BRADLEY HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL

May 2019 Newsletter The Bear Facts

Celebrating 61 Years of Early Childhood Education

Dear Parents,

Happy month of May! The 2018-2019 school year has flown by and BHPCNS is gearing up for our end of school celebrations and our *A 'Wandering We Will Go*, summer camp program.

During April, we said goodbye to Sue Reidy, our Office Administrator. Sue has been supporting Carolyn, me, and the school for more than 3 years. We miss her and wish her well as she "retires" from her "retirement job" to spend more time with her family. We welcome Dorene Michael to the office as our Office Administrator. Dorene is a former BHPCNS parent and has been supporting the office with various tasks for the past year and a half.

Spring has sprung. The warm weather will provide us with lots of outdoor play time! It's a good idea to put sunscreen and/or bug spray on your child before coming to school. In May in addition to our regularly scheduled programming, we will have Transportation Days, Otto the Auto for our 4s, Field Trips for our 3s and 4, Spirit Days for the 4s, the 3s' Jamboree, and 100 days of school celebrations for our MWF 4s.

Click her to watch the 2019 Winter Gala Video created by Claire Adams and Brigitte Koch. Please watch this amazing production and try to spot your child's face or class. BHPCNS will be posting this video to our school website. If you **DO NOT** want your child's image included in the video on the website, let me know before May 10th and we will edit your child out of the video. No names or identifiers will be used on the website.

During the month of May, we recognize teachers and mothers. I want to thank my amazing staff of women here at BHPCNS who are teachers and mothers. They make each day a joy for me and your children.

To all the Moms who are part of the BHPCNS family I want to wish you a wonderful Mother's Day with your little ones. They've been busy crafting special surprises for you.

As May comes to an end, may your Memorial Day be meaningful! Read on for information on how to pay tribute to our military men, women, and their families.

Liz Sobrino BHPCNS Director



UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

BRADLEY BEAR'S CIRCUS



The Bradley Hills Dance Troupe will present Bradley Bear's Circus at 1:45 in Memorial Hall on June 5th. All are welcome to attend this delightful performance complete with ring masters, acrobats and all sets created by our dancers. After the performance there will be refreshments.



3 & 4-YEAR-OLD SING-ALONGS:

On Wednesday, June 12th our MWF 3s' and 4s' classes will perform a selection of their favorite school songs in the Sanctuary. The program will begin at 9:30 am. Following the program there will be an end of year party in your child's classroom. Children may stay until 12:30 and/or Stay and Play.

On Thursday, June 13th our T/Th 3s', and M-F 3s' & 4s' classes perform in the Sanctuary at 9:30 am. Following the singing performances there will be end of year parties in the classrooms. Children will be dismissed after their party between 10:30 and 11:00 from their classrooms.

All dancing and singing performances will be professionally reordered. A link will be distributed to participating families, as quickly as possible, following the performances.

PARENTS' GROUP NEWSLETTER





Happy Springtime, BHPCNS Families! It's hard to believe we're already entering May. We wanted to share a few reminders and make sure everyone is aware of upcoming dates and events.

First, if you're considering sending your child to HeadFirst Summer Camps this summer, they have offered BHPCNS families a code to use to receive 15% off your enrollment cost. To receive the discount you can either enroll your child online using **"BHPCNS15"** code at checkout, or call HeadFirst and reference the code. BHPCNS will receive \$50 for every time the code is used!

Teacher Appreciation begins Monday, May 6. This is such a fun week to show our teachers how much we appreciate them. The Parents Group has put together a SignUp Genius where you can volunteer to help make the week extra special for our amazing teachers. To volunteer please visit: bit.ly/TeachersRock2019.

Please let us know if you have any questions, and thank you for your continued support.

Maggie Maloney

Sarah McGovern

Maggiewmaloney@gmail.com

SarahLothrop@hotmail.com

BHPCNS BOARD NEWSLETTER

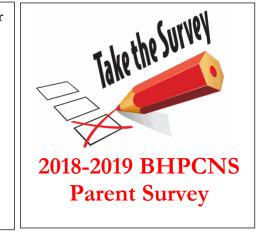
We hope you all are enjoying the beautiful spring weather we've had here lately! The Nursery School Board did not meet this month (we meet every other month), but the Board's Finance Committee did meet and reviewed the school's finances and financial aid requests. The Nursery School remains in good shape financially. As we enter our last full month of the school year and you begin to reflect on the year, we hope you will take the opportunity to provide the school with feedback. Mrs. Sobrino sent around a school survey, which includes questions about the Board. This feedback is incredibly helpful to us as we look for ways to better communicate and engage with the parents and larger school community. If you'd prefer to reach out to the Board directly, you can email us at Board@bhpcns.org or fill out an anonymous form on the Board portion of the school website. Our next Board meeting is May 30th at 7:00pm. Parents are welcome to join for these meetings. If you are planning to join please let us know. We hope you all have a wonderful last full month of school!

Missy Banashak BHPCNS Board Chairman

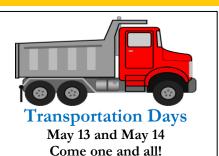
2018-2019 PARENT SATISFACTION SURVEYS

Parent Satisfaction Survey: Thank you to everyone who has completed our annual Parent Survey. The results are coming in and the good news is overwhelmingly you are, pleased with our program. Thank you for your lovely testimonials. We will be using your kind words in our marketing materials. Also, your insightful suggestions on ways to improve our programming are very beneficial. Thanks to your input we look forward to continuing to provide our bear cubs with the best possible play-based preschool programming!

It's not too late to take the Parent Survey. Simply Click Here! It takes about 10 minutes to complete. The survey will close on May 10th. If you are interested in seeing the results, copies of the reports will be available in the office towards the end of May.



UPCOMING EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS! MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW



TRANSPORTATION DAYS: May 13 and May 14

All our classes will have an opportunity to visit trucks, and vehicles of all shapes and sizes in our parking lots between 9:30 and 11:30 am on May 13 and May 14. BHPCNS families and their friends are welcome to visit with the trucks even if it's not a school day. Just come on by!

On Wednesday, May 15th Otto the Auto will be onsite for our 4s' classes. Mrs. Michael has been handling all the details. If you have a fun vehicle that you'd like to share with the kiddos, contact her at dmichael@bhpcns.org.

MUFFINS WITH MOM: May 16th and May 17th

Moms it's your turn! All moms and/or other important person in your child's life are invited to attend Muffins with Mom in Memorial Hall between 8:15 and 9:00 am. Bring your Bradley Bear cubs and come to enjoy coffee, juice, muffins, and fresh fruit. Please rsvp by clicking on the links below. We want to have enough treats for everyone.

Thursday: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/mum_th_2019
Friday: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/mum_fr_2019



RSVP for Muffins with Mom!

3s' JAMBOREE: On May 21 the T/TH 3s and the M-F 3s will be having their 3s' Jamboree. On May 22 the MWF 3s' classes will be having their Jamboree. We are looking for parent volunteers to help with the fun times. If you have a couple of hours to volunteer, please sign up via the Sign-Up Genius link from your classroom teacher. We will train all volunteers.



4s' FIELD DAY: On June 7th all the 4s' classes with gather for their field day. We are looking for parent volunteers to help with the fun times. If you have a couple of hours to volunteer, please sign up via the Sign-Up Genius link from your classroom teacher. We will train all volunteers.



Bradley Bear's Circus!

Dance Performance: June 5th at 1:45 pm

The Bradley Hills Dance Troupe will present *Bradley Bear's Circus* at 1:45 pm in Memorial Hall on June 5th. Doors will open at approximately 1:30. All are welcome to attend this delightful performance complete with ring masters and acrobats. Everyone is invited to stay after the performance for refreshments.

Professional Recordings of the Dance Performance & Sing Alongs

The June 5th Dance Performance and both the June 12th and June 13th Sing Alongs will be professionally recorded. All participating families will receive a downloadable link of the Dance Performance and Sing Alongs for your viewing pleasure and to share with those unable to attend the shows.



SPRINGTIME PLAYGROUND ATTIRE AND TIPS

Playground Attire:

Shoes and Socks: To be able to run and play on the playgrounds children need to have on closed toed shoes with socks to keep the mulch out and the feet from getting hurt.

Shorts under Dresses and Skirts: When wearing dresses and skirts, children should wear jungle gym shorts underneath for modesty sake when climbing and swinging. Shorts are more comfortable when playing in the sandbox or mulch.



Sunscreen and Bug Spray:

With the warm weather come sunburns and bug bites. Protect your child by applying sunscreen or bug spray before coming to school. Don't forget to apply to arms and legs as well as those cute faces.

2 YEAR OLD CLASSES END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATIONS

END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATIONS FOR 2s' CLASSES:

Come join us for a sing along, special snack, and lots of goodbye hugs!

Monday/Wednesday/Friday Classes: Ms. Allen and Mrs. Quijada's classes' End-of-Year Celebrations, will begin at 11:00 am on June 12th. Dismissal will be 11:30 or following the party. Lunch Bunch will NOT be held on June 12th.

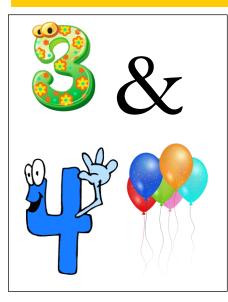
Tuesday/Thursday Classes: Mrs. Jacob, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Barnett, and Mrs. Quijada's classes, End-of-Year Celebrations will be on June 13th at 10:00. Children will be dismissed following the party at approximately 10:30 or when the classroom party wraps up. . **Lunch Bunch** will NOT be held on June 13th.

The last day of **Lunch Bunch** will be June 11th.



2s' Classes
End of Year Parties

3S' AND 4S' CLASSES END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATIONS



END-OF-YEAR SING-ALONGS & PARTIES FOR 3s AND 4s:

On Wednesday, June 12th, our Monday/Wednesday/Friday 3s' and 4s' classes will perform a selection of their favorite school songs in the Sanctuary Program begins at 9:30 am. After the performance there will be a classroom party. Children may leave at the conclusion on the party or stay and complete the morning program and/or attend Stay and Play.

On Thursday, June 13th, our Tuesday/Thursday, 3s' class and Monday through Friday 3s' and 4s' classes will perform their favorite songs in the Sanctuary at 9:30 am. Following the performance there will be an end of year party in your child's classroom. Children will be dismissed after their party between 10:30 and 11:00.

Family members are invited to attend the sing-alongs and the classroom parties.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARENT VOLUNTEERS & PARENTS' GROUP

We love our parent volunteers!

Thank you to all the Room Parents and Parents Volunteers for filling our school year with wonderful community events and making our special classroom parties so much fun! A special thank you for the wonderful treats during teacher appreciation week and delicious lunches for our staff meetings. We all appreciate your generosity!



A special Thank You to our Parent's Group Committee Chairs and volunteers, especially Claire Adams and Brigitte Koch for spearheading our most successful Gala ever!

The continued support of the staff, students, and programming, by so many parents is amazing.

And an extra, extra special thank you to our Parents' Group Presidents, Maggie Maloney and Sarah McGovern. It's been a wonderful partnership and we look forward to working with you all again in September.

PARENTING INFORMATION

BHPCNS is on many mailing lists that keep the school informed and often extend invitations to our parents to attend events. Upcoming parenting events are listed on the Parent Information Board.

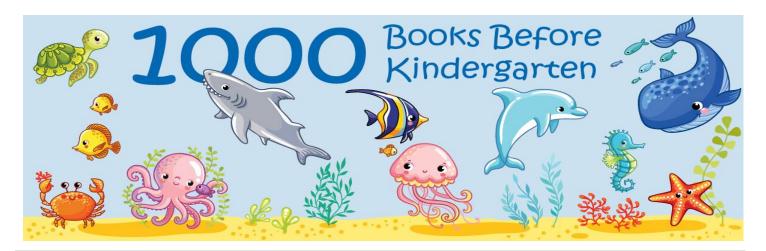
PARENT INFORMATION BOARD: For more information on Parenting Events check the Parent Information News located by Rooms 102 and 103. We use this space to share events, flyers, information, calendars, etc. with parents. If you have an event or fundraiser you'd like us to promote, bring us a flyer and we will hang it up.

PEP: PARENT ENCOURAGEMENT PROGRAM: Why should you sign-up for PEP's spring programming? Because parenting education will help you help your child to grow and develop in a kind and loving way. For more info go to: http://pepparent.org/why-parenting-education/ to learn how to be the best parent you can be!



The Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood estimates that, on average, preschoolers spend 32 hours a week with screen media. This year Screen Free Week is between April 29 and May 5. For details, and ideas on how to be screen free for a week visit: www.screenfree.org.

1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN/MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES



Montgomery County Public Libraries: 1000 Books Before Kindergarten

Click here for information about the Montgomery County's Libraries Best Books Before Kindergarten

. Many of these titles are favorites of our Bradley Bear cubs. Books are a wonderful way to teach children about the world around them and to start meaningful discussions at home. These titles are new and old favorites for kids and adults. Happy Reading! For additional resources visit: https://1000booksbeforekindergarten.org/

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP SUMMER CAMP: JUNE 17TH TO THE 27TH



Here We Go A 'Wandering

We are continuing to accept camp registrations. Camp is open to all children ages 2 through 6 including rising first grader. Friends, cousins, neighbors are all welcome. Campers do not need to be currently enrolled BHPCNS students. In a break from previous years, campers **do not** need to be potty trained. Registration forms are available on our website, www.bhpcns.org or outside the office.

MAY BIRTHDAYS



May Birthdays:

Waka Yasueda Maddie Jong Luke Swanzey Sidney Bloom Colter Koch Lucas Koch Millie Grant

James Eisinger Bo Davis Laila Aslam Connor Thourani Russell Kirkpatrick Elle Kusturiss Isla Monica Summer Birthdays: If your child has a summer birthday you would like to celebrate at BHPCNS, please talk with your child's teacher about having a birthday celebration.

BHPCNS wishes all our Bradley Bear Cubs a happy day!

Reminder: When sending in birthday treats, please send in **small** cupcakes, mini muffins, fruit kabobs, etc., keeping classroom food allergies in mind. We share birthday treats at snack time. There is a snack ingredient form outside the office. Please complete this form so we can be aware of any possible allergic complications. If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's teacher or the office.

MAY SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS

Teacher Appreciation Week: May 6th through May 10th.

Thank you to the entire BHPCNS team of teachers. You are amazing! Thank you to the Parents' Group for making Teacher Appreciation Week extra special for our staff.





Happy Mother's Day to all our Moms and Grandmothers! Wishing everyone and their families a very Happy Mother's Day on May 12th!

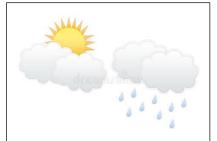
BHPCNS will be closed on May 27th in observance of Memorial Day. For information on ways your family can recognize American military soldiers and their families during the Memorial Day weekend and throughout the year, <u>click here.</u>



BHPCNS LOVES THEIR SPECIALISTS!

Thank you to all our amazing specialists: Ms. Beth, Ms. Jael, and Ms. Kaitlin/Music, Mrs. Delfin and Mrs. Hansan/Science, Mrs. Stevens/Creative Movement, Mrs. Cardoni/Spanish and Mrs. Casey/Singing! Thank you to our fabulous Stay and Play teachers too! Our teachers make every class fun, informative, and engaging! Our Bear Cubs love you! Thank you to all our wonderful specialist teachers!

MAY MONTHLY SPECIALS



Music with Little Hands 2s', 3s', & 4s'

Happy May from the Little Hands music classroom! As we close out the school year, we want to say a big thank you to the children, teachers, and staff of Bradley Hills for welcoming Little Hands Music at your school! It's one of our favorite places to be! Songs and activities this month are about sun and raindrops. We'll use the thunder tube and drums to tell a storm story, and to explore a movement story with auditory cues. An additional fun poem we've used in classes this spring is "Hands on Shoulders," increasing awareness of sequencing as well as body parts! A sense of community is one of the most wonderful side-benefits of music making, and we'll play along to a new/old song this month called "Shortnin' Bread." You can listen to the poems and songs here. (Hands on Shoulders Track 14, Storm sounds Track 20, "Rain is Falling Down" Track 21, and "Shortnin' Bread" Track 15) Enjoy and we look forward to seeing you at school soon!

Mrs. Cardoni Reports:

In the 4s' classes, we are completing our unit on animals and will learn about places in our city; church-*iglesia*, school-*escuela*, library-*biblioteca*, shoe store-*zapateria*. We will be learning about Spanish words for types of transportation just in time for Transportation Week; car-*coche*, bus-*autobús*, bicycle-*bicicleta*, plane-*avión*, and many more! In the 3s we will begin our unit on animals and will sing Itsi Bitsi Araña. Finally, we will take the last couple of weeks in all classes to review all of the vocabulary words we've learned this year; colors, animals, body parts, verbs, feelings, weather, clothing, food and animals. We might even have a chance to dance to the Halloween *Monstruos* song again! I've had a wonderful time teaching your children a new language and hope they continue to build on this knowledge and sing the songs we learned throughout the year.



Spanish for the 3s' & 4s'



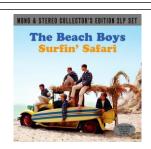
Music with Ms. Casey 2s', 3s' and 4s'

Ms. Casey Reports:

Spring has finally arrived and the kids are bursting with energy and enthusiasm! With the end of year concert on the horizon the 3s' and 4s' are working very hard. After months of practicing lyrics and melodies through play, the threes are learning more nuanced performance skills such as the difference between singing and shouting (it can be a fine line!) and how to listen to classmates as if they were in a band together. The fours are fully embracing their responsibility as role models for their schoolmates and are excited to lead the younger kids in the big show. It's remarkable to hear them reminisce about "when they were little." The twos are crazy adorable, and their skills at mimicry and dancing never cease to illicit laughter and lingering smiles. This is hands down my favorite time of year. We can't wait to share it with you!

Mrs. Stevens Reports:

This month in Creative Movement, the children will bounce beach balls on the parachute to the song "Surfin USA". They will also hold the parachute and practice their surfing moves to the song "Surfin' Safari." Next, the children will spin, twirl and roll their circles to the song "Happy." Finally, our little firefighters will drive their fire truck, climb the ladder, and squirt the water to "Hurry, Hurry Drive the Fire Truck." This is hands down everyone's favorite song! May is our last Creative Movement class, so I hope that you all have a wonderful summer full of movement!!!



Creative Movement for the 2s', 3's and 4s'

STAY AND PLAY FUN!

Mrs. Mac-n-Cheese Reports:

The first two weeks of May the class will be making something special for their mothers. They want to surprise you, so enough said. The middle two Mondays, we will be outside, sketching all the wonderful sights and textures in nature.





Mondays: Wigglin' Wizards

Mrs. Michael Reports:

What has five hearts, no eyes, no ears, and helps feed people on Earth? The EARTHWORM!! Throughout May, Bradley Bear's Wiggin' Wizards will discover the many wonders of the earthworm. We will test which type of soil they like best. We will find out the earthworm's favorite food. At the end of the month, we will make our own wormery. May is looking like wiggly good fun!

Mrs. Lisa Reports:

Bradley Bears Creative Dance Company is in full production mode! This month we will try on costumes and accessories as we prepare for our *Bradley Bears Circus* recital in June. In addition to dancing, the students are connecting performing art and visual art by creating circus theme decorations during Stay and Play. We look forward to sharing their work with you next month!





Tuesdays: In the Kitchen with Bradley Bear

Ms. Vargas Reports:

May has arrived. Our Bradley Bear chefs have had an incredible year. For our summertime fun, we will be making chicken taquitos, Banana boat s'mores, and Animal faces with bagels. Our budding chefs have enjoyed slicing, measuring, cutting, and counting. It will be sad to see some of our Bradley Bear chefs leave for kindergarten, but we look forward to welcoming new chefs next year!

Mrs. Sobrino Reports:

Our bear cubs have had a wonderful time exploring Australia. Ask them about all the wildlife in the Great Barrier Reef. Next up, our world travelers will be flying around the world to Canada, our neighbor to the north. The children will learn about the Canadian Flag, favorites Canadian pastimes for children, "skating, eh", and maybe even sample some special Canadian delicacies, such as pancakes with maple syrup. Our resident Canadian expert, Mrs. Sobrino, will be a guest presenter!





Thursdays: Bradley's Barnyard

Bradley's Barnyard: Mrs. Skoff Reports:

In May, our Bradley farmers will transplant the pumpkins we started in trays to the children's garden. We're enjoying watching our garden grow. We'll be spending more time outside doing farm chores like cleaning the "tractors" and tools, harvesting wheat and watering the "crops". We are looking forward to our last class in June where we'll have a hoedown. We have enjoyed watching our little farmers develop a deeper appreciation and stewardship of our Earth.

Mrs. Myers Reports:

With the month of May upon us, our Yogi Bears will be celebrating the warmth of the season with some fun poses. Our practices will take us on a trip to the ocean and a visit with mermaids and even some pirates. We will then look forward to summertime and the great outdoors with poses reflecting camping. Our yogis are growing in their mastery of various poses and what it means to be mindful and appreciative of our many gifts. Namaste.



Friday: Yogi Bears