (poles) that create push and pull forces. A lot of hands-on activities and games are incorporated in this lesson. The children are sure to have fun exploring many different types of magnets!



**Science Class  
3s & 4s**



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

### Mrs. Stevens Reports:

In Creative Movement this month the teachers will be assessing the children's gross motor skills in preparation for the upcoming Parent-Teacher conferences. Different age groups will be working on different skills. Some examples include hopping on one foot, walking backwards, skipping, galloping, hitting a target, as well as following directions. We will assess most of these skills while doing the freeze dance. Next we will clap hands along with the music to the happy dance. Finally we will do the beanie bag dance. The children will practice their directional skills while they toss and catch their bean bags.



**Spanish for the 4s**

### Mrs. Cardoni Reports:

In December we finished our lesson on food. In January we will review everything we learned (colors, numbers, food, family) and start our new lesson on body parts. We will learn several new songs including Mi Cuervo (My Body) and Cabeza, Hombros, Piernas, Pies (Head Shoulders Knees (Legs) and Toes (Feet)). Feliz Año Nuevo (Happy New Year)!

### Ms. Casey Shares:

What a miraculous holiday program! The children worked very hard in preparation for this seasonal tradition. Over 140 children performed 12 songs while enduring more than 300 distractions! I am incredibly proud of them. The two's classes have been dancing and clapping along to these holiday favorites which will help them when we revisit the season in 2017. The new year offers a well deserved break, where we can enjoy new songs and relish in the sights and sounds of the winter months. I am so tickled to hear that some of your kids are singing around the house. Thank you for encouraging such creative expression in your homes. Wishing you a peaceful New Year filled with hope and music!



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