



The Bear Facts

Celebrating 68 Years of Early Childhood Education

FEBRUARY 2026



Dear Parents,

The weather at the end of January was quite unexpected. The snowfall, ice, and record low temperatures really caused the region to come to a grinding stop. We appreciate your support and understanding about the 6 closed school days and are grateful to be open again. As we go forward, we will be revisiting our weather closure policies and will keep you apprised regarding any changes.

Thank you for your support during our first MLK Day Community Service Project. We are grateful to our parents for generously donating loads of yummy snacks for our cubs to assemble into snack bags. We delivered over 150 snack bags to Bethesda Help to be delivered to food insecure children in Montgomery County.

The Scholastic Book Fair has been rescheduled to February 2nd-6th, giving parents plenty of time to visit and shop from hundreds of children's books. The Book Fair sparks a love of reading in our children, fills our classrooms and library with wonderful new books, and creates lasting memories for our students as they proudly choose stories of their own. Parents' Group generously donates proceeds to help fund our wonderful library-hours and details on page 2.

Ryan Bridge, The BugMan, returns to BHP CNS! This is a unique opportunity for your child to learn more about bugs and the role they play in our ecosystem. It is also an opportunity to be brave and hold (or gently touch) a giant beetle, tarantula, or scorpion. This is a favorite experience for our teachers and students year after year!

February is a time to remind those who are important to us how much they are loved. The staff and I love and adore your children. Thank you for sharing them with us and thank you for all you do to make us feel loved including taking the time to vote for BHP CNS in BEST of BETHESDA. We are happy to have been named Finalists again.

Stay warm and well!

Liz
Liz Sobrino



January 29th -February 27th

- Parent/Teacher Conferences

February 1st

- Tuition Due

February 2nd-February 6th

- Scholastic Book Fair

February 3rd, 4th, & 6th

- Ryan the Bugman visits BHP CNS!

February 10th

- Dental Hygiene with Dr. Marko

February 11th

- Dental Hygiene with Dr. Marko
- Growing Minds
Enrichment Program Begins
2:30pm-3:30pm (BHP CNS)

February 12th

- Valentine's Day Party
TTh Classes

February 13th

- Valentine's Day Party
WF, MWF & MTWThF Classes
- BHP C Parents Night Out
5:00-9:30pm Memorial Hall

February 16th

- SCHOOL CLOSED
Presidents' Day

February 20th

- Parents' Group Fundraiser
10:45-11:45am
Barre 3 Bethesda

February 25th & 26th

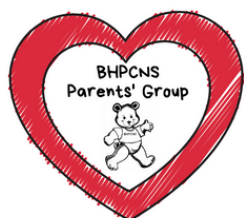
- Vision Screenings

[WEBSITE](#) / [FACEBOOK](#) / [INSTAGRAM](#) / [GOOGLE GROUPS](#) / [YOUTUBE](#)

STAY
CONNECTED



UPCOMING EVENTS



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR



Rescheduled to February 2nd-6th

The Book Fair is one of our most important and joyful fundraisers of the year. It sparks a love of reading in our children, fills our classrooms and library with wonderful new books, and creates lasting memories for our students as they proudly choose stories of their own.

Here's why it matters so much:

- Proceeds directly support our school library, allowing us to refresh books and resources that enrich daily learning.
- Any excess funds go straight to the school's Alla Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund, helping ensure that every child has the opportunity to be part of our wonderful school community.

MONDAY 2/2	TUESDAY 2/3	WEDNESDAY 2/4	THURSDAY 2/5	FRIDAY 2/6
	snow delay	8:15am-9:30am	8:15am-9:30am	8:15am-9:30am
snow day	11:15am-1:00pm	11:15am-1:00pm	11:15am-1:00pm	11:15am-1:00pm
		2:00pm-3:15pm		

The Book Fair simply can't happen without volunteers. Whether you can help set up, assist children as they browse, manage checkout, or help with break-down, every shift makes a difference. If you're able to volunteer, please sign up using [this link](#).



BARRE 3 FUNDRAISER

Friday, February 20th

10:45-11:45am



This is a fitness class for parents led by BHPNS mom, Kit Leiningner.

Space is limited to 28 participants.
\$25/person billed in brightwheel
All proceeds benefit Parents' Group.

*RSVP Details
Coming Soon*

Parents' Group Co-Chairs

Andrea Brown

Amanda Franklin-Munson

amchrista@yahoo.com

amandanfranklin@gmail.com



Dear Parents,

Happy February! On behalf of the entire Board, we want to thank Andrea Brown, Amanda Munson, and Jan Hauck for organizing another Scholastic Book Fair. Thank you all our volunteers-the book fair would not be possible without your time and talent.

At our January meeting, the Board approved the calendar and tuition rates for the 2026-27 school year. We are proud of the school and our shared commitment with all of you in focusing on a meaningful and nurturing learning experience during this special time in the children's lives.

Our next Board meeting is Wednesday, March 25 at 7:30 pm. If you have any questions, concerns or thoughts about the school, please reach out to the Board at board@bhpcns.org or talk to a Board member.

Have a wonderful Valentine's Day!

Rosanna Morrison, BHEPCNS Board Chair
Scott Allshouse, BHEPCNS Board Vice Chair



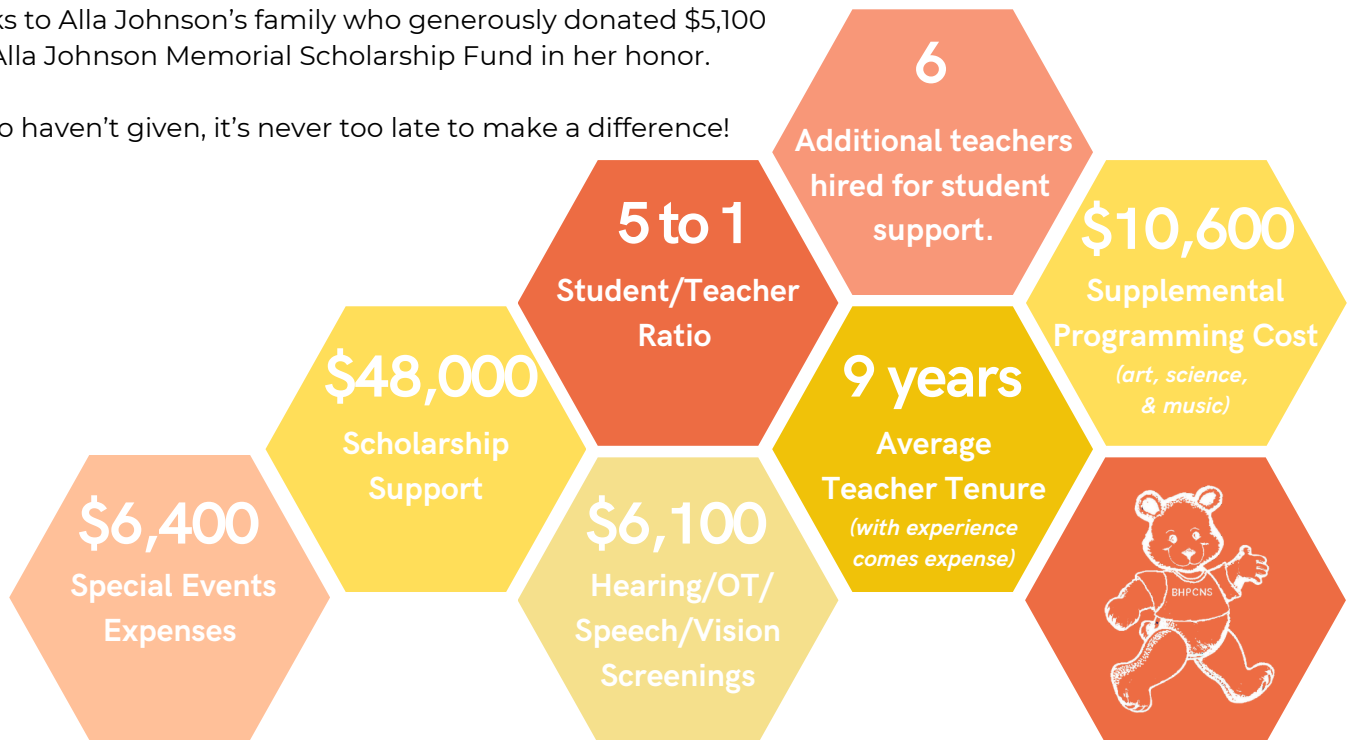
ANNUAL FUND PROGRESS

\$7,515 and Counting!

Thank you for your support of BHEPCNS. Together, we have raised \$7,515 from over 60 families and staff members. Thank you to the families who met our second ask for support with compassion and generosity.

Special thanks to Alla Johnson's family who generously donated \$5,100 to BHEPCNS' Alla Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund in her honor.

For those who haven't given, it's never too late to make a difference!



RYAN-The Bug Man

February 3rd, 4th, and 6th

GET EXCITED!!! Ryan-The BugMan returns to BHEPCNS to teach us:

- Bugs aren't dangerous or scary.
- Bugs use color & shape to scare off predators.
- Bugs are the foundation of our ecosystem.
- Bugs are a source of food for a multitude of animals.
- Bugs are pollinators for the reproduction of plants & flowers.
- Bugs are AWESOME!



WINTER DANCE RECITAL

Rescheduled for Wednesday, February 4th at 1:45 pm in Memorial Hall



It's Almost Snow Time for the Bradley Hills Dance Company!

Our Bradley Bear Dancers have been working hard to prepare for their big performance! Our dance moves will have you smiling from ear to ear and our art projects will transform the stage and walls of Memorial Hall into a Winter Wonderland. All are welcome to attend this must see event!

Stay after the performance and shop at The Scholastic Book Fair.

Our next session of Dance Stay & Play begins February 11th. Don't miss out on the fun! Register your child [HERE](#).



PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for:



- ROOM 102 Mrs. Vargas - Thursday, February 5th
- ROOM 103 MWF Mrs. Choi - Friday, February 6th
- ROOM 103 TTh Mrs. Choi - Tuesday, February 10th**
- ROOM 104 Mrs. Barnett - Friday, February 6th**
- ROOM 105 Ms. Wilson - Thursday, February 12th**
- ROOM 107 Mrs. Quijada - Thursday, February 5th
- ROOM 108 MWF Mrs. Cardoni - Monday, February 9th**
- ROOM 108 TTh Mrs. Michael - Thursday, February 12th**
- ROOM 111 Mrs. Juhasz - Thursday, February 12th**
- ROOM 113 Mrs. Biggs - Monday, February 9th**
- ROOM 117 Mrs. Richards - Friday, February 6th

**Tentative new dates

Your child's teacher will be sending out a brightwheel link for you to select your conference time. For families with more than one child we will work with you, as best we can to have conferences for both your children on the same day.

Here are some tips to get the most out of the conference experience:

- Conferences are scheduled for 15-20 minutes. Please be on time or notify the office if you are running late for your conference. If you think you will need more time, please make special arrangements with your child's teacher in advance to have a longer discussion.
- Prior to conferences a parent survey will be sent home for families to share topics they would like to cover at the conference.
- Conferences may be in person or set up as a phone/conference call. Please indicate your preference when you sign up.
- Conferences are for adults only. All BHPCNS classes will be held during conferences. Babies are welcome to attend a sibling's conference, however baby-sitting arrangements should be made for older siblings.
- Conferences are an opportunity for BHPCNS to share your child's strengths, concerns, readiness, with you and for you to share what's special, unique or concerning you about your child.
- Working together as a team is important to each child's progress in preschool. Please, do not worry if Liz is at your child's conference. She is there as a resource, support, educator, for your child and family and will offer ideas on your child's development.
- Please let Liz know if you have any questions or would like her to participate in your child's conference.

DENTIST DR. MARKO VISITS BRADLEY HILLS

February 10th and 11th



When Dr. Marko visits BHPCNS, we will learn all about our teeth:

- How, why and when to brush.
- Why we go to the dentist.
- How many teeth we have as children.
- How many teeth we have as an adult.

We will scrub sugar bugs off giant plastic teeth, practice flossing playdough from between teeth, create artwork with electric toothbrushes, and make model teeth out of mini marshmallows.



ALWAYS learning through PLAY at Bradley Hills!

WINTER 2026 ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Social-Emotional Learning and Beyond beginning Wednesday, February 11th

Facilitation of play, friendship, growth-mindset and social-emotional skills development with Growing Minds' Early Childhood Specialists



Ages 3 & older

\$385 for 7 Wednesdays from 2:30-3:30pm at BHPCNS

February 11, 18, 25

March 4, 11, 18, 25



Register [HERE](#)



Children will explore important social skills, emotional awareness, and problem-solving strategies inspired by the beloved TV character, Bluey! Each week, we'll focus on a different theme from the show—like friendship, empathy, sharing, self-advocacy, or managing big feelings—and participate in activities that help children have a safe place to be their authentic selves. Perfect for young learners who love Bluey and want to grow their social and emotional skills in a supportive, creative environment!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Camden Williams
Stella Polles
Luke Glass

Mariana Coffey
Maddie Bailey
Nathan Shofnos
Wynne Potolicchio

Rhys Kheradi
Kayla Howell
Soren Claise

When sending in birthday treats, please send in small cupcakes, mini muffins, fruit kabobs, etc. Keep classroom food allergies in mind. We share birthday treats at snack time. There is a snack ingredient form outside the office and on our website. Please complete the allergen form or send in a list of ingredients so we can be aware of any possible allergens. If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's teacher or the office.

SCHOOL PICTURE DAYS

March 3rd, 4th, & 5th

We are excited to be working with Stone Photography again for our school pictures. Individual, classroom, and sibling photos will be taken. Sibling photos (*for siblings ages 1 and up*) will begin at 9:15am each day. Please email Mrs. Jones at ijones@bhpcns.org if you'd like to have sibling photos taken.



2026-2027 ACCEPTANCE LETTERS



It may be only February, but the 2026-2027 school year acceptance letters will be sent home via your child's tote bag. Please be on the lookout for an envelope containing your child's acceptance letter. If you need another copy please let Amanda know.

To confirm your child's space, submit your child's deposit by February 28th and review the 2026/27 Parent Handbook and sign the "Acceptance of Policies" form, both of which will be shared with you via brightwheel.

Thank you for continuing to have your child PLAY, GROW and LEARN at BHPCNS!

IMPORTANT KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION

MCPS Kindergarten Registration Begins February 17th

MCPS elementary schools need to know if your child will be attending their school in late August. To register your child, call your local elementary school. It is very helpful to the elementary schools to know the number of children attending in the fall as soon as possible. Based on projected enrollments your child's elementary school may need to add or close a class. While your child won't start school until late August; elementary schools are already making their staffing projections for the fall.

Ashburton: 240-740-1300
Bannockburn: 240-740-1270
Bells Mill: 240-740-0480
Bethesda: 240-204-5300
Beverly Farms: 240-740-0200
Bradley Hills: 240-204-5210



Burning Tree: 240-740-1750
Carderock Springs: 240-740-0540
Chevy Chase: 301-657-4994
Garrett Park: 240-740-0700
Kensington Parkwood: 240-740-3700
Ritchie Park: 240-740-6310

Rosemary Hills: 301-920-9990
Seven Locks: 240-740-0940
Somerset: 240-740-1100
Westbrook: 240-740-1040
Wood Acres: 240-740-1127
Wyngate: 240-740-1080

Liz's Kindergarten Tips:

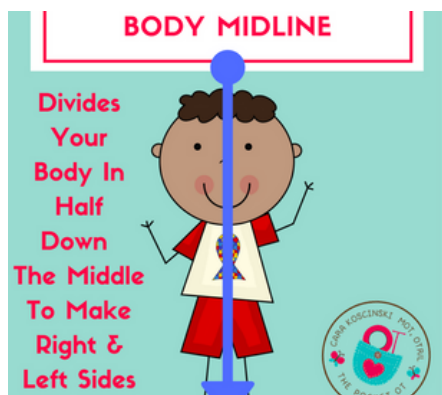


When contacting your local elementary school ask if they are hosting any informational kindergarten meetings for parents. For more information about MCPS and Kindergarten, visit the MCPS website [HERE](#).

Many BHPCNS families are exploring both public and private school options for their children. Liz is happy to make introductions to families who currently have kids attending a school of particular interest-just let her know.

WHY CROSSING THE MIDLINE IS IMPORTANT

Have you ever wondered, "What is crossing the midline and why is it important?" Here's a brief description and a link to the entire article. The term crossing midline is often used to describe the skill of moving your arm or leg across the imaginary line down the middle of your body. When children can cross the midline, they are using both sides of their brain to coordinate smooth, controlled, complex movements. It is important to combine movement patterns across the body for daily tasks such as reading, writing, tying a bow, and many other life skills. Click [here](#) for the entire article.



Here are Crossing the Midline Activities for Kids of All Ages:

1. Playing with rhythm scarves
2. Playing with blocks (stacking)
3. Dancing to music
4. Dusting or sweeping
5. Playing patty-cake
6. Playing with cars on a large path
7. Playing flashlight tag
8. Washing the car
9. Painting with a large roller
10. Completing cross crawls (touching hand to opposite foot or knee)
11. Wiping off a table with a towel using one hand
12. Throwing a water balloon or bean bag or ball at a target
13. Drawing a large figure 8 on a chalkboard or sidewalk
14. Playing Simon Says
15. Playing Twister



BE AN ASTRONAUT, BE AN ALIEN... JUST BE HERE!

TWO SESSIONS OF SUMMER CAMP:

June 1st - 11th

June 15th - 26th (no camp June 19th)

\$495* PER SESSION

9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Mid-morning snack provided by BHPCNS.

Campers bring a lunch from home.

EARLY DROP-OFF:

Drop-off at 8:00 am for an additional \$160/session.

Drop-in rate is \$20/day.

Morning snack provided by BHPCNS.

STAY & PLAY:

Pick-up at 2:30 pm for an additional \$290/session.

Drop-in rate is \$37/day.

Light snack provided by BHPCNS.

AGES:

Two-year-olds**

Three, Four & Five-year-olds

Rising Kindergartners & First Graders for Fall 2026

*An additional \$90 fee for any child who is not fully toilet trained. BHPCNS considers a child fully potty-trained when the child is able to articulate their need to go to the bathroom, can manage their clothing, and does not have recurring accidents at school.

** Must be currently enrolled at BHPCNS for the 25-26 school year and two by December 31, 2025.



SPRING BREAK

March 30th - April 6th

BHPCNS will close Friday, March 27th at 2:30 pm. We will have Stay + Play on Friday, March 27th.

We will reopen on Tuesday, April 7th. Early Morning, Lunch Bunch, and Stay & Play will be held on April 7th.

WINTER PICKS from our LIBRARIAN - Mrs. Hauck



Sharing toys, attention, love can be very difficult for young children. The school library has many wonderful books, both fiction and non-fiction, that focus on sharing. Here are just a few:

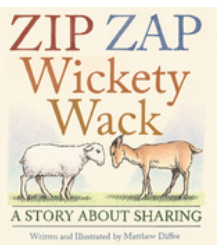
After the Rain by Rebecca Koehn

A big rainfall creates a fun puddle. Two children argue over who gets to play in the rainy puddle. Once the puddle begins to dry up, they discover it is more fun to play together and share.



Two for Me, One for You by Jörg Mühle

Walking through the woods, Bear finds three beautiful mushrooms. Her friend Weasel cooks them to perfection. When the two friends sit down to eat and divide the three mushrooms, Bear claims she should get two. Weasel doesn't agree and thinks he should get two. As the friends argue about how to divide the mushrooms, Fox sneaks in and they learn perhaps they should have found a way to share.



Zip Zap Wickety Wack: a Story About Sharing by Matthew Diffie

The sheep and the goat discover they both say "baa" and they don't want to share this sound. As they struggle to find a new sound, with the help of the other farm animals, sheep decides he will say "zip zap wickety wack." Problem solved, until an alien arrives. Beautiful drawings and humorous text guarantee this book will be loved.

We welcome all children, parents, and caregivers to visit the school library. Please see the office staff if you need assistance finding or borrowing a book. Also, please note that a \$10.00 replacement fee will be charged for all lost books.

If you have any library questions, please contact Jan Hauck at jbhauck@bhpcns.org.



OPEN DOOR POLICY AT BHPCNS

BHPCNS Open Door Policy: Thank you to everyone who has popped into the office with a question or concern! If at any time during the school year, you have a concern, complaint, an idea, or suggestion, please email, text, come to the office, or call us. We truly want to know your thoughts. Your ideas, suggestions, and critiques provide us with vital information that we can use to improve our programming. No issue is too small.

SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

ART(all ages) & SCIENCE (3-year-old & Pre-K) with Mrs. Mac 'N Cheese



In February, our scientists will become gardeners and learn about the three things plants need to live: sunlight, nutrient-rich soil, and water. They will plant seeds, find a sunny place in their classroom to water and care for them until they have grown and are ready to repot and bring home for Mother's Day.

In art class, students will create a special Valentine's Day gift to forever remind you of how tiny their little fingers once were.

SINGING with Ms. Casey (*all ages*)

After celebrating a brand new year in January, February brings us the heart of winter's wonders. With music and our imaginations, we're coaxing the snow out of clouds ("The Snow Is Falling Down") and celebrating the ritual of bundling up for cold weather ("The Snowkey Pokey").

We'll be imagining making snowmen and what it feels like to be a polar bear. Of course February also brings the warmth of Valentines Day where we'll sing about what it means to love family and friends and the myriad ways we can show it. So grab your loved ones, turn the music up to 11 (nod Mr. Reiner) and dance like no one is watching!

MUSIC (*all ages*) with Little Hands

This winter our session is called "Sing Me a Story!" It's a Little Hands collection of stories and songs inspired by the pages of lovely children's books. We continue with a story of "The Completed Hickory Dickory" (by Jim Aylesworth) telling the expanded tale of that mouse that ran up the clock, and using lots of silly words, like "Nibble on Bibble on bees, the mouse bit off some cheese..." The songs Old Grey Cat, and the favorite folk song, Ram Sam Sam are 2 singing selections this month. We'll represent the lines of Ram Sam Sam with some hand motions AND graphic illustrations.

Fast and Slow, Tempo Awareness is February's focus. We will listen, sing, and move in ways that reinforce the concepts of fast and slow sounds. Here's a rhyme used in classes with sticks, and moving our bodies:

Tick tock, tick tock, I'm a little cuckoo clock. Tick tock, tick tock, STOP! What time is it?
It's One o'clock! Cuckoo! (repeat fast or slowly, through 4 or five o'clock)



In movement, we'll decide whether to move slowly like cats, or fast like mice when prompted by the classical piece Run, Run from Memories of Childhood. We're building language development, body awareness, cognitive skill, memory, patterns in literature and song, counting, following directions, and social skill!

We are very thrilled to be able to share with you the [Sing Me a Story playlist](#), with selections like Old Grey Cat, Cuckoo Clock Rhyme, and other fun recordings. We can't wait to hear what song becomes your family's favorite!

MOVING AND GROOVING IN MEMORIAL HALL



BRADLEY HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



PARENTS *Valentine's Day* NIGHT OUT

**FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 13**

Enjoy a kid-free
Valentine's Celebration!

Drop Off: 5:00 pm
Pick Up: 9:30 pm

LEAVE THE KIDS WITH US!
For children ages 2-12 years.
They'll enjoy pizza and fun
with the Youth Group.
You get a night off!

\$40 for one child
\$20 for each
extra child

A fundraiser for the BHPC
Youth Group's summer trips.

**Purchase Tickets
in Realm**



Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church
6601 Bradley Blvd.
Bethesda, MD 20815

The Milestone Workshop for Second Graders on Worship

February 22
March 1
March 15
9:15-10:15 a.m.

Downstairs in the preschool classroom



During this 3-session workshop, children and parents learn together about the sacraments of Baptism and Communion. They also learn about how our worship service is organized, the special place where we worship, and how we praise God through song. Activities will be hands-on and child-friendly. On the last day of the workshop, the church will give each child who participated in the workshop their own Presbyterian Church (USA) Hymnal at the 10:30 a.m. worship service.



Register here!



YOUTH LED Pancake Lunch

22 FEBRUARY 2026

**11:30 am
Memorial Hall**



Help the Youth go on their summer trips to Massanetta & Montreat. Enjoy fellowship and pancakes! Show your gratitude by donating.

**There will
be the
option to
donate in
Realm**

JOIN IN THE
Mardi Gras
FUN



Lenten Family Small Groups

Begins February 23, 5:30-8:00 pm

Dinner for the whole family
Childcare during discussion
Sign up on Realm.

