

December 2017 Newsletter

The Bear Facts

Celebrating 60 Years of Early Childhood Education

Dear Parents,

December is a short month but a very full one 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 to be displayed.

Our dance performance of the Nutcracker will be on December 13 at 1:45. Our annual Christmas Sing Alongs will be on December 14 and 15. 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 and have been sent home. 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 2's, 3's and 4's 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 to everyone who supported the Parents' Group ornament fundraiser. Thank you to Ashley 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 2018!

Liz

Liz Sobrino
BHP CNS Director



DECEMBER SHOWS!

Mark Your Calendars for Our
December Performances!



The Nutcracker:
December 13th

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. 14 & 15

On **Thursday, December 14th** our T/TH 3s in Room 113 will perform a selection of holiday songs in Covenant Hall. The program will begin at 9:30.

On **Friday, December 15th** 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 150 orders, with all profits going directly back to BHCNS! 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 everyone who donated 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 \$500 for BHCNS!

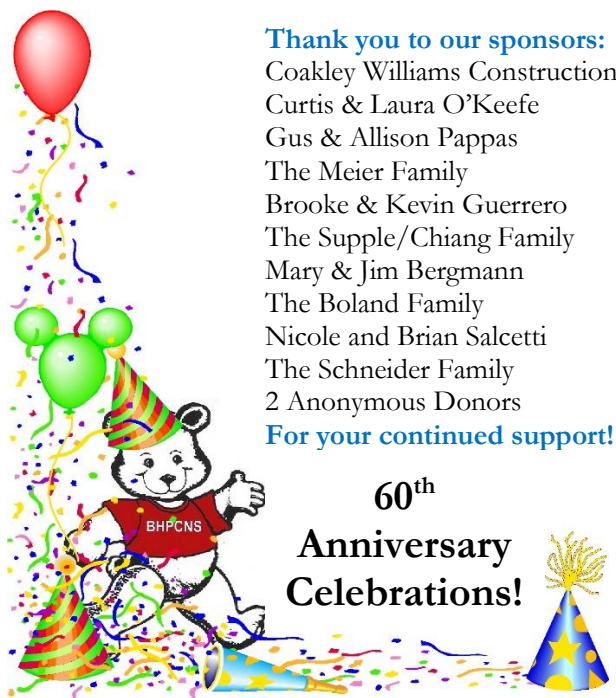
Don't forget to start labeling coats, hats, mittens, and boots with the cold weather approaching. Get new peel and stick labels from LabelDaddy! These labels are machine washable and don't require any ironing or sewing. LabelDaddy will give you 10% off your order and give 15% back to BHCNS when you visit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

We could use a few more families to help organize teacher lunches at school. Please contact Ashley if you're willing to help bring in lunch for our wonderful staff during one of their after school meetings. 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

60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



Thank you to our sponsors:
Coakley Williams Construction
Curtis & Laura O'Keefe
Gus & Allison Pappas
The Meier Family
Brooke & Kevin Guerrero
The Supple/Chiang Family
Mary & Jim Bergmann
The Boland Family
Nicole and Brian Salcetti
The Schneider Family
2 Anonymous Donors
For your continued support!

**60th
Anniversary
Celebrations!**

60th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION April 14th!

Mark your calendars to join current and past BHCNS friends as we gather on April 14th between 7:30 and 10:30 pm! The band, Justin Trawick and the Common Good will be here for your dancing pleasure. There will be food trucks and libations for your eating and drinking pleasures. You will want to be part of the Wall of Wine raffle. The winner will have lots of wine to fill their cellar.

DONATIONS WELCOME: Sponsorship forms are coming home next week. Please consider becoming a sponsor and/or donating a bottle of wine, or two valued at \$20 or more a piece to our Wall of Wine raffle.

ANNIVERSARY MURAL: Lastly, we are calling all alumni to add their handprints to the mural in the Rainy Day Room. Thank you to Nancy McCullough for creating this lasting memory of BHCNS.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Maren Adams
Charlotte Beuhler
Ravi Hennessey
Henry Hicks
Jackie Inati
Clara Mayer
Jacob Barr
Benjamin Sherman
Lucile Brossard
Ishaan Schouten
Lila Brzytwa



Aidan Monica
Benjamin Stern
Anna & Mia Vincent
Mila Wang
Kiarod Derakhshandi
Grace Britt
Millie Sherman
Elena Markogiannakis
Noelle Lakas
Parker Adams

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 homemade treat, complete the allergy form located outside the office. We typically share birthday treats at snack time! If you have any questions, speak with 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.

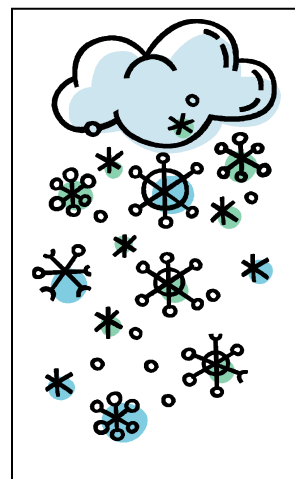
If MCPS has a 2 hour delay, BHPCNS will begin the school day at 11:00 am, except Early Morning with Bradley Bear students who may arrive at 10:00 am.

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. Lunch Bunch is cancelled.

If MCPS closes schools early, BHPCNS will close at 11:30 for the 2s and 12:30 for the 3s and 4s. 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 Womens' 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 7th. Thank you!

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

2018-2019 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



BHPCNS
2018-2019
Registration
December 7th
and 8th!

Registration for Current BHPCNS Students:

Registration for the 2018-2019 school year will soon be underway.

- Applications are available for current students at the BHPCNS website, www.bhpcns.org under the Application/Registration tab.
- Download an application, or collect one in the office, complete the information, and return the form along with the \$70 registration fee, on either December 7 or December 8. **Returning students must have their applications turned in no later than Friday, 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.
- Acceptance or Wait List notifications will be sent home in January.

Registration for Siblings Not Currently Enrolled in BHPCNS:

Applications for the siblings of currently enrolled students for the 2018-2019 school year may be submitted at any time, and are available in the office and online. Applications are available in the office and online for your children who will be starting BHPCNS in September 2018.

New Applicants to BHPCNS:

Encourage your friends and neighbors to call the office to learn more and schedule a tour of BHPCNS. 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 BHPCNS is for children to play, grow, and learn! Applications are available online for new students.

BHPCNS follows Maryland State Department of Education guidelines with regard to birthdate cut-off dates for admission. Children must be 2 by September 1, 2018 to enroll in the 2's, 3 by September 1, 2018, to enroll in the 3's, and 4 by September 1, 2018 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 Dance 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. DVDs will be available for sale.

DVDs of Holiday Sing Alongs Available for Sale

The Nutcracker and both Sing Alongs will be professionally recorded.

Nutcracker 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.

3 and 4-year-old 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.

Flyers were sent home. Additional flyers are outside the office.



Show DVDS Available



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. Tell your child's teacher when you sign your little one up as a drop in!

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 BHPCNS:

The playgrounds are maintained by the Nursery School but are available to the communities surrounding BHPCNS to use at their own risk. 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.

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 Future Bradley Bear Cub display. Please drop off a picture of your new family member in the office and we will add your picture to ur display across from the office.



**Future
Bradley
Bears
Photos**



BHPCNS will close for our Christmas break after classroom parties on December 15th. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 2nd at 8:00 am for Early Drop Off and regular school hours.

BHPCNS Closed from December 16th through January 2nd.



*BHPCNS wishes all our families a
Joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

Read on for more information about our Monthly Specials and Stay and Play Classes.....

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**

Miss Beth Reports:

Miss Sandy (Thursdays) and Miss Beth (Mondays) have been having a colorful "Hello Rainbow" time in music classes with your children! The autumn wind blew the leaves, and we hopped like squirrels and collected provisions for the winter. This month we look forward to some **Windy Winter Weather** activities. The cold wintry wind will blow and we'll gallop with the horses, meet the famous "One Horse" from Jingle Bells, and of course shake some bells. We'll dance like snowflakes, ice skate to the Skater's Waltz and decorate with the elves to the Nutcracker *Trepak* piece, just to name a few of the fun music and movement selections upcoming in December. Happiest of Holidays from Beth and Sandy with the hope that we all remember this - the most precious gifts we give our children can't be wrapped!

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 14th and 15th!



Silent Night, Holy Night

Singing for 2s, 3s and 4s

Special Holiday Story Time in the Sanctuary

Mrs. Jeanne Tustian, a former BHPCNS teacher and our Literature Lady is back to share the story of Christmas with our students. She 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.

Share Your Family's Holiday Traditions at BHCPNS

Parents, Family Members, and Friends are welcome to share their family traditions in their children's classrooms. Contact your child's teacher if you'd like to read a story, bring a special snack, make a traditional craft, or more to share with your child's class.

**Sharing Holiday
Traditions**



Sra. Cardoni Shares:

We've been learning names for family members (siblings-hermanos, grandparents-abuelos) and will be adding all types of food to our vocabulary in December. We will also learn how 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 3s & 4s

STAY AND PLAY UPDATES

Monday: The Artist Corner



Mrs. Man 'n Cheese Reports:

Art Stay and Play is getting in the holiday spirit by making paper plate snow globes. Happy Holidays to all! See you in 2018!

Mrs. Skoff Shares:

December we will be a quick month for our Wiggling Wizards. The first week we will be making our own snow globes. We will glue snowmen onto the tops of a tall baby food jar. After they have dried, we will pour water, glycerin and glitter into the jars and screw on the tops. When we turn them right side up, we will watch the magical winter wonderland that we have created. This will conclude the chemistry unit. The second week we will celebrate Christmas with a small party and send your little scientists home with their snow globes.

Tuesday Wigglin' Wizards



Tuesday & Wednesday Bradley Bear Dance Company

Mrs. Snyder Reports:

Our Bradley Bears Dancers are eagerly awaiting their Nutcracker Performance. They have been hard at work memorizing combinations, learning to process to the stage, and practicing moving as a group. In addition to the ballet movements that they will be performing, Ms. Lisa has been introducing foundational movements that will develop into proper dance technique. Those posse' marches will someday be saute' and pique' turns. Your little dancers are so excited to show you what they have learned.

Mrs. Senarathne Shares:

During the month of December, we will learn about Winter Holidays celebrated in many cultures, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and Las Posadas in Spain. We will make Holiday Greeting Cards to deliver them to USA troops stationed abroad. We wish you all a happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year.



Wacky
Wednesday
Celebrates
the Holidays!



Thursday Where in the World is Bradley Bear?



Mrs. Scoff's Travelogue:

In December, we are boarding our plane and flying to Iceland. This little island in Northern Europe has four seasons, despite what you may think. We will read about the legends and folklore of the Huldufolk, hidden people, and see pictures of their houses. There are volcanoes, geysers, waterfalls and even a geothermal spa. This spa is called The Blue Lagoon and we will take a swim in its healing waters and rub the therapeutic mud on our arms. The most popular sport in Iceland is Glima, or handball, so we will try our "hands" at learning how to play. Who knew this little island was filled with so much wonder?

Yogi Myers Shares:

Our Yogi Bears started their December practice by going on an adventure to the North Pole. We practiced old poses and learned some new ones - toboggan, triangle and bow. Once again on dry land, safe and warm at BHP CNS, we ended our practice imagining we were snowflakes falling and wafting through a crisp December sky. Throughout the month our Yogi Bears will continue their practice with gratefulness and mindfulness, both in thought and action. Wishing all of our Yogi Bears and their families a safe and peaceful holiday season. Namaste.



Friday
Yogi Bears