



The Bear Facts

JANUARY 2024

Celebrating 66 Years of Early Childhood Education



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school!

While we didn't reclaim our title of **The Best of Bethesda Award for Best Preschool/Day Care** we did come in second place! We thank each of you for taking the time to vote for Bradley Bear and while we are trying to be gracious losers (wink) we look forward to being back where we belong next year!

Throughout January, your child's teachers will be busy creating a snapshot of your child's development at BHCNS. Teachers Observational Reports will build off the ASQ-3 questionnaire you completed in the fall and provide another snapshot of your child's overall growth and development. These playful activities are done in a fun and engaging manner. Our observations will be shared with parents during Parent/Teacher conferences scheduled for February. See page 8 for complete conference schedule.

The holidays have always been celebrated at BHCNS as a season of giving. Thank you for the many wonderful holiday treats for the office, teachers, and staff at BHCNS. We are grateful for your generosity with class parties, gifts to our staff, and donations to our toy drive. We appreciate all that you do for our school and the greater community. A special thank you to the Parents' Group for the mini campfire mug ornaments delivered to the entire staff in December.

We are excited for Bradley Bear's Enchanted Forest Prom on Saturday, February 17th! This evening promises to be magical with live music, open bar (serving beer and wine), hors d'oeuvres, and desserts. Net proceeds support The Alla Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund. This is one evening you don't want to miss!

Thank you, most of all, for your children. They are an amazing gift that you share with us each day.

Liz Sobrino
BHCNS Director

January 1st - Happy New Year!

- Tuition Due

January 5th

- Last day to order [cookie kits](#)

January 8th

- [Kindergarten Readiness Coffee](#)
9:15-10:30 am (Church Library)
- [Builders & Makers Enrichment Program](#)
2:30-3:30 pm (BHCNS)

January 15th

- SCHOOL CLOSED
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 24th

- Board Meeting
7:30pm

January 29th-February 2nd

- Parents' Group Book Fair
Volunteer [HERE](#)

January 30th - February 9th

- Parent/Teacher Conferences

January 31st

- Dance Recital
1:45 pm (Memorial Hall)

February 1st

- Tuition Due

February 17th

- [Bradley Bear's Enchanted Prom](#)

February 18th

- [Bradley Bear's Pajama Prom](#)

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

STAY
CONNECTED



BRADLEY BEAR'S ENCHANTED FOREST PROM



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17th
BHPCNS MEMORIAL HALL
8:00pm

LIVE MUSIC

OPEN BAR
serving beer & wine

DESSERTS

PHOTO BOOTH

HORS D'OEUVRES

Net proceeds will support BHPCNS' Alla Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund (providing tuition assistance to families in need).

Buy tickets [HERE](#) or from BHPCNS main office.

SPONSORSHIPS

\$2,000 FUREVER FRIENDS

The Johnson Orrick Family

\$1,500 DANCING BEAR

Bethesda Conservatory of Dance

\$1,000 BEARY BESTIES

\$500 CUB CLUB

Natelli Communities

\$250 TEDDY TREATS

Stacy and Zach Gordon
grace & griffin

FRIENDS of BHPCNS

\$500 PANDA

\$250 KODIAK

\$100 POLAR

Anonymous
Catherine Brevil
Sarah Pelkey & Matt Hamann
Brooke Wolvin

\$25 CUB



Happy New Year from the Parents' Group!



Lots happening in January! Highlights here (see below for additional details):

- Cookie Decorating Kit Orders - due Jan 5 - [order here](#)
- Save the Date Jan 29-Feb2 Bradley Bear Book Fair in person! [Volunteer here](#)
- SilverGraphics online shop open for new and repeat orders
- Still ordering last minute gifts and cards? Use code FUNDRAISEBHPCNS at minted.com for 20% off and 15% of your purchase back to the school

UPCOMING EVENTS

CALLING ALL COOKIE LOVERS!

orders due Friday, January 5th



Coming back early January by (very) popular demand... Take-home, Cookie Decorating Kits by female-owned, local, small business @thecookiemackster! Check her out on Instagram.

- Order your kit quickly, as supply is limited! Each kit costs \$28 and includes:
- 8 already-baked, winter-themed, delicious sugar cookies, ready for your kiddo(s) to decorate
 - 2 colored icings
 - 2 toppings

These are such a fun activity and art project to do at home and will be distributed to your child's tote area in time for the long MLK weekend.



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR at BHPCNS

January 29th thru February 2nd

If you are interested in helping out, please add your information to this list ASAP so we can share information about times/roles as things are solidified. We will need plenty of volunteers to do easy jobs for small windows of time: set-up of book fair displays, run the cash register, help kiddos find books, and so on - we cannot wait for this new event!

Jan Hauck, our Bradley Bear Librarian, is at the helm and we have worked with Scholastic to have a great selection of books for ages Pre-K and Kindergarten level. We are so excited to kick off this new tradition!



SILVER GRAPHICS FALL FUNDRAISER



We are so happy to hear all of the great feedback once again on how SilverGraphics orders turned out. Thanks to those who placed orders!

For those who still want to order/order more items, the online shop will stay open and you can upload new art and order at any time. This raised over \$600 for the Parents' Group so far.



Go to: www.silvergraphics.com/shop

Enter Access Code: **BHP23Art**

Choose "Find My Art" or Upload Art, to add art from other schools, children, or even favorite photos. To ensure your reproductions look fabulous, follow [these tips](#) on how to scan/photograph your art before uploading.



Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! The BHPCNS Board and Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church welcome BHPCNS staff, children, and parents back for the second half of the school year. We hope everyone had a fun-filled winter break.

We also hope you have marked your calendars for the Enchanted Forest Prom on Saturday, February 17 from 8:00-11:00 pm, and the family Pajama Prom on Sunday, February 18 from 8:30-10:00 am. Both events promise to be lots of fun and a wonderful way to raise money for the school's Alla Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The next Board meeting will be on January 24 at 7:30 pm. Our meeting agenda includes approving next year's preliminary budget, setting tuition for the 2024-25 school year, and approving the 2024-25 school calendar. If you have any topics you would like added to the agenda, please email the Board at board@bhpcns.org. Board meetings are open to anyone with notification to the Board Chair through this email address at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Throughout the school year, please feel encouraged to contact the Board with your questions, concerns, or thoughts about the school via this email address or by reaching out to a Board member.

Best wishes for 2024!

Rosanna Morrison, BHPCNS Board Chair
Gail Polser-Brown, BHPCNS Board Vice Chair



2023-24 BHPCNS Board members

Gail Polser-Brown—Past parent; current grandmother; BHPC member
Amy de Court—Past parent; BHPC member
Kaeli Duggan—Current parent; Parents' Group Co-President
Rosanna Morrison—Past parent; current grandmother; BHPC member
Cass Price—Current parent; Parents' Group Co-President
Brooke Rickett—Current parent; BHPC member
Autumn Balentine Trevisan—Current parent
Liz Sobrino—BHPCNS Director

Ex-officio

Donna Barnett—BHPCNS Staff Representative
Matt Nabinger—BHPC Director of Christian Education
Sandhya Weldon—BHPCNS Treasurer

BHPCNS ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

BHPCNS & Growing Minds invite you to

COFFEE & Parent Gatherings

WHEN: After Morning Drop-Off - 10:45am
WHERE: BHPC Library

Jan 8 - Kindergarten - Preparing Yourself and Your Child
Feb 5 - Siblings - Promoting Sibling Harmony
Mar 4 - All Things Potty
Apr 8 - Picky Eaters - Broadening Food Choices & Creating Peaceful Mealtimes

Please [RSVP](#) so we know how much coffee to brew



PARENT COFFEE with GROWING MINDS

Monday, January 8th from 9:15-10:30 am

Kindergarten

All are welcome to join in the conversation with Jill Jerome, licensed clinical social worker, from Growing Minds. Jill will be here to answer parenting questions and/or challenges you are facing. This week we will start the conversation with, **Kindergarten Readiness**. Hope to see you there!

- Church Library on Main Floor
- Coffee will be served
- Please RSVP so we know how many seats to set up
- Babysitting Provided



Winter 2024 Enrichment Programs for Social-Emotional Learning and Beyond!



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



BUILDERS and MAKERS

Ages 3-5

8 Mondays from 2:30-3:30pm

January 8, 22, 29, February 5, 12, 26, March 4, 11

Children engage in social-emotional, fine and gross motor development, and problem solving through playful experiences of building together. Each weekly session involves an opportunity to use a variety of materials to build a collaborative structure based on a story or problem that your child can help solve. Participants practice planning, taking turns, frustration tolerance, compromising, and communicating.

Contact Us

www.growingmindstherapy.com
intake@growingmindstherapy.com
 301-235-9927 ext. 0

REGISTER HERE



Each 8 session program costs \$400.

Make checks payable to BHPCNS or make payment via brightwheel.

CALMING RETURN TO SCHOOL ROUTINES



Returning to school after a break, especially one filled with family time and lots of fun can be difficult for children. Click HERE for suggestions from the Child Mind Institute on how to help your child overcome any back to school anxieties. If you don't have time to read the whole article, we strongly recommend you create a good bye routine, say goodbye and leave. The teachers will calm your child and they will quickly engaged in playing in their classroom.



2024-2025 REGISTRATION INFORMATION PROGRAM OPTIONS

2

TWO-YEAR-OLD PROGRAMS

2 days: Tuesday & Thursday

3 days: Monday, Wednesday & Friday

5 days: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

3

THREE-YEAR-OLD PROGRAMS

2 days: Tuesday & Thursday

3 days: Monday, Wednesday & Friday

5 days: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

4

Pre-K PROGRAMS

3 days: Monday, Wednesday & Friday

5 days: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday



REGISTRATION FOR NEW STUDENTS

Applications for the 2024-25 school year for **NEW STUDENTS** and **SIBLINGS** of currently enrolled students are now being accepted and are available online at www.bhpcns.org and via brightwheel.



PLEASE CONTINUE TO SHARE THE LOVE!!!

Parent referrals are what have kept our classrooms full for 66 years. We love meeting new families. They are welcome to tour the school and learn more about our program by calling the office at 301-365-2909.

Children must be 2 years old by September 1, 2024 to be eligible for enrollment at BHPCNS. *Siblings are given priority over families new to BHPCNS.* Acceptance or Wait List notifications will be sent home in late January 2024.



REGISTRATION FOR CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS

Registration for children currently enrolled at BHPCNS began Monday, December 4th. Applications received between Monday, December 4th and Friday, December 8th will be given priority in enrollment.

Please recognize that children currently enrolled in our Cub Club, 2s' and 3s' programs, as well as those children who are enrolled in the Pre-K program, but are not age-eligible for Kindergarten, are guaranteed a place, however, it may not be your first choice.

We are busy processing the applications we have already received and will get acceptance status sent home in late January.

BHPCNS follows Montgomery County Public Schools with regard to birthdate cut-off dates for admission.

Children must be...

2 by September 1, 2024 to enroll in the 2s,

3 by September 1, 2024 to enroll in the 3s,

4 by September 1, 2024 to enroll in Pre-K.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

BHPCNS strongly believes all children deserve a quality pre-school experience. If you are in need of financial assistance, please consider applying for aid from the school. More information is available by clicking [HERE](#) or by calling the office at 301-365-2909. Current Scholarship Families: if you would like to renew your scholarship aid for the 2024-2025 school year, please submit your paperwork before January 13th.



2024 SUMMER CAMP: BRADLEY BEAR'S GOING TO THE BEACH!

more details coming soon...

TWO SESSIONS OF SUMMER CAMP:

JUNE 3 - 13

JUNE 17- 28 *no camp June 19th*

\$495* PER SESSION

9:00 am -12:30 pm

Campers will be served a mid-morning snack provided by BHPCNS.

Campers should bring a lunch from home.

Early Drop-off:

Campers may be dropped off at 8:00 am for an additional \$150 per camp session.

Stay & Play:

Campers may stay until 2:30 pm for an additional \$280 per camp session.

Ages:

Two-year-olds**

Three, Four & Five-year-olds

Rising Kindergartners & First Graders for Fall 2024

*An additional \$85 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 23-24 school year and two by December 31, 2023.

PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES



Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for:

- ROOM 102 Ms. Vargas - Tuesday, January 30th & Wednesday, January 31st
- ROOM 103 Mrs. Choi - Monday, February 5th & Tuesday, February 6th
- ROOM 104 Mrs. Barnett - Wednesday, February 7th
- ROOM 104 Ms. Frid - Tuesday, February 6th
- ROOM 105 Mrs. Biggs - Wednesday, February 7th
- ROOM 107 Mrs. Quijada - Monday, February 5th
- ROOM 108 Mrs. Cardoni - Wednesday, February 7th & Friday, February 9th
- ROOM 108 Mrs. Lakas - Thursday, February 8th
- ROOM 111 Mrs. Juhaszne - Thursday, February 1st & Friday, February 2nd
- ROOM 113 Mrs. Kebler - Thursday, February 8th
- ROOM 117 Mrs. Richards - Friday, February 9th

Your child's teacher will be sending out a SignUpGenius 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 minutes. Please be on time or notify the office if you are running late for your conference. If you think you will need more than 15 minutes, please make special arrangements with your child's teacher in advance to have a longer discussion.
- Prior to conference a 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 or via Zoom. 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, 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.
- The Director of the school, Liz Sobrino, will work with the teachers to ensure we are providing the best possible experience for your child. It's possible Liz will sit in on your child's conference to learn more about your child, support a teacher, offer ideas on your child's development. Please, do not worry if she is at your conference. She is there as a resource, support, educator, for your child and family.
- Please let Liz know if you have any questions or would like her to participate in your child's conference. Working together as a team is important to each child's progress in preschool.

WINTER DANCE RECITAL

January 31st at 1:45 pm in Memorial Hall



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

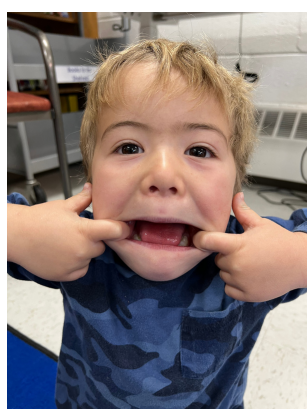
Our Bradley Bear Dancers have been working hard to prepare for their big performance! Our dance moves will have you smiling from ear to ear and our art projects will transform the stage and walls of Memorial Hall into a Winter Wonderland. All are welcome to attend this must see event!

Our next session of Dance Stay & Play begins Tuesday, February 6th. Don't miss out on the fun! Register your son/daughter [HERE](#).



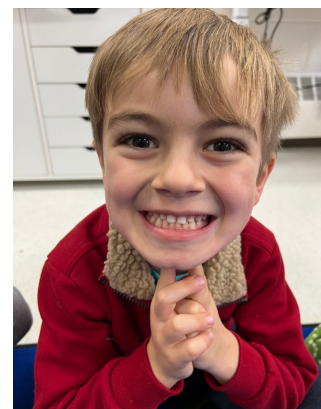
SCHOOL PICTURE DAYS

March 4th, 7th, & 8th



Schedule those haircuts & shine those shoes for Picture Day fun! More details to come in February.

We are excited to be working with Stone Photography again. Individual, classroom, and sibling photos will be taken.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- Hudson Tase
- Oliver Wonlaw
- Niharika Niyas
- Mila Baker
- Patrick Mullen
- Asher Henderson
- Lucy Brown
- Hallie Schrader
- Emiliano Castillo-Vargas
- Bryson Odulio
- Nell Barrett
- Shane Gordon
- Norah Javers



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.

WEATHER RELATED CLOSINGS

BHPCNS follows Montgomery County Public Schools, MCPS, emergency weather closings. To be in the know, sign up for MCPS Alerts click [HERE](#).

If MCPS schools are closed, BHPCNS will be closed.

If MCPS has a two hour delay, BHPCNS will begin the school day at 11:00 am, except for Early Morning with Bradley Bear students who may arrive at 10:00 am. Students in the 2-year-old program may stay until 12:30 pm. Lunch Bunch will be cancelled. We will provide a hearty snack. Stay & Play will be held.

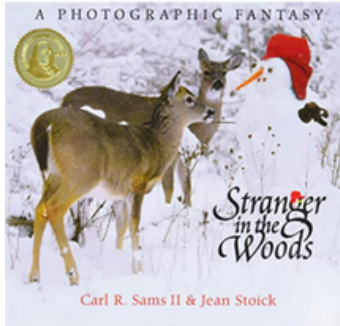
If MCPS closes schools early, BHPCNS will close at 11:30 for the 2s, 12:30 for 2-year-olds who participate in Lunch Bunch, 12:30 for the 3-year-old and Pre-K classes. Stay & Play will be cancelled.



LOST & FOUND BINS

The Lost and Found bin, outside the Rainy Day Room is getting filled with warm jackets, hair bows, sweaters, and other lost items. Please check the bin for any missing belongings.

WINTER PICKS from our LIBRARIAN - Mrs. Hauck



Librarian Hauck reports:

Winter is officially here and many of us hope for snow! We have a wide variety of books about snow in the BHPCNS Library. Two of my favorite books are unique in that they have photographs, rather than illustrations.

Best in Snow by April Pulley Sayre has gorgeous photos. With gently rhyming text this book tells the story of snow falling in a forest, covering plants and animals in beautiful flakes.

Stranger in the Woods by Carl R. Sams is a photographic fictional tale of animals discovering a stranger in the woods. As you read, your children will be delighted to discover the stranger is a snowman!

We are happy to have you and your children borrow books from our library; please see the office staff for assistance. 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

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (*3-year-old & Pre-K*) with Mrs. Goodstein

Mrs. Goodstein reports: In January in ASL we are going to learn all about the weather. We will talk about our favorite seasons and follow along with a maple tree as it transitions from Spring to Summer to Fall and to Winter.

After we've talked about the changes in seasons, we will learn the signs for different clothing. Which season matches the article of clothing? For every garment the kids can remember the sign for - Mrs. G. will put that item of clothing on. You won't believe how silly she looks!

ART (*all ages*) with Mrs. Mac 'N Cheese

In January, our artists will get creative with different colors, shapes, animals and papers as we make collages. Our 2-year-old classes will make animal collages, our 3-year-old classes will make color study collages, while our Pre-K students will work with more delicate papers and make suncatchers.

We look forward to seeing how each collage is unique and beautiful!



CUB CLUB (*our youngest Bradley Bears*) with Mrs. Colonna

We had SO MUCH fun all fall with Mrs. Barnett. In this photo, we are singing, Jack in the Box... Our Winter Session of Cub Club will begin this Thursday, January 4th and run until March 21st. This session of Cub Club is sure to have lots of music and movement. We look forward to meeting our newest tiniest Bradley Bears!

MUSIC (*3-year-old & Pre-K*) with Little Hands

Our Little Hands Winter semester, "Ponies, Piggies and Pups!" focuses on some old familiar barnyard friends with lots of new music and adventures! This month we'll explore the sounds and galloping of horses - fast/slow, stop/go! Your child will use their listening ears to hear the musical cues and then coordinate their body to respond appropriately. "Pony Macaroni" loves to trot and then stop! Have some fun galloping at home (a preparatory skill to skipping), and try switching the lead leg. This works both sides of the brain and body equally!

In January music classes we'll play with woodblocks, tambourines and sticks matching the steady beat - a foundational skill for all music-making. If you'd like to hear the music from our classes, check out Little Hands Music "Ponies, Piggies, and Pups" album on Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon and Google Music, or YouTube Music!

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

Our cubs will look to the weather for inspiration in January. We will study different winter habitats and the animals who live in them. What parts of the world are covered in snow? What animals live there? What survival skills have these animals developed?

SINGING with Ms. Casey (*all ages*)

How about that concert! 14 songs is a long setlist for anyone and the children knocked it out of the park. They truly enjoy performing for loved ones. Thank you for showing them how much their hard work means to you. The 4s (and now 5s!) revel in learning that they're now the "big kids" and see the value in leading. For many, it's also their first time performing in front of an audience, which builds confidence as well as concentration. The younger children have enjoyed learning holiday songs for the first time. They're getting increasingly more comfortable at dancing in front of people and sharing their stories from home. Finding our voice is a big part of music class. In January we finally get to dip our feet into...snow boots! - and all of the songs celebrating the new season of pink noses and chilled toes-es. Happy new year & new music to all!



STORYTIME with Mrs. Sobrino (*all ages*)

In January, Mrs. Sobrino will read several winter stories to each class and then our cubs will each be able to select a book to borrow from our library (which has over 5,000 books to choose from).

Please be on the lookout for a book you may not recognize. Books may be returned to the library and placed on the rolling cart to be restocked.

STAY & PLAY PROGRAMMING

Stay & Play is a wonderful time of day at Bradley Hills. Children get to experience new things and make new friends in the process. They become athletes, chefs, dancers, scientists, yogis, and world explorers. Try one class or try them all! Register [HERE](#)



TWO'S RULE

monday through friday

In January the 2s will be inspired by the snow (please, let there be snow)! They will make glittering snowflakes, discover ice as it melts on our playgrounds, and dance like a snowflake falling to the ground. It may not be as quiet as it is after it snows but it will certainly be as magical!



MONDAYS

sports & games



Coach Cardoni Reports:

It's January and that means Basketball!!!! Each week our Bear Squad warms up and cools down with stretches to protect our bodies from injury and we make sure we're practicing good sportsmanship. The first three weeks of January we will learn dribbling, teamwork, passing and shooting baskets. Each week we also play a game of Duck, Duck, Goose or Stone, Bridge, Tree, a relay race or another game to practice teamwork, patience and turn taking.

TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

dance

Dancer Snyder Shares:

"It is a Winter Wonderland in dance class. The Bradley Bears Dance Company is having a great time preparing for their January show. Ballet walks, posse marches, ballet arm position, leaping, and saute (jumping with two feet) in first position and parallel are the skills rounding out our movement retention work. A big part of memorizing a dance, and putting on a performance, is anticipating what comes next and that executive functioning skill is what we will be focusing on in the coming weeks."

Our Winter Recital is January 31st and 1:45 pm.
All are welcome. Hope to see you there!



TUESDAYS

science



Chief Scientist Mrs. Vargas Reports:

Our wiggling wizards will be discovering all the fun that winter can bring! We will learn about snow and ice through science.

As the weather gets chilly, and the snow starts to fall, we find ourselves immersed in some snowy fun! For this month our wizards will explore an ice fishing experiment, we will learn how to make homemade snow, have fun making a blizzard in a jar, and make a melting snowman.

WEDNESDAYS

cooking



When a child cooks a new food or dish on their own. They are more likely to eat it — or at least try it. With that in mind, In the Kitchen with Bradley will be making some creative sandwich combinations during the month of January. We'll start with relatively tame grilled cheese followed up with grilled peanut butter & banana sandwiches, progressing to turkey roll-ups and nutella & jelly crescents. Our very last class of the month will find us preparing a very special treat for the dance recital---edible snowmen! Bon appetit!



THURSDAYS

geography

Travel Agent Mydlarz reports: Welcome to Uganda - the Pearl of Africa! Our little travelers packed their backpacks and left for a new continent. For the next couple of weeks we will discover this Central African country known for its beauty, stunning scenery, wildlife and mountain gorilla. English, second to Swahili, is the country's official language, 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 have a lot of fun going on safari in search of wild animals hidden around our playgrounds.

Next our explorers will change climates and voyage to Antarctica. The coldest and the driest continent in the world is not really an inviting place, especially in winter. Nonetheless, the children will have a lot of fun with this snowy environment. We will learn how animals and scientists who live there can survive six months without sun and an average temperature of -58 F in winter. We will experiment with blubber and ice cold water, make our own penguins and even eat some penguins too (Oreo ones, no worries!).

In February we will travel to South Korea just in time to welcome Lunar New Year!



FRIDAYS

yoga



Yogi Cardoni Meditates:

Even though it's cold outside, our Yogi Bears will be keeping warm! In January, we will move our bodies through a sequence of yoga poses and imagine ourselves as Winter Olympians, Pirates, Superheroes and Snowflakes. We will ski in Chair Pose, do planks like Pirates, fly in Warrior 3 Pose and float like snowflakes in Savasana. We will also practice mindfulness through our weekly mindful eating activity. Come join us! Namaste.

BRADLEY HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Amazing to think it's 2024!

We were excited at the many families who participated in the Advent Workshop and Christmas Tree Lighting in December and invite you to join in our January activities!

Family Connections: Scavenger Hunt – Sunday, January 21, after 10:30 service, we will have a pizza lunch and then a Scavenger Hunt in the church for families to do together.

Worship Workshop – Rosanna Morrison and Corinne Silva are again offering a worship workshop series for second graders from 9:15-10:15 am on January 28, (order of worship and baptism) February 4 (communion), and February 11 (scavenger hunt, hymnals) from 9:15-10:15 am.

Family-friendly Service Opportunity: Smart Sacks is back in operation at 11:30 am each Sunday morning. We fill bags that provide supplemental food to families in Montgomery County who are food deficient over the weekends. All ages are welcome to help!

