

December 2021 Newsletter

The Bear Facts

Celebrating 64 Years of Early Childhood Education

Dear Parents,

December is a short month, but a full one at BHP CNS. Our children will be very busy making fun surprises for their families, learning holiday songs, and exploring December as a season of giving.

Holiday Cards: We invite you to bring your family's holiday card to school to be part of our display in the front hallway. Just bring your card to the office to be displayed.

Angel Gift Tree Donations: If you would like to support children and families outside the BHP CNS community this holiday season, the annual Angel Gift Tree project asks for your help in providing some small gifts. This year the Gift Tree committee is asking for new books for children from early readers through middle school, warm gloves and hats for children of all ages, new reusable shopping bags, and note pads with pens for the moms would be gratefully accepted. No wrapping is needed. **Items should be brought to the nursery school by December 3.**

2022-2023 Registration Happens in December: Registration for children currently enrolled at BHP CNS will be December 9th and 10th.

Applications are available on the BHP CNS website at www.bhpcns.org, and have been sent home via tote bags. **Applications may be mailed or dropped off early, but they will not be processed until after those received on December 9th and 10th.** (For full registration details see page 8.)

Silver Graphics: Thank you to everyone who supported the Parents' Group Silver Graphics Fundraiser. These keepsake gifts will be distributed to you shortly. Thank you to Andie de Vauxl and Kelsey Brown for spearheading the fundraiser for BHP CNS. We are grateful for their support and your support.

On behalf of myself, Carolyn, Kim, 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 all the best in 2022!

Liz Sobrino



DECEMBER SHOWS!

Mark Your Calendars for Our December Performances!



Christmas Sing Alongs
December 16th & 17th

For our 3s, Pre-K & TK classes

NEW – due to the pandemic we will be relocating our concerts to the steps outside the main entrance to the church sanctuary. The children will sing our traditional songs while their guests watch from the grass and driveway. Bring blankets or chairs to sit on for the show.

- On Thursday, December 16th our T/Th 3s in Rooms 105 & 108 will perform a selection of holiday songs at 9:30 am.
- On Friday, December 17th our MWF & M-F, 3s, Pre-K & the TK class will perform a selection of holiday songs at 9:30 am.

Following the performances there will be class parties at their outdoor classrooms. Children will be dismissed for the winter break after their classroom party between 10:30 and 11:00 am.

Additional details on page 6.

Both Sing- Alongs will be

PARENTS' GROUP UPDATE

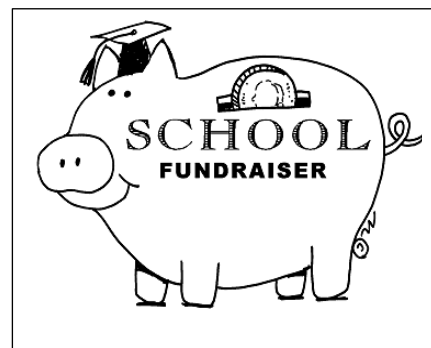
Happy Holidays, everyone! We hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. It's been a busy and FUN couple of weeks at BHP CNS. We'd like to extend a big Bradley Bear shout-out to several of our wonderful parent committees for their amazing efforts!



**Thank you to our
Amazing Parents'
Group Volunteers!**

- Thanks to the **Parent Social & Education Committee** for all your hard work in putting together an awesome parent's only happy hour at Tommy Joe's – what a fun evening for all!
- We'd also like to thank the **Sunshine Committee** for providing a sweet treat for the recent BHP CNS staff meeting.
- A HUGE thank you to **Andie de Vault** and **Kelsey Brown** for their hard work in facilitating the SilverGraphic fundraiser this year. We're grateful for their amazing efforts and for making this year's fundraiser such a success.
- A big kudos to the **Parent Community Building Committee** for putting together an incredible Donuts with Dad. It was great to see so many kiddos and their Dad's (& caregivers) start the school day enjoying yummy donuts together!

Fall Fundraiser Update: We're excited to share the **SilverGraphics** keepsake fundraiser was a great success with nearly **\$1,700 raised** towards BHP CNS community building events, parent social and educational opportunities and teacher appreciation efforts. We thank you for your orders! Your items are scheduled to be delivered to your child's classroom & placed near the children's tote hooks **by 12/16**. Keep an eye out for more information about an ongoing online shop where you can purchase more items across the year to be sent directly to your home. If you have any questions our SilverGraphics gurus, Andie (andie.devaulx.helps@gmail.com) and Kelsey (kelseylee0221@yahoo.com) can assist.



It's holiday card time! A friendly reminder that BHP CNS has a partnership with Minted and you can use the code **FUNDRAISEBHP CNS** at www.minted.com to save **20%** on holiday cards and more on their site. 15% of your purchase will go back to the school! And then bring your card to school to hang at the school entrance!

The cold weather has arrived, now is the time to start labeling coats, hats, mittens, and boots! Check out www.LabelDaddy.com/BHP CNS or minted.com (use our minted. code FUNDRAISEBHP CNS) for labels that are machine washable and don't require any ironing or sewing AND 20% will be donated back to the school.



DONUTS DAYS!



Thank you to our parent volunteers!



Thank you to all the special people who came for doughnuts with their children.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support. Please contact the parents group with any questions at parentsgroup@bhpcns.org

Kaeli Duggan and Nicole Urbanczyk
Parent's Group Co-Chairs

BHPCNS BOARD UPDATE

Dear Parents,

We are actually drafting this December message the week before Thanksgiving and thinking about the blessings for which we are thankful. One of the blessings that we and Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church are very grateful for is the dedication and creativity of the wonderful BHPCNS staff—administrators and teachers—who are helping our youngest community members “Play, Grow, and Learn” during these challenging pandemic times. Please join the church in thanking the staff for all that they do and in wishing them a happy and restful winter break.



The church extends an invitation to any families interested in our online Family Advent services. These 20 to 30-minute services will take place on Zoom at 9:30 am on the four Sundays of Advent (Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, and 19). They are designed for families with children in preschool and elementary school. More information about these Advent services and the church's Christmas Eve services can be found at the end of this Bear Facts newsletter.

BHPCNS BOARD UPDATE CONTINUED

2021-2022 BHPCNS Board Members

Rosanna Morrison – Chair
Vicki Petrides – Vice Chair
Amy de Court – Church Member
Cathie Lutter – Church Member
Brooke Rickett - Secretary
Maggie Maloney – Current Parent
Kaeli Duggan – Parents’ Group Rep
Nicole Urbanczyk – Parents’ Group Rep
Matt Nabinger – Church’s Director of Christian Education
Liz Sobrino - BHPCNS Director
Donna Barnett – Teacher Rep
Sandy Weldon - BHPCNS Treasurer



Next BHPCNS Board Meeting January 12th, 2022

The next full Board meeting will take place on January 12th at 7:30 pm. If you have any topics you would like included on the meeting agenda, please contact board@bhpcns.org to have your topic added. Use the Board email address to share questions, comments, and ideas with the Board at any time throughout the year.

Rosanna Morrison, BHPCNS Board Chair and Vicki Petrides, BHPCNS Board Vice Chair



FALL SPEECH & OT SCREENINGS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED!



&



Updates

Next Steps for children screened for Speech and/or OT during October and November:

1. For children who received a speech screening and/or an OT screening, reports have been sent home. If you have not received your child’s results, please contact the office for another copy.
2. **On-Target Results:** If your child’s report indicated their results are on target, then no further action is required at this time.
3. **Monitor Progress:** For children whose report says to monitor their progress and rescreen in 6 months, we suggest:
 - a. Having your child rescreened in the springtime when we will have speech screenings in April and OT Screenings in late March.
4. **Comprehensive Evaluation:** For children where either a comprehensive speech evaluation or OT evaluation was recommended we highly recommend you:
Contact your child’s pediatrician for another opinion and/or additional information on next steps.

SPEECH:

- For children with a speech concern, reach out to either Infants and Toddlers or Child Find, depending on your child’s age, and setting up a comprehensive evaluation.
- Work with a private speech pathologist to have a comprehensive evaluation.
- For children whose report says to monitor and rescreen we will have speech rescreens in April.

FALL SPEECH & OT SCREENINGS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED! - CONTINUED

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY:

For children whose reports say to monitor their progress and rescreen in 6 months, we suggest:

- Work with your child on their skills at home with the recommended activities.
- Having your child participate in the spring time when we will have OT screenings again to monitor the children's progress.

For Pre-K and TK children where an OT evaluation was recommended, please

- set up a comprehensive evaluation for your child, especially if your child needs help with their fine motor or impulse challenges.
- This way any therapies can occur in time to better prepare your child for kindergarten.

5. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher, or the office, or the screener.

THE IMPORTANCE OF FINE MOTOR SKILLS

Prior to the pandemic BHP CNS was focused on helping children improve their fine motor skills. However, since returning to school we have become even more focused on helping children build strong cores, arms, and ultimately hands. Without strong hands writing, cutting pasting, and more are impacted causing children to struggle in formal school settings. To learn more about why BHP CNS believes in early intervention and the need to bolster fine motor skills, please read:

[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](#)



HOW TO MAKE FINE MOTOR ACTIVITIES FUN!

Fine Motor
Activities
Can Be
FUN!!!!!!!!!!!!

- Gift wrap cutting activities... Chances are your family will have lots of wrapping paper leftover after opening gifts. Have your child use the leftover wrapping paper to cut. Some children may cut strips, others may cut out designs.
- Stringing pony beads on pipe cleaners and bending them into bracelets or necklaces
- Stringing cheerios on pipe cleaners to make bird feeders.
- Stir cookie dough, pancake mix, bread dough, etc.
- Chop vegetables with children friendly knives.
- Swing from monkey bars, climb the playground ladders, dig in the dirt...
- For more ideas contact 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/>



CONCERTS AT BHCPCNS FOR 3-YEAR-OLD, PRE-K, AND TK CLASSES – DEC. 16 & 17



Sing Along Concerts – for 3-year-old, Pre-K, and TK Classes (2-year-old classes will have mini sing alongs in their classrooms)

T/TH 3-Year-Old Classes will sing for their families on Dec. 16th at 9:30 am
MWF & M-F 3-Year-Old, Pre-K, and TK Classes will sing on Dec. 17th at 9:30 am.

- Concerts will occur outdoors by the Main Church Doors – weather permitting. If not, the concerts will be indoors and there will be a limit of 2 guests per child.
- Class parties will occur, immediately following the performances at outdoor classroom tents
- Dismissal will occur following classroom parties.
- Additional details to follow.

SHARE YOUR FAMILY HOLIDAY TRADITIONS WITH YOUR CHILD’S CLASS!

Share Your Family’s Holiday Traditions at BHCPCNS

Parents, family members, and friends are welcome to share their family’s holiday traditions with their child’s classrooms. Contact your child’s teacher if you or a family member would like to read a special story, bring a beloved family recipe for a class snack, make a traditional craft, or more to share with your child’s class. We will be welcoming all guests to do their presentations outside to protect everyone’s health. If you have any questions, please contact your child’s teachers or the office about visiting your child’s class.

Sharing Holiday Traditions



ANGEL GIFT TREE - WHY IT’S IMPORTANT



At BHCPCNS we celebrate December as a season of giving. The children will make “gifts” for their families. We will talk about how this season is for giving to others and what that can look like as a small child. During this season of giving, please talk with your child about helping others, especially those less fortunate than they are and if you can contribute to the Angel Gift Tree donations that is another wonderful way to show your child the importance of giving to others, especially to those less fortunate. Thank you in advance for supporting this cause.

HOLIDAY GIFT SUGGESTIONS

These gift suggestions include recommendations from BHPCNS teachers and parents.

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
- Stuffies
- Candyland
- Chutes and Ladders
- Jenga
- Daniel Tiger Board Game
- Pop the Pig Game
- Alphabots
- Todd and Frog Books

[Scree Free Parenting](#) also has some wonderful suggestions when looking for holiday gifts.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

George Rolls
Kiki Uhalde
Chloé de Vault
Jacob Sherman
Henry Diamond
Issla Jue



Cora Brzytwa
Ben Calk
Sheridan Brodeur
Liliana Reister
Emery Schlichting

When sending in birthday treats, please send in **small** cupcakes, mini muffins, fruit kabobs, etc., keeping classroom food allergies in mind. If you send in a homemade treat, list the ingredients on the treat so we can check for allergies. We share birthday treats at snack time. If you have questions, speak with child's teacher or the office.

WINTER BREAK DATES



*BHPCNS will close after classroom parties on December 17th, 2021.
BHPCNS Closed from December 20th through January 2nd.*

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

2022-2023 Registration Information

Registration Options:

Transitional Kindergarten, Monday through Friday
5 day Pre-K, Monday through Friday
3 day Pre-K, 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
5 day 2s, Monday through Friday



Registration for Current BHPCNS Students:

Registration for the 2022-23 school year is soon!

- Applications have been sent home. Additional copies for current students are available in the office, and on the BHPCNS website, www.bhpcns.org under the Application/Registration tab.
- Complete an application and return the form along with the \$80 registration fee, on either December 9th or December 10th. **Returning students must have their applications turned in no later than Friday, December 10 to guarantee placement for the next school year.**
- Remember to indicate a first and second program choice. While we guarantee placement for students currently enrolled in our 2 and 3-year-old programs and for students enrolled in the Pre-K program who do not meet the age eligibility for public school kindergarten, or are taking a transitional year, **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 9th will be placed after those received on December 10th.
- Acceptance or Wait List notifications will be sent home in late January.

Registration for Siblings Not Currently Enrolled in BHPCNS:

Applications for siblings of currently enrolled students for the 2022-23 school year may be submitted at any time, and are available in the office and online for your child who will be new to BHPCNS in September 2022.

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 and may be submitted at any time.

BHPCNS follows Maryland State Department of Education guidelines with regard to birthdate cut-off dates for admission. Children must be 2 by September 1, 2022 to enroll in the 2s, 3 by September 1, 2022 to enroll in the 3s, and 4 by September 1, 2020 to enroll in the Pre-K program. TK programming is for children who are 5 prior to September 1, and delaying the start of kindergarten.

IF YOUR CHILD HAS A SUMMER BIRTHDAY AND YOU ARE CONSIDERING HAVING THEM DELAY THE START OF KINDERGARTEN PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE TO DISCUSS OUR TK PROGRAM.

Play,
Grow,
Learn



with Bradley Bear

BRADLEY BEAR IS LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL TEACHERS – HELP WANTED



Bradley Hills Nursery School is looking for additional teachers!

1. Do you love children?
2. Can you get up and down from the floor?
3. Are you a go with the flow kind of person?
4. Are you looking for some pocket money or a meaningful way to spend your mornings?

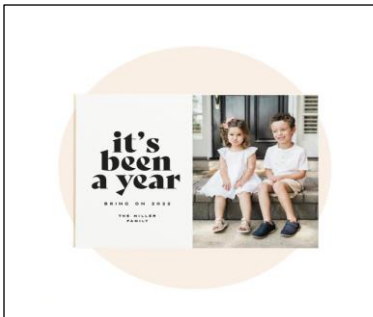


Then you have all the skills needed to be a teacher.

BHPCNS will train you.

Current, past parents are all welcome. Neighbors and friends are welcome. If you or someone you know is interested in a fun, stimulating, teaching part-time job, please contact Liz or the office!

INFORMATION YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS



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.

The children love to see their friends and families in their holiday finery and festive situations. If you have former BHPCNS friends ask them to send their cards too.

Goodbye to Pink and Cherry:

Our amazing chickens, Pink and Cherry, will be returning to the farm sometime next week. Please stop by to say goodbye!

If you are interested in having chickens at your home, contact [Rent a Coop](#) for more information.

We will be hatching chicks in the spring time! Details to follow.



SPECIAL American University BASKETBALL EVENT FOR BHPCNS FAMILIES!



[BHPCNS BASKETBALL DAY AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY](#)

Saturday, January 1, 2022 at 4pm in AU's Bender Arena

BHPCNS students receive a FREE ticket to the AU Eagles men's basketball game versus the Lehigh University Mountain Hawks on New Year's Day. Additional tickets can be purchased at discounted prices. Flyers with electronic ticket ordering instructions were sent home via tote bag mail and extra flyers are available outside the BHPCNS office, or simply click and visit bit.ly/AUBHPCNS21 to reserve your tickets/seating with fellow BHPCNS families by December 28th. For questions, please email Clawed@american.edu!



IMPORTANT INFORMATION CONTINUED:

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. Two-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 may be prorated because it’s a short month. Carolyn will be available to calculate your fees.

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 or church function 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 extra clothes in their tote bags. Please send in warmer clothing, pants, a shirt, possibly a sweat shirt, socks, and underwear. Thanks! Don’t forget to label all the items you send to school.

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 our display across from the office.



**Future
Bradley
Bears
Photos**



**Mrs. Kebler’s Girls
Scout Troop 5906**

In addition to being an amazing pre-school teacher, Sandy Kebler also leads her daughter’s Girl Scout troop. This is their 5th year collecting books for the [Maryland Book Bank](#), a non-profit dedicated to getting books into the hands of children and adults. Please consider donating new or gently used books to support young and old readers in MD.

**Book donations can be
dropped off at BHPCNS.
Look for the bin by the
office. Books will be
collected until February 2022.**



Parent Encouragement Programs

PEP’s mission is to build strong, harmonious family relationships through parent education, skills training, and support. PEP helps adults foster the values of mutual respect, shared responsibility, competence and cooperation in young people, preparing them to make positive contributions to the families, their communities, and the world at large.

PEP’s programming is a wonderful way to learn how to parent in meaningful, hands-on ways. As the world returns to “normal” after the pandemic, PEP’s programs can help parents address concerns about their child’s development caused by the isolation of the past 20 months.

LUNCHES AT BHEPCNS

- At BHEPCNS we are required by licensing to keep lunches refrigerated throughout the day. Because of this we ask that you send in soft sided lunch bags that can easily fit in our bins and on the shelves of our refrigerators.
- We serve organic milk and filtered water at lunch time. You do not need to send in a juice box or another beverage for your child's lunch. This will also keep lunch boxes from being too big for the refrigerator.
- When packing lunches please consider:
 - Cutting sandwiches into quarters or smaller pieces for children to easily pick up and eat.
 - Fruit and vegetables should also be cut into smaller pieces. It's much easier for a child to eat apple wedges than to eat a whole apple. For smaller children their fruits and vegetables should be cut small enough that they are not a choking hazard.
 - Including foods your child likes. Their lunch box is not the time to send in a new recipe or leftovers the child did not enjoy before.
 - Sending 5 or 6 small servings of a variety of foods so your child is likely to eat something. This could include, half a sandwich, some fruit, some vegetables, a crunchy item, etc.
 - If you send in a treat, a cookie, a chocolate, etc. licensing does not allow us to tell the child to eat their "healthy" or "growing" foods first. If you include a treat it's possible your child will eat it first and leave the more nutritious foods for later, saving treats for the afternoon or when the children are out of school.



Please let your child's teacher or the office know if you have any questions.

HELPING CHILDREN SOLVE PROBLEMS WITH 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 BHEPCNS 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](#).

BHEPCNS implements many of the strategies being shared with you from Vanderbilt University's Center for the Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learners. 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 your child's teacher or Liz Sobrino can help you utilize these tools with your child (ren).

MUSIC CLASSES AND AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE UPDATES!

Ms. Casey Reports:

Wherever did November go? It seemed we barely had time to learn about the Wampanoag families that came before us and revel in our thankfulness for our own family and friends. Lucky for us, the winter holidays bring even more gifts of time spent with those we love. The children are already learning holiday songs to help brighten the season. By incorporating signs learned in ASL class into songs, the kids are strengthening their hand-eye coordination, sharpening imitation and fine motor skills, and improving their social interactions. It also helps those of us who may process things visually better than aurally. I hope you'll sing along at home if you hear your children practicing and then join us for the holiday sing along and parties at school. Safe, multigenerational gatherings strengthen a child's sense of community and there's no better universal gift than music to bring us all together!



Singing with Ms. Casey
2s, 3s, Pre-K & TK



American Sign Language
2s, 3s, Pre-K, & TK

Mrs. Goodstein Shares:

In December we will learn how to sign the numbers 1 through 10. We will also learn how to sign the colors of the rainbow. We will be using these signs when we sing our favorite Christmas songs to everyone on December 16th and 17th. We will add onto the kids favorite signs-silly signs we use to say goodbye to one another. We have already learned, "see you later alligator", "bye bye butterfly", and "so long King Kong". Ask your child to demonstrate these fun signs.

STAY AND PLAY UPDATES

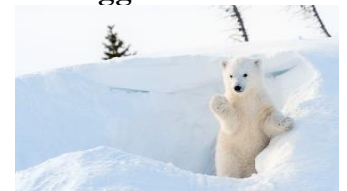
Monday: Sports and Games



Coach Cardoni Shares: In December our Sporty Bears will concentrate on learning the game of Field Hockey. Our Sporty Bears will continue to build on all of the benefits of soccer: coordination and balance, agility, improving social skills and promoting sportsmanship with the added benefits of hand eye coordination and upper body strengthening using the hockey stick to move (dribble) the ball down the field. We will be working on self-constraint because every time you hit the ball it doesn't need to cross the entire field. Join our team and let's get going!

Scientist Frid Shares: As we enter the colder months, we will be exploring and expanding our STEM minds while engineering a home/habitat for a polar bear. We will build, then melt! our own snowman while observing the chemistry interaction between baking soda and vinegar. We will watch with wonder as we hypothesize why colored droplets of water refuse to mix with the oil that we add to it. Our Wiggling Wizards have lots to learn as we play through December!

Tuesday: Wigglin' Wizards



**Wednesday:
Artist Corner**

Artist Choi shares: In December the little artists are getting in the holiday spirits by making Christmas ornaments. The children will be making ornament balls with paints and Christmas trees with weaved papers. For the last day party, we are going to decorate Christmas cookies.

We wish you all a happy holiday season and a wonderful new year. See you in 2022!

STAY AND PLAY UPDATES



**Tuesday & Wednesday
Bradley Bear's
Dance Company!**

Show Choreographer Colleen Snyder Shares:

Bethesda Conservatory of Dance is thrilled to be back for our 5th season at BHPCNS. We have missed the Bradley Bears Dance Troupe during the last year and are so proud of how your students are growing this season. They are learning basic Ballet shapes and positions. Their first and second positions look good and their galloping chasse looks great. They are learning weight shifting activities along with body part identification and isolation through movement games. Best of all, they are working on the Winter Wonderland Dances to show you in January. They are dancing up a (snow) storm and so very excited. Our dancers are also very busy crafting all kinds of winter wonderland projects to decorate the stage for the show in January!

Travel Agent Mydlarz Shares:

Welcome to Uganda - the Pearl of Africa! Our little travelers packed their backpacks and left Argentina for a new continent. For the next couple of weeks we will discover the Central African country known for its beauty, stunning scenery, wildlife and mountain gorillas - Uganda. English, next to Swahili, is the country's official languages, so it would be quite easy for all of us to go out and about and maybe even make friends with Ugandan children. Our Cubs will also have a lot of fun going on safari in search of wild animals hidden around our playgrounds.

The last class before we break for the holidays, we will spend on learning about Christmas traditions from countries we did or will visit this school year. We will share the bread (like it is done in Russia, our next destination) making wishes to one another for prosperity of New Year!



**Thursday:
Where in the World is
Bradley Bear?**



Friday: Yogi Bears

Yogi Cardoni Shares:

Our Yogi Bears will start December by going on an adventure to the North Pole. We will practice old poses and learn some new ones-toboggan, triangle and bow. We will return safe and warm to BHPCNS where we will end our practice pretending we are snowflakes falling and wafting through a crisp December sky. Throughout the month the Yogi Bears will continue their practice with gratefulness and mindfulness, both in thought and action. Our Christmas yoga class will be a celebration of friendship with all of the yoga students joining together for our weekly practice. We hope your child joins us for some calm, relaxing fun. Wishing all of our Yogi Bears and their families a safe and peaceful holiday season. Namaste!

WEATHER RELATED CLOSING INFORMATION

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. Lunch Bunch will be held until 12:30. Stay and Play will be cancelled.

Signup for Montgomery County Alerts by [clicking here](#).

BHPC DECEMBER ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES

Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church celebrates with the Nursery School this time of gradual reopening and times to be together over the holidays!

Weekly Family Advent Services - Families are invited to a 20-30 minute time of family worship on Zoom on three Sundays of Advent beginning December 5. 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 young children and in elementary school.

[Click Her to Join Zoom Meeting](#)



BHPC is planning a **Christmas Tree lighting** on December 12th at 5:00 pm with caroling, crafts and the distribution of Advent Gift Bags to help families celebrate Advent and Christmas. We will also deliver bags to those families not able to attend. Watch the church website for a sign-up genius to attend!

Weekly Church Services - We are holding in-person church services at 8:30 and 10:30 with Virtual Worship Services at 10:30 am on Sundays at the link below:

[Watch Services Live Click Here](#)



Blue Christmas – December 12th:

If anyone in nursery school community has lost someone or something this year, there will be 2 Blue Christmas services including lighting a candle in remembrance. Services will be at noon or 7:30 pm.

Christmas Eve Services:

BHPC will have three Christmas Eve services,

- 4:00 pm especially designed for families
- 6:00 pm,
- And 10:00 pm.



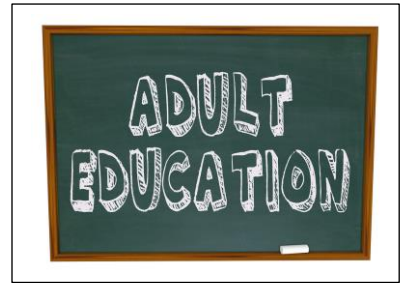
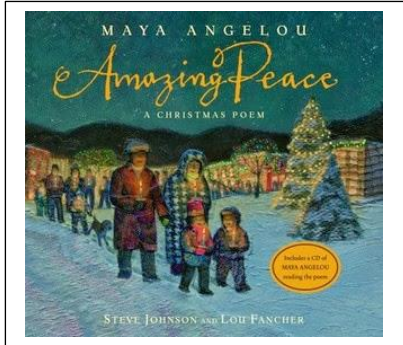
Angel Gift Tree Donations- If you would like to support other children and families, our annual Angel Gift Tree recipient groups welcome help from the Nursery School families this year. The requests are pretty straightforward: Books for kids from early readers through middle school, warm gloves and hats for all ages, new reusable shopping bags for the moms, and note pads and pens for the moms.

No wrapping is needed.

Items must be brought to the school by Friday, December 3.

BHPC DECEMBER ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES - CONTINUED

Adult Education - On Sunday mornings at 9:15 am, Adult Education offers opportunities to reflect about Advent and Christmas:



December 5: *What is Christmas Peace and How Do We Experience It?* We will read and consider Maya Angelou's poem "Amazing Peace," ([text here](#)), written for the 2005 White House Christmas tree lighting ceremony.

December 12: *What is Christmas Joy and How Do We Experience It?* We will look at the essay "Christmas Joy," by German theologian Emmy Arnold, from Watch for the Light: Readings for Advent and Christmas.



December 19: *What is the Experience of Christmas Faith and Hope?* We will consider Karl Barth's message in his essay "To Believe," also from Watch for the Light: Readings for Advent and Christmas.

[Click here to join the Zoom Meeting](#)

