



The Bear Facts

Celebrating 68 Years of Early Childhood Education

OCTOBER 2025



Dear Parents,

October is such a wonderful time at Bradley Hills. Our beautiful campus begins to explode with color as our trees change from summer to fall. Gentle winds blow the leaves from their branches while your children love to race around trying to catch them midair. It is cooler outside. It gets dark earlier in the day. We use this change in weather as an illustration to talk about other changes our children might be experiencing - and how these changes make them feel. Giving our children these tools, the ability to put words to how they are feeling, is essential to the connections they make with their teachers, friends, and families. Being able to talk about your feelings can help a child feel understood and reduces frustration, tantrums, and anxiety. Focusing on how we feel is an integral part of BHPCNS' social-emotional programming for our bear cubs!

Breakfast with Bradley Bear, Lunch Bunch, and Stay + Play are off to a great start! If your son/daughter is interested in joining in the fun please register here.

We have many exciting events happening in October! Back-to-School Night will be Tuesday, October 7th. Our teachers are looking forward to getting to know you better and sharing what a typical day here at Bradley Hills looks like for your children. Parents' Group will provide snacks and adult beverages in the RDR for parents to enjoy starting at 6:00pm. Our Pre-K classes will go on a field trip to Imagination Stage to watch A Very Hungry Caterpillar. We will finish the month with many a frightful Halloween Celebrations. Each classroom will make their own masks (there will be bats, cats, ghosts, pumpkins and more), parade around on our field, and sing spooky songs together. This event is for Bradley Bears only. There are sure to be lots of photos on brightwheel for parents to enjoy.

It may seem crazy to start planning for next year, but we are! October is the time for Sibling and New Student Enrollment for our 2026-27 School Year. More details on page 6.

As always, a big thank you for sharing your children with us,

Liz Sobrino
BHPCNS Director

Breakfast with Bradley Bear
Lunch Bunch
Stay+Play

**October 1st**

- Tuition Due
- Last day to [order Auntie Anne Pretzel Kits](#)

October 2nd

- NO SCHOOL
Yom Kippur

October 3rd

- Field Trip to Imagination Stage
Pre-K classes 102 & 117

October 5th

- [Parents' Group Shoot Family Photo Sessions](#)
- Last day to support Manna Food Drive

October 6th

- [Coffee & Conversation](#)
9:15-10:30am BHPC Library

October 7th

- [Coffee & Conversation](#)
9:15-10:30am BHPC Library
- Back-to-School Night
6:00-8:00pm BHPCNS

October 8th

- Field Trip to Imagination Stage
Pre-K classes 104 & 111

October 10th

- Wreath Orders Due
- Hat/Glove Donations Due
- [BHPC Parents Night Out](#)
6:00-9:00pm BHPC
- [Creation Club Fall Clean Up](#)
11:45am-2:00pm BHPC

October 23rd

- Parents' Group Ladies Night

October 25th

- BHPC [Trunk or Treat](#)
5:00 - 7:00pm
BHPC parking lot

October 30th*

- Halloween Party
TTh Classes

October 31st*

- Halloween Party
MWF & M-F Classes

**No Costumes Please*

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

STAY
CONNECTED



THANK YOU PARENT VOLUNTEERS



The Annual Back-to-School Ice Cream Social was a fun kick off to the start of the school year. It was wonderful to see so many Bradley Bear families dancing and enjoying shaved ice with friends.

The BHPCNS Parents' Group would like to extend a big thank you to parent Jared Rosen and his company, Epic Events, for making the evening extra fun with his photo booth and DJ! Thank you also to all the parents who volunteered their time to help with the event.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Auntie Anne's DIY Pretzel Kit

Order September 2nd through October 1st

Kits delivered at Back-to-School Night on October 7th



Mix, twist, bake and enjoy Auntie Anne's pretzels at home!

Purchase a DIY Pretzel Baking Kit to Support BHPCNS

50% of proceeds go back to the Parents' Group!

Kits include all ingredients to make 10 pretzels at home - a fun, educational, and delicious activity to do with your kid(s)!

\$25 per Kit

ORDER DIY PRETZEL KIT [HERE](#)



SHOOTT FAMILY PHOTO FUNDRAISER



Capture memories with your loved ones at the Cabin John Regional Park while raising money to support the Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church Nursery School Parents' Group. For every purchase, Shoott will donate \$20; For every full gallery purchase, Shoott will donate \$40.

- No sitting fee
- Each session is 30 minutes
- Your digital gallery of 40+ photos will be available in 3-5 business days after your shoot.
- Pay only for the photos you want starting at \$25 each.
- \$18 per photo with purchases of 10+ photos
- Full gallery: \$298 for your entire gallery
- Purchased photos are sent as high-resolution digital files.

RESERVE YOUR FREE PHOTO SESSION [HERE](#)



LADIES NIGHT OUT

SAVE THE DATE - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23rd

Girls' night out is equal parts festive, flavorful, and effortlessly fun. You deserve a night out to relax and enjoy a meal that you didn't have to cook (or clean up).

More delicious details to come.

JOIN OUR PARENTS' GROUP



Easy access to the BHEPCNS Parent network:

Are you hoping to find or suggest a fun class, sports team, childcare recommendation, or other idea to BHEPCNS parents?

Back to school night is Tuesday, October 7th from 6:00-8:00pm. Parents' Group is in need of volunteers at our welcome table and to hand out Annie's pretzel kits. To help out sign up [HERE](#):



We are grateful for all the support and have enjoyed getting to meet so many of you these first few weeks.

Thank you!

Amanda Franklin-Munson
Andrea Brown
Parents' Group Co-Chairs

amandanfranklin@gmail.com

amchrista@yahoo.com



BHEPCNS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear Parents,

What a fun start to the school year with lots of smiles, new friendships and settling in to new routines of learning and growing. Thank you for sharing your children with BHEPCNS. As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or thoughts about the school, please contact the Board at board@bhpcns.org.



Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church invites families to join the fun at the church's Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 25th from 5-7pm. More information can be found on the church's website at www.bradleyhillchurch.org. You can also contact Rosanna Howard, the church's Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries, at rosanna@bradleyhillchurch.org.



Happy Fall to all!

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



MEET DOROTHY & DAISY

They will spend the fall here at BHEPCNS. Each classroom will take turns caring for our chickens. They will refresh their water, refill their food, relocate their coop to fresh grass, and collect their eggs to use in cooking projects.

Thank you to all the families who have volunteered to care for our feathered friends on the weekends.



SAFETY & SECURITY AT BRADLEY HILLS

The safety and security of the children, staff, and families is a top priority at BHPCNS. From our door access protocols, our camera systems, our new phone systems allowing communication between all building users, lock down buttons and our new volunteer protocols (see below), keeping everyone safe is our goal. Please help us by not propping doors open, reporting anything suspicious throughout the grounds, and signing your child and out daily via brightwheel.

Feel free to reach out to the office at any time, with concerns, ideas, or questions about our safety and security protocols.

Additionally, when riding bikes at school ALL CHILDREN MUST WEAR A HELMET. We strongly encourage you to have your child get in the habit of wearing a helmet every time they ride a bike.



VISITOR PROTOCOLS

We L♥VE when parents get involved!

Whether you are volunteering, reading a book, bringing in a forgotten item, serving a special snack, etc. please follow these protocols:

- All visitors need to sign in on the visitor log in the office
- Include your full name and reason for visiting
- Grab a VISITOR badge to wear while on campus
- Return badge and sign out before leaving

UPCOMING EVENTS

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 6th &
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7th**

9:15 am - 10:30 am BHP Library

- Get to know Liz and ask her your BHPCNS or general child development questions.
- Share ideas or concerns for year ahead.
- Get to know other parents at BHPCNS.
- Celebrate successes, discuss frustrations, & brainstorm ideas on how to raise your child in today's environment.



RSVP for Monday, September 29th [HERE](#)

RSVP for Tuesday, September 30th [HERE](#)

Back to School Night

Tuesday, October 7th

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Back to School night is an opportunity to spend time in your child's classroom and learn about a typical day from their teachers. Arrive early and/or stay late to enjoy adult beverages, snacks, and conversation in the Rainy Day Room.

This event is for adults only.

Schedule for the Night

6:15 pm - 6:45 pm

Mrs. Choi - Room 103 TTh

Mrs. Juhasz - Room 111

Mrs. Michael - Room 108 TTh

Mrs. Quijada - Room 107

Ms. Wilson - Room 105

7:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Mrs. Barnett - Room 104 MWF

Mrs. Biggs - Room 113

Mrs. Cardoni - Room 108 MWF

Mrs. Choi - Room 103 MWF

Mrs. Richards - Room 117

Mrs. Vargas - Room 102

PRE-K FIELD TRIP TO IMAGINATION STAGE

Friday, October 3rd: Mrs. Vargas (102) & Mrs. Richards (117)
 Wednesday, October 8th: Mrs. Barnett (104) & Mrs. Juhasz (111)

Experience 75 beautiful, larger-than-life puppets and original music as "Brown Bear, Brown Bear," "The Very Lonely Firefly," "10 Little Rubber Ducks," and, of course, "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" come to life on stage.

Thank you to all parents who have volunteered to chaperone. Show begins at 10:30 a.m. We will start loading up cars at 9:45 a.m. and leave our parking lot by 10:00 a.m. Parents/Caregivers are responsible for installing their own child's car seat in the driver's car. Please label your car seat. Please wear your red Bradley Bear t-shirt.



CHRISTMAS WREATH SALES TO BENEFIT LOCAL CHARITIES

The GFWC Metropolitan Community Club is selling beautiful double-sided balsam wreaths for \$25. These 22" wreaths come with a red bow. All proceeds support local charities.



If you would like to purchase a wreath complete an order form (in office) and submit payment - either Cash or Check (checks should be made payable to MCC) to the office by Friday, October 10th .

HALLOWEEN FUN AT BHPCNS

TTh classes will celebrate Halloween on Thursday, October 30th .
 MWF and M-F classes will celebrate on Friday, October 31st .

BHPCNS Classroom Parties are just for our children. Parent volunteers will help classroom teachers coordinate classroom parties with special snacks, paper plates, and napkins. Look for the "Special Snack" sign-up your teacher sent home in brightwheel.

Each class will have a parade and will gather together on the field for a sing-along. NO COSTUMES PLEASE Each class will make masks for the children to wear.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Tyler Harb
 Sophia Brecher
 Gabriel Sciolli
 Benson Donohoe
 Lily Howell
 Polina Trifonov

Maeve Penfold
 Nora Watson
 Brooks Palmer
 Gianna Mauro
 Anna Auerbach

Gus Gore
 Kira Treen
 Hobie Hutchins
 Jesse Staley-Miller
 Ilan Chowdhury
 Reese Allshouse

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.

REGISTRATION FOR NEW STUDENTS

Applications for the 2026- 2027 school year for NEW STUDENTS and SIBLINGS of currently enrolled students are available online [HERE](#).



Parent referrals are what have kept our classrooms full for 68 years. We love meeting new families. They are welcome to tour the school and learn more about our program. Please call the office at 301-365-2909 to set-up a tour or have any questions answered.

Children must be 2 years old by September 1, 2026 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 2026.

REGISTRATION FOR CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS

Registration for children currently enrolled at BHPCNS will take place starting Monday, December 1st, and end Friday, December 5th. Applications will be linked and shared in brightwheel at 10am on Monday, December 1st. Applications must be submitted between December 1st and December 5th in order to be given priority enrollment. Acceptance is based on a first-come, first-serve basis.

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

Families will be notified in late January 2026 as to their child's placement for the 2026-27 school year.



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

Children must be... 2 by September 1, 2026 to enroll in the 2s,
3 by September 1, 2026 to enroll in the 3s,
and 4 by September 1, 2026 to enroll in Pre-K.

2026-2027 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

**Based on enrollment

CONSULTANTS AT BHPCNS

Throughout the school year there will be consultants working with BHPCNS staff and students. The consultants may include para educators, speech pathologists, occupational specialists, physical therapists, interns in the early childhood education field, and more. These specialists could be from the Montgomery County Public School system, Montgomery County Social Services, or private practices. It's possible your child will come home and share that there was an extra "teacher" in their classroom. These "extra" teachers will all be approved by the office prior to working in our school. Please let Liz know if you have any questions about consultants at BHPCNS.

STUDENT ABSENCES OR ILLNESS

We share EVERYTHING at preschool. Sometimes, even colds and viruses. The flu vaccine and COVID-19 vaccines are an effective way to protect your child from these viruses. Please consider having your child vaccinated. We want to keep our Bradley Bear cubs as healthy as possible.

If your child is ill and will be missing school, please call the office, send us an email or a message on brightwheel. If your child has a communicable disease, strep throat, head lice, etc. we need to know to be able to share that information with the rest of the class. Your child will remain anonymous when informing the class. In some cases, we are obligated to share communicable disease information with the Montgomery County Health Department.

OPEN DOOR POLICY AT BHPCNS

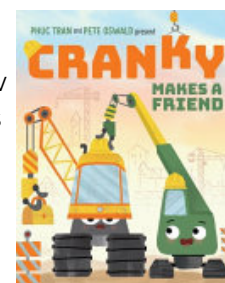
BHPCNS Open Door Policy: Thank you to everyone who has popped into the office with a question or concern! If at any time during the school year, you have a concern, complaint, an idea, or suggestion, please email, text, come to the office, or call us. We truly want to know your thoughts. Your ideas,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

NEWS FROM OUR LIBRARY

Talking with children about big, sometimes abstract, emotions can be tricky as children often don't have the words to identify how they feel. Reading picture books can help children learn how to label and deal with the big emotions they feel inside their tiny bodies. The BHPCNS Library has a great selection of picture books that explore feelings in a fun way. Here are just a few...

Cranky and Cranky Makes a Friend by Phuc Tran

Cranky, the forklift, has very big feelings. Often, he is cranky and jealous, but doesn't want to talk about it. This series is perfect for exploring big emotions with children who love trucks.



Dragons on the Inside (and Other Big Feelings) by Valerie Coulman

Sometimes nervousness can feel like a dragon breathing smoke in your body. Anxiety might feel like a roller coaster doing flip flops in your tummy. This book associates the feelings of big emotions, such as anxiety, loneliness, and pride, with words children understand (dragons, roller coasters, waves.) Fun text and illustrations help children learn to label those funny feelings inside their bodies with emotional vocabulary. Includes tips for parents.



Olive All at Once by Mariam Gates

Olive feels many mixed-up emotions at once. She is excited and scared to start school. She is happy and jealous when she attends a friend's birthday party. With fun illustrations this book helps children understand that it is normal to feel two conflicting emotions at once.



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



SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

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

The 3 year-old and Pre-K classes will have their first science lesson in October and the topic will be **WATER**. We will answer many questions about why is water so important:

- Why it is so important that the Earth has a clean supply of water to drink?
- How is weather impacted by rain?
- Which animals live in water? And how?

In art, we will work with shadows. We are hoping for a sunny day. We will trace the outline of our shadow and color in specific features.

SINGING with Ms. Casey (all ages)

As if autumn weather and Halloween weren't enough to shout about, Singing with Ms. Casey starts this month! I'm looking forward to seeing "old" friends and making new ones. In October we'll dance and celebrate the changing seasons, how school brings us together, and the only holiday that elevates dress-up time to a high art - Halloween!

*LITTLE HANDS MUSIC (all ages)*

It's "Time to Cook" this Fall in Little Hands Music! We're looking forward to imaginary cooking, tasty fun, and all things kitchen and food this session!

You might overhear your child stirring up some "Alligator Stew," washing and chopping all kinds of foods to add to the class stew! We'll also use our moving feet and listening ears in "All Around the Brickyard" where percussion instruments represent different movements: vibraslap sounds for jumping, wood block tapping for stepping! This correlation is excellent for growing brains and bodies, learning sequences, following oral cues, and predicting what's next!

We love making music with Bradley Bears every month!

[You can find our playlist for singing and dancing in Little Hands classes here.](#)

We hope you'll enjoy some musical fun at home and in the car!

*STORYTIME in the Library*

Throughout the year there will be opportunities for your children to visit the library. Kids will be invited to pick a letter on the big blue rug and circle round. Teachers may choose a book from our growing collection (we have close to 5,000).

Students will then be able to check out a book to take home. Books may be kept for two weeks. Please note that a \$10.00 replacement fee will be charged for all lost books.



BRADLEY HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Annual Hat & Glove Drive

September 22–October 10
Give the gift of warmth!

Please help BHPC give the gift of warmth to the families at Arcola Elementary School.

Donate new hats, gloves, and mittens for adults and children of all ages.

Donations can be brought to the office.

Thank you for helping our community!

denise@bradleyhillchurch.org | (301) 365-2850

BHPC PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Friday, October 10
6:00PM-9:00PM

Drop Off
Your Children Age 2-12 years old for a night of pizza and fun activities with the Youth Group!

Friday, October 10 2025

Bradley Hills
6601 Bradley Blvd
Bethesda, MD

What could be better than a kid-free date night and a chance to support the youth group as they raise funds for their summer trips?

That's why we're excited to invite you to our Parents' Night Out event! Leave the kids with us for a fun-filled evening while you enjoy a well-deserved break!

\$40 per child
\$20 for each additional child

sign up here!

Join us for Interfaith Family Gardening with
6601 Creation Care Club

FALL CALL CLEAN UP

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19
11:45 AM - 2:00 PM

6601 Creation Care Club invites families and children to help prepare our beautiful grounds for winter. Join us for a pizza lunch too!

Register

Rake Leaves

Weeding

The Inter-Congregational Partnership
6601 Bradley Blvd.

Pizza Lunch in Memorial Hall at 11:45 AM

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25
5-7 PM**

Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, Parking Lot
6601 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD

TRUNK OR TREAT

Children
Dress up in Halloween costumes and trick-or-treat for candy around the Bradley Hills' parking lot.

Adults and Youth
Decorate the trunks of your cars with Halloween themes and hand out candy to kids.

ALL ARE INVITED

Bradley Hills
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

BETHESDA JEWISH CONGREGATION

BJC can't wait to celebrate Sukkot! Bring the kids for a pizza dinner, crafts, and fun on October 10th at 5:30 PM. Kids get to make their own tiny edible sukkahs! Musical outdoor service to follow dinner. While this event is free and open to everyone, please consider making an optional donation to help defray costs.

[Click below to](#)

We thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you!



[Scan to
submit
questions](#)

Pizza IN THE HUT

Join BJC for a Sukkot Celebration!
October 10th at 5:30 PM

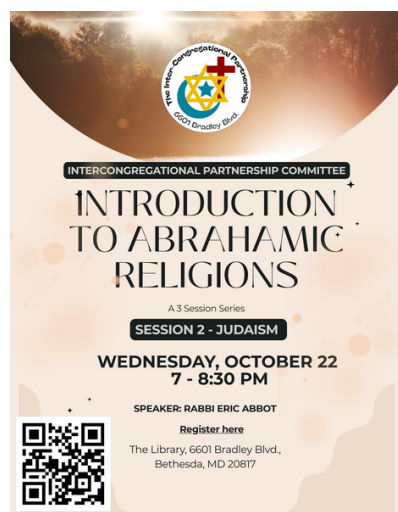
FOOD CRAFTS FUN

Followed by a
Musical Shabbat Service Outside

BETHESDA JEWISH CONGREGATION (CONTINUED)

Manna Food Drive September 22nd thru October 5th

MAQAAME IBRAHIM ISLAMIC CENTER



The Inter-Congregational Partnership Committee (ICPC) invites you to attend the second in a series of clergy led introductory session on the three Abrahamic faiths that share sacred space at 6601 Bradley Boulevard.

Rabbi Eric Abbot will lead an introductory session on Judaism on October 22 from 7:00-8:30pm in the library. The session will be followed by the opportunity to mingle and share refreshments.

Register [HERE](#) to attend the October 22 event. We urge you to attend in person to get to know each other, but if you cannot, you can attend virtually on Zoom. You must register to receive the zoom link for the session.

The session will be recorded and the recording posted on the ICPC webpage of your congregation's website. If you have any questions, please contact any of the chairs of the ICPC, Evelyn Ganzglass (BJC), Judy Ozone (BHPC), and Shaheen Khan (MIIC). Contact them at icpc6601@gmail.com



ICPC BOOK DISCUSSION

Tuesday, October 28th at 7:00 pm in Covenant Hall

The Undocumented Americans by Karla Cornejo Villavicencio

This is an opportunity to get to know members of Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church (BHPC), Bethesda Jewish Congregation (BJC), and Maqaame Ibrahim Islamic Center (MIIC) better by reading and discussing a book about a timely subject. This book is written by one of the first undocumented immigrants to graduate from Harvard. Cornejo Villavicencio traveled across the country to capture the accounts of undocumented Americans who have been stereotyped, abused, and considered expendable. The stories she tells are not deferential or naively inspirational but show the love, magic, heartbreak, resistance, insanity, and vulgarity that infuse the day-to-day lives of her subjects. (The book was a National Book Award Finalist.)

Register for the event [HERE](#) or RSVP to icpc6601@gmail.com

For more information, please contact Marilyn Allen, BHPC; Karen Levi, BJC; Laurie Mabile, BJC; or Shaheen Khan, MIIC at icpc6601@gmail.com

