

December 2020 Newsletter

The Bear Facts

Celebrating 63 Years of Early Childhood Education

Dear Parents,

Thank you to everyone who attend our Turkey Trots and Sing Alongs. Thank you also for the game donations. I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving break. While in many ways this seems like the longest year, the days continue to fly by.

December is our peak enrollment/application season. Everyone should have received an enrollment/camp/2021-2022 application packet in the mail. If you have not received your child's packet, please contact the office ASAP.

Important Enrollment & Application Deadlines & Information:

Spring Term Enrollment: To receive priority placement in the April - June spring term, enrollment forms, with a deposit are due by **December 11, 2020**. Should you wish to change the program your child was originally enrolled in, please make a note on the enrollment form. To make sure we have appropriate spaces, we will be giving priority to children originally signed up for specific programs before switching children into other programs.

Camp Sessions 1 & 2: Camp forms are due on a rolling basis. However, the sooner we have forms, the better we will be able to prepare for the programming. Remember, children do not need to be enrolled at BHPCNS to attend camp. Friends, neighbors, cousins, are all welcome at camp.

2021-2022 School Year: To maintain your priority status as an in-house family, your child's application and \$80 registration fee for the 2021-2022 school year must be received or postmarked by **December 11, 2020**. Acceptance letters will be mailed in late January and deposits will be due by February 19, 2021.

Applications for camp and 2021-2022 are attached to the email accompanying this newsletter, available on the BHPCNS website at www.bhpcns.org, and have been mailed home. **Completed enrollment forms and applications may be mailed or dropped off.** Please call the school, 301-365-2909, prior to dropping off to ensure there is someone in the office, or you may use the mail slot in the Church office door (on the opposite side of the building from the school entrance) anytime.

Additional 2021-2022 application information can be found on page 6 of this newsletter. Please send your questions to me too!



DECEMBER FUN!



**Mark your
Calendars!**

Festive Holiday Sing Alongs on December 17 & 18!

Please join, Ms. Casey, Mrs. McCauley and Mrs. Sobrino to sing BHPCNS' traditional holiday songs, plus some new songs we think you will enjoy! Full details are on Sign-Up Genius!

Don your festive holiday attire & [Click here to sign up!](#)

DONATIONS NEEDED: We are asking participants to bring toiletries and/or baby diapering products to be donated to Arcola Elementary School in Silver Spring, a partner with BHPC & BHPCNS to help those in need.

Practice Zoom Sessions for Sing Alongs will be December 10 and 14 at 10:00 a.m.

December 10: [Click here for link.](#)

Meeting ID: 756 3921 8684 Passcode: Sing

December 14: [Click here for link.](#)

Meeting ID: 749 5700 3970 Passcode: Sing

Reminders will be sent out as we get closer to the dates. We hope you will join us for the fun!

Read through the newsletter for information on Holiday Gifts ideas, getting kids moving, how to problem solve with little ones, and more.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Parents' Group Silver Graphics Fundraiser. Thank you to Maggie Maloney and Sarah McGovern for managing this wonderful , annual, fundraiser for BHCNS. We are grateful for their support and your support.

On behalf of myself, Carolyn, Dorene, and the entire staff at BHCNS we wish you and your families a joyous holiday season filled with happiness. Wishing you all the best in 2021!

Liz
Liz Sobrino – BHCNS Director

PARENTS' GROUP UPDATE

Happy Holidays, Everyone!

We hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and wish you a joyous holiday season!



MINTED HOLIDAY CARDS:

We want to remind everyone of our ongoing partnership with Minted.com for the month of December. Use code **FUNDRAISEBHCNS** on Minted.com to receive 20% off your order for the entire month of December. Get those holiday cards **DONE** while supporting the BHCNS Parents' Group! We'll receive 15% back from Minted.com for every order placed using our code! There's still time to get your card designed, ordered, shipped before the holidays. Thank you for your continued support!

Maggie Maloney
Maggiewmaloney@gmail.com

Sarah McGovern
SarahLothrop@hotmail.com

BHCNS BOARD UPDATE

Happy Holidays from the Nursery School Board!

The Board will meet on Monday, December 14, 2020 to discuss the April-June spring term, summer camp, and the 2021-2022 school year, including tuition rates, receive updates on COVID-19 protocols and reopening plans, and school wide safety improvements.

If you have any questions about any of the work going on with the Nursery School Board please do not hesitate to reach out. Please send an email to Board@bhpcns.org to share your ideas or questions. If you have other feedback for us, please contact us via that email address or fill out an anonymous form on the Board portion of the school website.

We hope you all have a wonderful holiday and enjoy some well-deserved downtime with family.



Bradley Hills is thankful to the Nursery School for its partnership during these difficult times. Although BHPC will be celebrating Christmas a little differently this year, it's easier than ever to join in!

Weekly Family Advent Services - Families are invited to a 20-30 minute time of family worship on Zoom on all four Sundays of Advent beginning November 29 at 9:30 a.m. We will sing beloved Christmas and Advent carols during a time of interactive worship together. Open to all families, but of special interest to families with younger children in elementary school.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88177218177>

Meeting ID: 881-7721 8177



Christmas Gathering and Caroling - Join at 11:45 a.m. on Sunday, December 13, on Zoom for conversation, fellowship, an all church Zoom picture, and carol singing. Visit the BHPC website for details.

www.BradleyHillsChurch.org



Full Worship Service Details are on the BHPC website at:
www.BradleyHillsChurch.org

Weekly Church Services: -

We are still holding Virtual Worship Services at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays at the link below:

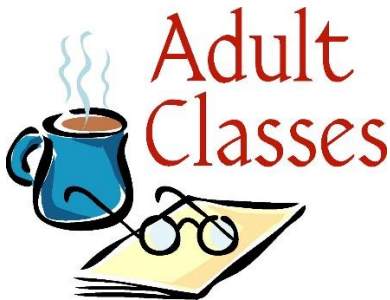
[Watch Services Live Click Here](#)

Blue Christmas Service:

We will have a Blue Christmas Service on Wednesday, December 16, at 7:00 p.m. This service acknowledges that Christmas can be difficult in times of sadness.

Christmas Eve Services:

We will have two Christmas Eve services, one at 4:00 p.m. especially designed for families and one at 8:00 p.m.



Adult Education - On Sunday mornings at 9:15 am, Adult Education offers opportunities to learn about Advent practices (12/6), find hope and joy in the Advent season (12/13), and learn from Rachel Mumford, docent at the National Cathedral, about their stained glass windows and their meaning (12/20). [Click here to join the Zoom Meeting](#)



Holiday Service Opportunities - If you would like to support other children and families, BHPC's annual Angel Gift Tree offers multiple opportunities to order items online and have them shipped directly to the organizations that will distribute them.

For gifts to "A Wider Circle," click here:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3HZNFSP45HY3N/ref=cm_go_nav_hz

For gifts to the Women's Collective, click here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4ba8a72aa4f9c43-womens>

For gifts to the Dennis Avenue Health Center, click here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b084aadaf28a57-dennis>

Bradley Hills also sponsors many other local, regional, and global Alternative Giving Opportunities. Go to <https://www.bradleyhillschurch.org/alternative-gifts/> for more information.

Wonderful Music – BHPC Friends of Music/Bradley Hills Presents



On **Sunday, December 5**, at 7:30 p.m. Bradley Hills Presents will livestream Handel's Messiah performed by BHPC section leaders and members of "[The Thirteen](#)."

On **Sunday, December 20**, at 5:00 p.m., Bradley Hills Presents will perform "An Evening of Readings and Carols with [The Thirteen](#)" with special guests Bill Bukowski, Doreen Gentzler, and Denyce Graves.



Tickets are available at www.BradleyhillsChurch.org/Concerts for both concerts.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR DECEMBER CUBS~!

George Rolls
Jacob Barr
Chloé de Vault
Aanya Weldon
Kiran Weldon
Jacob Sherman



Grayson Sullivan
Sebastian Fredriksson-Lidman
Jacob Barr
Palmer Gales
Madeline Gensch
Cora Brzytwa

FINE MOTOR SKILLS AND HOLIDAY FUN

Strong fine motor skills are important to a child's success in a school setting and in life. Without strong fingers it's difficult to hold a pencil properly, to tie shoes, paint, eat with utensils, type on a keyboard, button and zip clothing and so many more everyday tasks. Here are some articles on the importance of fine motor skills and how to help your child's hands grow strong.

[Losing our grip: More students are entering school without fine motor skills.](#)

[Help Your Child Build Fine Motor Skills](#)

[Fine Motor Skills and Academic Achievement](#)

Fine Motor
Activities
Are lots of
FUN!!!!!!!!!!!!

- Gift wrap cutting activities... Chances are your family will have lots of wrapping paper leftover after opening the gifts. Reuse that paper by having your child use the leftover paper to practice their cutting. Some children may cut strips, others may cut out the designs on the paper. (Add some child friendly scissors to their stockings.) If your child is too young for scissors, practice tearing the gift wrap once the packages have been opened.
- Stringing pony beads on pipe cleaners and bending them into bracelets or necklaces or reindeer, or stars, or whatever shape you can think of.
- Stringing cheerios on pipe cleaners to make bird feeders.
- Stir cookie dough, pancake mix, bread dough, etc.
- Chop vegetables and fruits with children friendly knives.
- Swing from monkey bars, climb the playground ladders, dig in the dirt, carry, count and sort rocks.....
- Get those little hands moving!!!!

GROSS MOTOR SKILLS ARE IMPORTANT TOO! HIKING IS A GREAT WAY TO MOVE!

Because we live in a climate that is fairly moderate, and we have access to so many beautiful parks close by, hiking is a great way to spend quality family time together. Hiking is also a terrific way to enhance your child's character development, problem solving skills, physical skills, social skills and according to this article from [Muddy Smiles](#) 40 other skills too! Get out your sneakers and head out for a hike, even if it's around your backyard, everyone will benefit for the time outdoors!



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/>



HOLIDAY GIFT SUGGESTIONS

These gift suggestions were put together by parents and teachers for the holidays last year!

For the 2s:

- Stacking and sorting blocks and cups
- Stickers
- Aquadoodle
- Trains
- Duplos
- Books
- Stuffed Animals
- Playdough
- Colorforms

For the 3s:

- Dramatic play, dress-up, and pretend kitchens, etc.
- Scissors and stickers
- Todd Parr's Emotions Book
- Magnatiles
- Hess Trucks
- Trains
- Mudpuppy Mini Memory Game

For the 4s:

- Magnatiles
- Lincoln Logs
- Stuffedies
- Candyland
- Chutes and Ladders
- Jenga
- Daniel Tiger Board Game
- Pop the Pig Game
- Alphabots
- Todd and Frog Books

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

2021-2022 Registration Information

Registration Options:

- 5 day Pre-K, Monday through Friday
- 3 day Pre-Ks, 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 2021-22 school year is ongoing.

- Applications for the 2021-2022 school year were mailed home in mid-November. The packet contained:
 1. Spring Term Enrollment Forms
 2. Camp Applications
 3. 2021-2022 applications with returning students

Please call the office at 301-365-2909 if you did not receive your child's packet.

Applications are also available for current students at the BHP CNS website, www.bhpcns.org under the Application/Registration tab. Please select the Returning Students application.

- Complete an application and return the form along with the \$80 registration fee to BHP CNS by December 11, 2020 to receive priority status. **Returning students must have their applications returned or postmarked no later than Friday, December 11 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.
- Acceptance or Wait List notifications will be sent home in late January.



BHP CNS
Priority 2020-21
Registration
Deadline is
December 11!

Registration for Siblings Not Currently Enrolled in BHP CNS:

Applications for the siblings of currently enrolled students for the 2021-22 school year may be submitted at any time, and are available at the BHP CNS website under the Application/Registration tab for your child who will be starting BHP CNS in September 2021.

New Applicants to BHP CNS:

Encourage your friends and neighbors to call the office to learn more about 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 and may be submitted at any time.

BHP CNS follows Maryland State Department of Education guidelines with regard to birthdate cut-off dates for admission. Children must be 2 by September 1, 2021 to enroll in the 2s, 3 by September 1, 2021 to enroll in the 3s, and 4 by September 1, 2021 to enroll in the Pre-K program.

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

Playgrounds at BHP CNS:

The playgrounds are maintained by the Nursery School but are available to the communities surrounding BHP CNS to use at their own risk. All children and their families are welcome to use the playgrounds. Playground rules are posted and we ask that you follow them. Please come out and play in the afternoons, on the weekends, and during holidays! It's a great way to build gross and fine motor skills and tget to know BHP CNS!



HELPING CHILDREN SOLVE PROBLEMS BY USING A SOLUTIONS KIT



Does your child ever come to you to solve an issue with a peer or sibling? If they have and you've wondered how to empower the children to solve the issue themselves, using the CSEFEL Solutions Kit may provide the answers for your family. At BHP CNS we "teach" the children solutions to their problems within the classroom. There are 9 solutions, including get a teacher, share, take turns, set, a timer, ask nicely, and more. You'd be amazed at how quickly children internalize and start using these techniques. As promised in November here's the link to the CSEFEL website where you can create solution kits for your homes. Take photos of your child and family in action and use them to create cue cards for when you need to problem solve. To see samples: [click here](#).

BHP CNS implements many of the strategies being shared with you from Vanderbilt University's Center for the Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learners, CSEFEL.

These resources are available at the [CSEFEL website](#).

Their Book Nook and Book List contain wonderful books to enhance your child's social and emotional development. They also make terrific holiday gifts. Watch for profiles on these materials in the coming months.

In the meantime, Liz Sobrino can help you utilize these tools with your child(ren).