

April 2021 Newsletter

The Bear Facts

Celebrating 63 Years of Early Childhood Education

Dear Parents,

The April 2020 newsletter was the first newsletter published after the school closed on March 13, 2020. That newsletter was filled with resources on how to navigate the school closure with your children. I never thought it would be 12 months before I would be writing a newsletter sharing our reopening excitement.

In many ways April 6th will feel like my first days at BHP CNS, more than 8 years ago. Only this time with our outdoor programming and Covid protocols, it's a new and exciting adventure for everyone, not just me.

As I mentioned at the Parent Orientation sessions, to reopen successfully it will take patience and all of us working together. Everyone should be familiar with the morning **DROP-OFF** procedures. When coming to **PICKUP** your child, please park and wait in your cars until 12:30 before heading to your child's classroom. We are asking everyone to go to their child's tent and line up, following Covid safety guidelines, so each child may be reunited with their caregiver by the teacher. It's important for each teacher to see each child safely in the care of their adult at the end of the day. If you have any questions, about any of the procedures, please ask.

I have a few thank yous to share. Thank you for trusting your children to Bradley Hills. Thank you to an amazing staff, who've gone above and beyond to make this Spring Term special for the children. A very special thank you to Carolyn for working endless hours to get every piece of paperwork processed, to stock all the necessary supplies, to keep the school's finances in order, and to cajole her husband, Ken, into building our coat racks, a new shed, moving shelving, painting and more. The school is blessed to have the McCauley family as part of our community.

REMINDER: If you haven't collected your child's folder from Door 4, please do so, as soon as possible.

And now it's time to get school rolling. See everyone next week!

Liz
Liz Sobrino
BHP CNS Director



BHP CNS CALENDAR

Tuesday, April 6

First Day of School for M-F classes & TTh classes

Wednesday, April 7

First Day of School for M-W-F classes

Tuesday, May 25

Parent-Teacher Conferences for M-F and TTh classes

No school for students in M-F and TTh classes

Friday, May 28

No Stay and Play Classes Held

Monday, May 31

School Closed, Memorial Day

Wednesday, June 2

Parent-Teacher Conferences for MWF classes

No school for students in MWF classes

Tuesday, June 15

Last day of Stay & Play

Wednesday, June 16

Last day of school for students

Lunch Bunch will be held

No Stay and Play Classes held

Dismissal at 12:30 p.m.

June 21-July 1

Camp – Session 1

A Preschooler's Guide to the Galaxy!

July 6 – July 16

Camp – Session 2

Bradley Bear's Beach Bonanza!



BHPCNS BOARD UPDATE



Hello Nursery School Families,

Isn't it exciting to be ready to return to campus! The Board, as well as the rest of the BHPCNS community, is looking forward to the Grand Re-Opening on April 6th. The school administration and staff are looking forward to getting to know you and your children. While our planned outdoor programming will be different, you will find that the core values which make BHPCNS so special, remain in place. At the heart of our program is the desire to see each and every child, play, grow, and learn. Welcome back to campus!

If you have any questions regarding the school's operations that you'd like the Nursery School Board to address, please contact BHPCNS Board Chairman, Missy Banashak at Missy.Banashak@gmail.com.

PARENTS' GROUP UPDATE

We enjoyed meeting so many of you at playground meet ups last week. If you didn't get a chance to purchase a tote or lunch bag and still would like one, we'll be selling them the first week of school as well.

Maggie Maloney
MaggieWMaloney@gmail.com

Sarah McGovern
SarahLothrop@hotmail.com



ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

Two Year Old Classes

Monday-Wednesday-Friday

Wed., 4/7: 9:00-10:00 a.m. *or*
10:15-11:15 a.m.*

Fri., 4/9: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Mon., 4/12: 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Tuesday-Thursday

Tues., 4/6: 9:00-10:00 a.m. *or*
10:15-11:15 a.m.*

Thurs., 4/8: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Tues., 4/13: 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Lunch Bunch will begin April 12, 2021. Children staying for Lunch Bunch should bring their lunch in a collapsible or paper lunch bag. The lunches will be refrigerated. Please send lunches cut into small pieces, i.e. sandwiches cut into quarters, grapes cut in half, etc. Organic milk or water will be provided. Eligibility for Lunch Bunch will be determined by BHPCNS.

Three Year Old Classes**

Monday through Friday

Tue., 4/6: 9:00-10:00 a.m. *or*
10:15-11:15 a.m.*

Wed., 4/7: 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Monday-Wednesday-Friday

Wed., 4/7: 9:00-10:00 a.m. *or*
10:15-11:15 a.m.*

Fri., 4/9: 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

ORIENTATION SCHEDULE CONTINUED:

Pre-K Classes**

Monday through Friday

Tues., 4/6: 9:00-10:00 a.m. or
10:15-11:15 a.m.*
Wed., 4/7: 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Monday-Wednesday-Friday

Wed., 4/7: 9:00-10:00 a.m. or
10:15-11:15 a.m.*
Fri., 4/9: 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Early Mornings with Bradley Bear and Stay and Play will begin on April 12, 2021.

*You will be notified as to your child's assigned time(s) for our phase-in schedule at Parent/Teacher Orientation. If you have a preference as to the time 9:00-10:00 or 10:15-11:15, please notify the main office ASAP.

**Children in our Three-Year-Old and Pre-K programs will eat lunch at school when they start staying until 12:30 p.m. Please send lunches in a collapsible, reusable or paper lunch bag. The lunches will be refrigerated. Thank you.

MCPS 2021-2022 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS & ORIENTATIONS



MCPS KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION & ORIENTATION FOR FALL 2021

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) will hold the 2021 Kindergarten Orientation Program in two parts. MCPS will kick off orientation with a registration drive in April. Formal visits to the school or opportunities to hear more specifics about your child's kindergarten experience will occur with each local school in August, 2021 when the plans for the fall are complete.

[Visit MCPS](#) for additional information.

Contact Information for MCPS local Elementary Schools

Ashburton: 240-740-1300
Bannockburn: 240-740-1270
Bells Mill: 240-740-0480
Beverly Farm: 301-469-1050
Bethesda: 240-204-5300
Bradley Hills: 240-204-5210
Burning Tree: 240-740-1750
Carderock Springs: 240-740-0540
Garrett Park: 240-740-0700

Kensington Parkwood: 240-740-3700
Richie Park: 301-279-8475
Rosemary Hills: 301-920-9990
Seven Locks: 240-740-0940
Somerset: 240-740-1100
Westbrook: 240-740-1040
Wood Acres: 240-740-1120
Wyngate: 240-740-1080



Once more MCPS information is available, BHP CNS will investigate hosting an “**Everything You’ve Ever Wanted to Know About Kindergarten**” event. Stay posted for more information as it becomes available.

FAMILIES APPLYING TO PRIVATE KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS FOR FALL 2021:

If you are considering applying to private schools for kindergarten for the fall of 2021, please get your requests into BHP CNS as soon as possible for school/teacher recommendations.

THE CICADAS ARE COMING!



For more information about Cicadas visit
<https://cicadacrewumd.weebly.com/>
for lots and lots of fun cicada facts.

How wonderful that the cicadas are coming, right in time for our Spring Term! Our little entomologists will have a blast learning about these fascinating creatures who appear every 17 years!

Quick Cicada Facts: Brood X, one of the largest broods of cicadas, is set to emerge after 17 years underground this summer.

The bugs have been lurking beneath the surface since 2004, feeding on sap from the roots of plants, according to Michael J. Raupp, emeritus professor of entomology at the University of Maryland. Once they're mature, the "big brood" will emerge in 15 states where they'll spend two to four weeks in late May and early June "courting, mating, flying, driving people crazy, being eaten by everything" including humans like Raupp.

The adults will lay their eggs in trees which will hatch 4 to 6 weeks later in more than a dozen states, including MD. Their offspring will head back underground until 2038.

They'll also be making quite a bit of noise. According to Raupp cicadas can emit sounds between 80 and 100 decibels, equivalent to a low flying airplane or a lawn mower.

WATER BOTTLE GREENHOUSE TO BE ERECTED AT BHPCNS

We are in the planning stages with 3 enterprising seniors from Holton Arms to build an onsite greenhouse from recycled water bottles as their senior project.

Project Description: To build a greenhouse out of plastic water bottles to reduce the waste in our communities and promote sustainable gardening.

BHPCNS Benefit: Provide a year-round space in which to teach the children about gardening, plant growth, pollination, etc.

For more information visit:
<https://dengarden.com/landscaping/How-to-Build-a-Greenhouse-Made-From-Plastic-Bottles>



Please save and donate your water and/or soda bottles for this project. Bring your empties to school and drop them at the Admin Table to help with this project. The more bottles the students have the bigger the greenhouse will be. Thank you for your support!

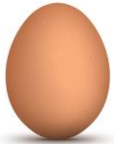


APRIL FUN TO DO AT HOME!

Jan Hauck's Pre-K Class does this experiment annually. Here's how you can do it at home!

Supplies:

White egg
White vinegar
Karo syrup
Food coloring
Toothpick
Glass jars



Step 1: Place raw egg in white vinegar, to cover (clear jar best so you can see the bubbles). Leave in vinegar for about 2 days (the shell should disappear and egg gets large and rubbery).

Step 2: Take egg from above and cover with light Karo syrup (again, clear glass jar works best). Leave in Karo for at least 12 hours (I usually do 24 hours). Observe what happens.

Step 3: Take egg from step 2 and place it in glass jar filled with water and a lot of food coloring. Leave for 24 hours. Continue observations.

Step 4: Take egg from step 3, put on old clothes, go outside and place toothpick in top of egg. Water should gush out like a volcano!

Mrs. Hauck does this experiment with several eggs at once, because Step 4 is so much fun!

How to make Bunnies & Chicks!



Toilet Paper Roll Easter Baskets (Bunnies and Chicks)

Supplies: toilet paper rolls, paint or colorful paper, scissors, glue, markers. We are making two white bunnies and two yellow chicks.

1. Paint paper rolls, one with white paint and the other with yellow. Or glue colorful paper on rolls.
2. Cut rolls in half. So we have 4 baskets to make.
3. Cut long strips of paper and glue it on the inside of the tip roll for a handle of a basket.
4. Cut the wings and a beak for the chicks. Cut long ears for bunnies. Glue them on the baskets.
5. Draw eyes, whiskers, mouth, etc.
6. Put colored Easter eggs in baskets.

Springtime Flower Experiment:

One of our favorite experiments is to find a white flower and change its color. Give it a try at home.

Here is what you'll need: White flowers, tall glass, scissors, water, and food coloring.

Step 1: Fill glasses with water and add food coloring to each one. **Step 2:** Cut the stems of the flowers. **Step 3:** Put the flowers in the glass and leave it overnight.

If you have an extra flower try this next part.....**Step 1:** Take another flower and split the stem with scissors up toward the flower head. **Step 2:** Put one half of the split stem in one color and the other half in a different color. Does the flower change colors?

The cut flowers drink up the water and moves from the stem to the leaves. This process is called capillary action.

For more information, [Click Here.](#)



GARDEN YOGA FOR KIDS



Pretend to be a tree

Tree Pose: Stand on one leg. Bend the other knee and place the sole of your foot on your inner thigh. Sway like a tree in the breeze. Now the other side.



Pretend to be a frog

Squat Pose: Come down to a squat with your knees apart and arms resting between your knees. Touch your hands to the ground. Jump like a frog.



Pretend to be a seed

Child's Pose: Sit back on your heels and bring your forehead down to rest on the floor. Pretend to be a seed in the garden.



Pretend to be a butterfly

Cobbler's Pose: Sit on your buttocks with a tall spine. Bend your legs with the soles of your feet together. Flap your legs like the wings of a butterfly.



Pretend to be a flower

Flower Pose: Lift your bent legs, balancing on your sitting bones. Weave your arms under your legs, palms up. Pretend to be a flower in bloom.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Shane Young
Anna Procknal
Clara Glenn



Lila Melgarejo
Charlie Franklin
Charlotte Andrews
Warner Shafran

Wishing our Bradley Bear Cubs a happy birthday day!!!!

STAY AND PLAY BEGINS APRIL 12TH!

Sign-up as soon as possible! If there are not enough students we reserve the right to cancel a program.

Monday Wigglin' Wizards



Wigglin' Wizards:

Our little wizards will explore the world of science with plenty of hands-on experiments, forming hypotheses and discovering their outcomes, creative crafts, and amazing scientific inquiries.

Bradley's Barnyard:

Our little farmers will discover farm animal friends, how to grow crops, explore the seasons of a farm, perform dramatic presentations of their favorite farm stories, and so much more as they become experts in all things farm related.

Tuesday Bradley's Barnyard



Wednesday BHPCNS Naturalist Society



BHPCNS Naturalist Society:

Our young naturalists search out the native flora and fauna all around campus. They will become expert bird watchers and caretakers, keep track of spring blooms, grow seeds to transplant, observe squirrels, and more.

Where in the World is Bradley Bear?:

You never know where Bradley Bear will land, but we will have fun in this geography based program exploring the countries, their cultures, their unique attributes, and foods.

Thursday Where in the World is Bradley Bear?



Friday Sports and Games



Sports and Games:

Join us for a spirited afternoon full of fun and games learning the basics of several sports and playing traditional backyard games. No special equipment required, except sneakers and socks and a willingness to have a ball!



Easter News!

Family Easter Service at 9:00 am, Sunday, April 4

In-Person, Outdoor Easter Egg Hunt and Family Service

Due to the overwhelming popularity of this event, BHPC has reached the 70-person attendance limit Montgomery County will allow. To be placed on the wait list, email BHPCeducator@gmail.com with your name, contact information, and number of children and adult participants you would like to place on the wait list."



Traditional Easter Service on Sunday, April 4, begins with a musical prelude at 10:15 a.m. The Easter Service will begin at 10:30 a.m. with Pastor David Gray preaching. His Easter sermon will be "Love That Cannot Be Contained."

[Watch Services Live Click Here](#)

Maundy Thursday Service, Thursday, April 1, at 7:30 pm on Zoom – Sara Sadler preaching and Celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Good Friday Service, Friday, April 2, at 7:30 pm on Livestream – Pastor David Gray preaching and BHPC Section Leaders will offer a vocal and percussion performance of American composer David Lang's the little match girl passion, which won a 2008 Pulitzer Prize and blends the Passion narrative with Hans Christian Andersen's story, The Little Match Girl.

All Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church worship services can be found at www.bradleyhillchurch.org.



Weekly Church Services: We are still holding Virtual Worship Services at 10:30 am on Sundays at the link below. We will also begin holding outdoor services at 8:30 am starting on April 18. Visit the BHPC website at www.bradleyhillchurch.org for more information.

[Watch Services Live Click Here](#)

Adult Education Programming:

On Sunday mornings at 9:15 am via Zoom, join us for the following interesting speakers:

[Click Here to Join the Meeting Each Sunday](#)

Meeting ID: 857 6618 3170

You may also call in at (301) 715-8592



BRADLEY HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS AND ACTIVITIES CONTINUED....



April 11: George Petrides – *Birding in Your Backyard*. Birds are all around us and are a ubiquitous part of our culture, religion and home life. Their color, song and beauty have made feeding and watching them the second largest hobby in America today. George will discuss the origins of bird feeding in the United States, the significant effect that COVID has had on the hobby and practical advice on how to get started and/or augment the hobby.

April 18: Congregational panel – *The Montgomery County Climate Plan, from here to 2050*. Doug Anderson and Dianne Whitaker will present an overview of Montgomery County's response to the County Council's 2017 Climate Emergency Declaration. You can view the Montgomery County Draft Climate Action Plan [here](#).



April 25: Professor Kenneth Davis, the Pennsylvania State University – *‘Is It Us, or Is It Mostly the Big, Bad Coal-Fired Power Plant?’* Climate is changing, we're responsible, and the consequences are serious. We have a moral imperative to act. What can we do that is effective? Ethical? Economical?

THERE'S MUCH TO CELEBRATE IN APRIL!

