



Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church Nursery School

The Bear Facts

Director's Message



The 2011-12 school year welcomed almost 200 students. As you know the philosophy of our school is "learning through play." Numerous articles have recently been written about the value of play. I want to share with you a few comments. In an article in The Washington Post (July 14, 2011), it was stated that "children who learned primarily through play had better social and emotional skills than other children." And, in an article in the September/October Exchange, "Play is linked to greater creativity and problem solving, improved reading levels and higher IQ scores." We have a superior staff. These are amazing women who love and care for and teach your children through play. Look for all of our staff's biographies in the next newsletter.

Saturday, September 17 was the annual school picnic. The weather was iffy, but the rain held off. Hats off to Melanie LaCount, Lynne Joseloff and Deanna Ingis for their fabulous job in organizing the day. The choo choo train and moonbounces provided lots of fun for the children. The balloon clown was also terrific. The food was spectacular. Everyone had a fabulous time. Thank you all for coming. I also want to thank Rachel Zutshi, Heather Witt and all the moms and dads who helped make this day so special. This picnic is a wonderful

tradition and we owe it all to the Parents' Group.

Back to School Night was September 27. I hope you enjoyed the time in the classrooms with the teachers and meeting other parents. You probably heard about fears or tears of some of the little ones. It takes time for our new students to settle and our staff is wonderful in helping them do just that. Please look inside this newsletter for tips on how to help us help your children transition well. I want to thank the Sunshine Committee for providing the refreshments for the evening as well as the Sweets for Teachers Committee for the terrific snacks for staff meetings. Another thank you to Jean Connelly and her group who power washed the Rainy Day Room equipment--They shine!

The nursery school is getting back into full swing. Aerobics and music classes will be held for all of the children as well as literature and science classes for the threes and fours. At the end of October Frank Culler, the magician will entertain the children. We look forward to a fun and busy year.

Don't forget about signing up for treats, reading a story or doing a



- ♦ 10/01 - Sophia Marie Provenzano
- ♦ 10/03- Julian Sikes
- ♦ 10/03 - Mizuki Sikes
- ♦ 10/04 - Evie Miller
- ♦ 10/06 - Yumi Perez
- ♦ 10/06 - George Meyers
- ♦ 10/12 - Cole Pritchett
- ♦ 10/13 - Peyton Coffey
- ♦ 10/13 - Ingrid Long
- ♦ 10/14 - Lily Woodward
- ♦ 10/19 - Nozomi Saita
- ♦ 10/20 - Beau Werth
- ♦ 10/26 - Jasmin Jabara
- ♦ 10/29 - Daniel Hallisey
- ♦ 10/29 - Julia Marcou
- ♦ 10/30 - Katherine Campion
- ♦ 10/31 - Ryan Gleeson



project. Check with your teachers. You are always welcome in the classroom or in my office. I look forward to seeing you throughout the year.

Hilah



Parents' Group Page



We had a great kick-off this school year with the Safari themed picnic. While the wet weather delayed this a week, a great time was had by all! A big thank you goes out to this year's picnic organizers - Deanna Ingis, Lynne Joseloff and Melanie LaCount for making the event such a success. Thank you to all those that volunteered their time at the picnic and to those who contributed a dish to share.



We are grateful to Jean Connelly, Anna Francis, Kate Davis, Tianna Tellington, Lexa Gandolfo, Wendy Simmons, Kim Groves and Sarah Johnson, who bravely volunteered as babysitters during orientation. Thanks also to Mary Raue and Laura Abod for providing snacks for those early school days.

There is a lot going on in October. First, we will be holding room parent meetings each morning from Monday, October 3rd through Wednesday, October 5, 2011 in room 302/304 right after drop-off. Second, there is a restaurant fundraiser at Ledo Pizza at 10301 Westlake Drive on Tuesday, October 11th. BHCNS will earn a portion of all sales from 5-8 p.m. Make sure to tell them you are there to support our nursery school.



Also, our Sally Foster Fundraiser is back by popular demand! We're also selling cookie dough by Classic Recipes. Support our school starting Monday, October 3rd through Friday, October 21st. At the end of our fundraiser, all families that spend \$50 will be entered in a lottery with a chance to get \$100 off one month's tuition! Get ready to stock up on Sally Foster wrapping paper, gifts and cookie dough!

Throughout the year the Parent's Group runs different activities, fundraisers and programs. The committee chairs who have kindly volunteered to help the preschool in these really important areas are:

- Fall Picnic - Deanna Ingis, Lynne Joseloff, Melanie LaCount
- Restaurant Fundraiser -Emily Schultz
- Sunshine committee -Mary Raue and Laura Abod
- Tote Bags and T-Shirts - Rachel Loreto
- Sally Foster Fundraiser - Jen Chalfant and Shannon Kelliher
- Sweets for Teachers - Anna Francis

In addition, Melanie LaCount is the parent representative on the BHCNS Board. She is a great resource for any Nursery School items you would like to discuss. She can be reached at mdlacount@hotmail.com or (301) 496-4992.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have or to discuss how you can get involved with the parents group!

We look forward to a great year!

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(703) 629-6299

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Administrative Notes...

Tuition payments are due on the first of the month and are considered late if not received by the 15th. For those of you who were late with payment in September you received a free pass! From October on, though, if payment is not received by the 15th a 10% late fee is assessed. If you set up an automatic "bill-payer" payment system please be sure that the words "Nursery School" appear on the check. We have had many situations in the past where the Church has deposited checks as donations which were really meant to be posted against students' accounts.

We'll be doing a thorough check of all our **students' records**. We will notify you of any missing paperwork, immunizations etc. and ask that you submit any missing paperwork as soon as possible. We appreciate your help in making sure our records are compliant with state laws.

E-mail is the best way to stay in touch these days. To receive email updates, reminders and the such please join the Yahoo! group for our school. Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bhpcnsstudents> and join today!

Our **school website**, www.bhpcns.org, is another great place to go in search of information. Lost your child's classroom calendar? Can't remember how much tuition is? Need a form? It's all there for you!

And finally, Bradley Bear has his own page on **Facebook**. Just search for Bradley Bear and Bethesda and you should find him. To search for him using email, use his unique address: bhpcns57@yahoo.com

Ho Ho Ho (?)

Yes, it's a little early to start thinking about Christmas, but we're going to ask you anyway. The GFWC Metropolitan Community Woman's Club is selling beautiful wreaths for \$21.00. The wreaths come with a red bow and all proceeds are used to support local charities. If you'd like to order a wreath there is a sign-up form on the bulletin board outside the girls' room or you may fill out the order form attached to this newsletter. Please bring your order and/or payment (cash or check made payable to MCC) to the school office. Orders must be placed and paid for by Oct. 14. Wreaths will be delivered to the school the Monday after Thanksgiving.

Thank you!



Wait, Wait, Don't Throw it Out!

The nursery school continually collects oatmeal canisters (they make great drums!); washed baby food jars, with lids; and small peanut butter jars.

We also participate in Ronald McDonald House Pop Tab Recycling program. Pull those tabs off your soda cans, cat food cans and other cans that have one. This is a great at home project since the tabs take up little space. When you get a bunch, bring them by the office and put in our collection carafe (right by the tuition box).

There are also collection boxes on the table outside the office for used ink jet cartridges and cell phones. These will be recycled and/or refurbished with the proceeds benefiting a local charity.

And finally, we ask you to join us in collecting the cleaned pink lids from Yoplait® yogurt. For each lid donated, Yoplait will donate 10 cents to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure®. A collection box is on the table outside the office.





Don't forget to **SIGN YOUR CHILD INTO SCHOOL EVERYDAY.** Thanks!

Please **DO NOT** park along the driveway when dropping off your child(ren) at school unless directed to by Nursery School Staff. This is considered a fire lane and should be kept clear at all times.

When parking, remember to stay within the lines! We've had a lot of cars backing into spaces and taking up two spaces as a result.

When waiting for the carpool line to start, please turn off your engines.

Let's keep the carpool line moving at pickup! Please stay in your cars. Once your child has been placed in the car move up to buckle him/her in. If walking up to pick up your child please stand to the side. We will place children in the cars first to get the line moving.

During pick up, we also ask that you do not turn onto the Nursery School driveway from Greentree Rd. Please enter using the entrance on the side of the church offices.

Please remember that drop off and/or pick up is not a time for a "mini" parent conference. If you have worries or concerns please ask to speak to the teacher outside of school hours. You can set up either a phone or in-person conference.

And finally, please refrain from using your cell phone at this time. It is very important for your child to have your undivided attention during this time.

Thanks!



Stay & Play

The afternoon program will begin in full force! Most classes still have openings and drop-in participants are welcome. This year's Stay & Play themes are as follow: Mondays--"The Never-ending Story" (literature); Tuesdays--"Wigglin' Wizards" (science) Wednesdays--"Fun & Games" and Tutu Fun (ballet); Thursdays-- "Beyond Mud Pies...(art) and "¿Hablo Espanol?" (Spanish); Fridays-- "Where in the World is Bradley Bear?" (geography). Interested in learning more? Give the office a call--301-365-2909.

Help Us, Help Them!

The beginning of the school year can be a bit shaky for our students, especially our youngest ones. Here are a few tips to help make the transition easy.

- 1) Arrive to school on time, allowing enough time to take your child to the bathroom *before* dropping him/her off. It is unfair to ask the teachers to do this as they have many children to greet and focus on first thing in the morning.
- 2) Leave the classroom quickly. This means no mini-conferences with teachers or conversations with other parents inside the classroom.
- 3) Pick up on time. This is especially important in the two-year-old program as our youngest ones tend to become anxious if Mom, Daddy or Nanny is late.



Hold on to your bunnies!

October is full, full, full of fun activities for both children and families. All the classes will enjoy their regular full complement of "specials": Aerobics, Music, Literature and Science. John Henry, The Guitar Playing Man will visit to entertain our fours and everyone will be treated to a fantastic magic show by Culler Magic. And yes, he does bring bunnies of all colors with him and at least one will be real!

Attention Siblings!

Now is the time to turn in your applications for the 2012/2013 school year if this would be your child's first year at Bradley Hills. Stop by the office to pick one up or download one from our website, www.bhpcns.org. There is an application fee of \$50 due with the application. Acceptance or Wait List notifications will be sent home in January. Registration for currently enrolled students will be in December.

Scholastic Books

BHPCNS is once again participating in the Scholastic Books program. Each month a flyer will be sent home with new books to add to your collection or for gifts. Order by returning a completed order form (on the flyer) to your child's teacher with a check made payable to "Scholastic." You may also order online and pay using a credit card. More information about how to do this is on our school website--www.bhpcns.org--Just click on the "Community & More" tab.

The school benefits from this program by earning points for each book bought. We then redeem the points to add more books to the classroom collection or to obtain other teaching items for the room.



Nursery School Calendar

- **Oct. 3 (Mon.)** - TUITION DUE; First day of Stay & Play; Music for MWF 3's & MF 2's
- **Oct. 4 (Tues.)** - Science for TTh 3's & MTWThF 4's
- **Oct. 5 (Wed.)** - Science for MWF 3's & 4's;
- **Oct. 7 (Thurs.)** - Aerobics for TTh 2's & 3's
- **Oct. 10 (Mon.)** - John Henry, The Guitar Playing Man, performs for all 4's
- **Oct. 11 (Tues.)** - Music for TTh 3's & rooms 107 & 108 2's; **BHPCNS Night at Ledos Westlake, 5-8PM**
- **Oct. 12 (Wed.)** - Magic Show for W 2's, room 105 MWF 3's, and rooms 102 & 113 4's
- **Oct. 13 (Thurs.)** - Music for rooms 111 & 117 2's and rooms 102 & 113 4's
- **Oct. 14 (Fri.)** - Literature for MWF 3's;
- **Oct. 18 (Tues.)** - Literature for TTh 3's & room 102 4's
- **Oct. 19 (Wed.)** - Literature for all 4's (except room 102); Aerobics for MWF 3's, W 2's & room 111 4's
- **Oct. 20 (Thurs.)** - Aerobics for TTh 2's & 3's
- **Oct. 21 (Fri.)** - Magic Show for MWF 4's, MF 2's, room 104 & 107 MWF 3's and room 103 4's
- **Oct. 24 (Mon.)** - Aerobics for MF 2's & all 4's (except room 111)
- **Oct. 26 (Wed.)** - Music for W 2's, MWF 4's & room 103 3's
- **Oct. 27 (Thurs.)** - Magic Show for TTh 2's & 3's

Coming in November...

Native American music with Bill Jenkins
Thanksgiving Feast
Thanksgiving Holiday, 11/24-25





4 Year Old News



Don't forget to **SIGN YOUR CHILD INTO SCHOOL EVERYDAY.** Thanks!

What a great start to the school year in **room 103**. **Mrs. McKiernan, Mrs. Bodine** and **Mrs. Lopez-Silvero** (aka Mrs. Mac) are thrilled to see how easily the children have adjusted to a new classroom, teachers, classmates and routine. Our first big unit "Get To Know Me" was fun and enlightening. On each child's special day (a personal show & tell) they were able to share anything they hold dear. We saw blankies, much loved bedtime buddies, super toys, special clothes, photographs & treasures. Very few had trouble being the center of attention and publicly speaking!

Color days have begun (please have the children dressed in the appropriate color on Fridays) and we made red apples and Clifford the dog hats but our apple turnovers were a disaster (now we know the Church's oven needs calibration!!) Fortunately, our apple taste test was successful - red won. For yellow week, we made a huge happy face banner and baked banana bread - yummy. We had our first Literature, Music & Science classes, aerobics will begin in October. We met Mr. Muncher, a talking trash can, who played an alphabet game with us and will make frequent appearances throughout the year.

Color days will conclude in October with orange being dominant throughout the school. Halloween fun takes over. Ghosts, spiders, black cats and witches will be found in the hall and classroom along with many pumpkins, some turning into jack-o'-lanterns. We'll learn about Christopher Columbus and the beauty of fall and we'll have a unit on safety. October ends with a Halloween parade (we make masks to wear so please, no costumes from home) and sing-a-long with the other 4 year old classes.

What it means to be thankful and give thanks will be our focus in November. We'll make costumes and a food contribution (stuffing) for the highlighted Thanksgiving Feast, our shared luncheon with the other 4's held in the rainy day room. Half of the classes will be dressed as Native Americans (us) and the other half as Pilgrims.

Mrs. Bodine and Mrs. Mac join me in thanking all who've

volunteered to help during the year. We truly appreciate all the special snacks, the field trip drivers and visiting readers. Hooray for Mrs. Groves & Mrs. Thompson for signing up as room parents. It'll be a great year.

The fours in **room 102** with **Mrs. Amerasinghe, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Rickerby,** and **Mrs. Skoff** have gotten off to a great start. Most of September was spent getting to know each other and adjusting to the new routine. Besides learning to share, taking turns, and sitting quietly during circle time, the children have enjoyed units on apples, feelings, and "All About Me." Color Days have been fun. They have also enjoyed Mrs. Tustian's storytelling, Mrs. McCullough's science lesson on natural disasters, music with Mrs. Carter, and making apple crisp which was YUMMY!

October is a fun-filled month. This month we shall talk about fire and playground safety, signs of fall, colors, owls, bats, and bones. We shall learn about Christopher Columbus and spend the latter half of the month on projects related to Halloween. The month will end with a sing-along, Halloween party and parade with special masks made by the children. "Spider Day" will also be a special day.

In November we look forward to our Thanksgiving Feast and powwow, the making of our "Thankful Book," and making costumes for the feast. We shall talk about sharing with the less fortunate and being grateful for what we have received from God. We will learn about pilgrims and Native Americans.

Our thanks to all the parents who have signed up to make special snacks and to Mrs. Gramlich, and Mrs. Strand for already bringing in special snacks. A special





thank you to Mrs. Jabara and Mrs. Gramlich for being our room parents. Please make sure to look for your child's work on the walls outside the classroom. We enjoyed meeting all of you at Parents' Night and look forward to working with you to provide the very best for your child.

The fours in **Room 113** with **Mrs. Lakas, Mrs. McCullough** and **Mrs. Digan** have gotten off to a great start and the class has settled in beautifully, adjusting to their new classroom and new faces. Much of September has been spent getting to know each other, adjusting to the new routine, learning to share, taking turns and sitting quietly during circle time. We have started working on colors. Every Friday is a special "color day" with children coming to school dressed in that color and we have a project and special snack to match. We are also learning our numbers which will continue throughout the year. We have talked about feelings, making friends, apples, fall and leaves changing colors.

In October, we will concentrate on fall, fire safety, Columbus Day, and Halloween activities and songs. For Halloween we will have a party and parade around the classrooms with special masks the children make themselves. There will also be a "Spider Day" at the end of October.

In November, we will focus on Thanksgiving and learn about the pilgrims and Native Americans. We will talk about things we are thankful for. The highlight this month is the Thanksgiving Feast for which we will prepare the food (with the other four year old classes) and make our own costumes to wear to the feast. This year our class will be attending as pilgrims. We will go hand-in-hand with Indians to reenact the first Thanksgiving. It is a beautiful sight! After the feast we will sit around a pretend campfire and sing songs.

Thank you to all the parents who have signed up to bring special snacks, go on field trips, be room parents, etc. Your help is greatly appreciated! We are looking forward to a great year!

Mrs. Hutchinson and Mrs. Gough were happy to welcome 16 new students to **room 108**. We began the year with a Venn diagram on how we were feeling about our first day of school. I am happy to report that most of the

children were excited about coming to school. They made apple prints and acted out a story about a "star hiding in a little red house with no windows and no doors". The children tasted three kinds of apples for snack. We made a graph together to find out which flavor of apple was the class favorite. The children are quickly becoming the "apples of our eyes"! We began our color study with red week (Rojo). We read about Clifford, the Big Red Dog, and even turned into big red dogs right before car pick-up! September continued with yellow week (Amarillo), which included sunflowers and lemon prints, and blue week (Azul), which we made bluebirds, blue jeans and blueberry bushes.

Our prayer for the month was:

*God is great, God is good,
Let us thank him for our food. Amen.*

Please look for Weekly Reader magazines in your child's bag every Wednesday. The magazines are a great way to develop skills they will need such as pre-reading, visual discrimination and listening (following directions).

October will find us going "batty" with handprint bats, funny-face pumpkins and many other Halloween activities. There will be a Halloween sing-along for the children as well as a party in the classroom on Monday, October 31. Please do not send your child in costume. Each class will make a mask to present at the sing-along. It will be a howling good time for everyone!

November 4th will begin our letter days with A, of course! Please save old magazines for the students to cut pictures from to bring in on Fridays (in a small labeled envelope or baggie, please). They will need a few small pictures of items beginning with the letter of the week to glue onto a special letter study page, which will be made in to a book at the end of the year. This activity also encourages students to discuss the letters at home with you. We will not be concerned with writing the letters at this time. November will also include a study of the Pilgrims and Native Americans. The children will help prepare and enjoy a Thanksgiving Feast with all of the fours classes coming together to celebrate, dressed as the original participants, too! It is a Bradley



Hills tradition like no other!

Mrs. Beck's and Mrs. Barnett's class in room 111 had a great start to the school year. Our class is a happy and smart one! They are enjoying their color crafts and the fun we have in circle time--especially seeing our ice cream cone grow! We have been reviewing our colors---Thank you to the parents for their creative and healthy color snacks.

In October we will be "Halloweening" the month away. The children will be coming home with plenty of Halloween and fall crafts to decorate their homes. We will be making masks for the Halloween parade. We are looking forward to seeing the Culler Magic as well.

November is all about Thanksgiving and learning about Native Americans and Pilgrims. Mr. Bill Jenkins will come and show us all different kinds of Native American instruments. Our Thanksgiving feast is the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. We will be serving a great menu of traditional foods.

Mrs. Beck and Mrs. Barnett are enjoying the beginning of the school year. We hope all the kids are too!



3 Year Old News



The MWF 3's in room 107 had a terrific first month of school. We adjusted easily to the new responsibilities of Line Leader and Snack Helper. We learned how to feed our fish, Frederick, and how to water our plant. We worked on the primary colors and recognizing circles. We had our first "Show & Tell" days. Please pay close attention to the monthly calendar, since "Show & Tell" will be scheduled on different days to accommodate specialized activities, such as Science, Music, or Aerobics. Favorite activities in September were the block corner, the indoor sandbox, cutting with scissors, and playdough.

In October, we shall focus on "Safety" and we will learn to recognize the colors on a traffic light. We will discuss fire safety and practice stop, drop and roll. We will cultivate "courage and resilience" to help us through the scary month of October. We will explore our scary feelings and fantasies about monsters and wild things by reading Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak, Andrew's Amazing Monsters by Kathryn Berlan, and Go Away Big Green Monster by Ed Emberley. Look for art activities that will support this literature. Our Halloween party will be on Monday, October 31st.

In November we shall pay close attention to the landscape changing color, squirrels scampering, and leaves falling down. We will create our own fall trees at the art table. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, we will discuss "Friends and Families" and use a variety of art projects and activities to reinforce the symbols and traditions of this special holiday. We will embrace the values of "cooperation and helpfulness" as we explore how families *work together* to prepare the Thanksgiving meal. Our Thanksgiving celebration will be on Wednesday, November 23rd. We wish our families a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

We are having lots of fun in room 104 with Mrs. Rickerby and Mrs. Cisternino's TTh 3's class. We have a wonderful class this year and the kids are very eager to be a part of all activities. We have started with pre-school basics- please and thank you, sharing, walking in a straight line while following the line leader, and sitting in a circle. We also have enjoyed learning about each other. In September we have made many apple projects, a gadget painting using primary colors and a pizza project filled with lots of different shapes.

Our class will start October with a nature walk where we'll collect items for a nature collage. We will also spend some time on fire safety and learn about stoplights and how to look before crossing the street. Also, in October, our class will start going to Music, Science, Literature, and Aerobics. It would not be October without some Halloween fun. Watch for bats, jack-o'-lanterns and witches to come home



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in their tote bags. We will also make our cat mask for the Halloween parade and sing- along with the other 3's class.

November we will focus on Thanksgiving. We will look at all the wonderful things to be thankful for like our friends, family and food on our table. Some of our projects will include making necklaces, headbands and decorations for our Thanksgiving celebration. Bill Jenkins will be coming to the school to play Native American Music with the children.

We plan to go outside everyday that the weather permits. Please send a sweater or jacket to school when the days start to cool off.

We're looking forward to getting to know our classmates and their families. Thanks for all your early generosity with room parenting, signing up for special snacks, and more!

The three-year-old children in **Mrs. Hummers**, and **Mrs. Hauck's** classes in **room 105** are adjusting nicely to their new classes

In September, we have learned to take care of our totebags, lunches and objects brought for Show & Tell. We are following directions such as: walking in a line without running ahead; washing hands before snack and lunch; placing art papers in tote-bags; sitting still when asked to do so; and being kind to each other. Although this sounds like a lot of rules to follow, your children will be enabled to learn through play, which is our goal at Bradley Hills.

We have been making various apple pictures, collage gadget pictures, and police badges. We will continue our theme of community helpers with traffic lights and fire engines (including the necessity of "stop, Drop and Roll", in case of fire)> Around Columbus Day, we will talk about Christopher Columbus and make replicas of his ship. Most importantly we will prepare for our Halloween parties by making pumpkin face masks (no costumes please!), black cat and ghost pictures, and learning songs for our Halloween sing-along. You will be receiving words to these songs during the month.

November will find us talking about all the things for which we are grateful: food, our friends and families. We will usher in the fall with beautiful tree pictures and leaf stencils. To prepare for our Thanksgiving Feast we will make our own headdresses and necklaces to wear at our parties.

It will be nice for us to remember that our days are turning cooler, animals are growing heavier coats, and that we must wear warmer coats, hats and mittens to accommodate our changing weather.

Our blessing for Thanksgiving is:

*Now thank we all our God
For food and friends and family.*

The MWF three year olds in **room 104**, with **Mrs. Giuffre** and **Mrs. Stevens**, got off to a great start and are getting to know one another. We have a wonderful group of three year olds!

In September, we talked about our new friends at school and what it means to be a good friend. The children played a ball game and learned a song using all their classmates' names. Some of the stories we enjoyed were: Just My Friend and Me by Mercer Mayer, Will I Have a Friend? by Miriam Cohen and Clifford's First School Day, by Norman Bridwell. We reviewed the colors by making red and yellow apples, a primary color gadget painting as well as a colorful caterpillar. The children were "interviewed" and we wrote down their favorite colors, foods, friends, activity and age on a star. All was decorated and assembled to make their "Super Stars" which each child shared with the group. We discussed how each child is unique and special.

In early October, we will learn about shapes. Projects include a shape collage as well as a cooking activity making "shape" pretzels. October 9th-15th is National Fire Safety Week and we practice "stop, drop and roll" and learn about ways to be safe. Projects will include a fire truck, a stop light and special stop light snack. We will continue to go outside on the playgrounds even if the weather is chilly, so please be sure to dress your little ones warmly on those days. Also, in October, our class will start going to Music, Science,



Literature and Aerobics. October will also include many new songs and stories relating to Halloween, of course! We will enjoy a Halloween sing along and will parade through the other classrooms with our Black Cat masks that we will make.

In November, we will learn all about Thanksgiving and its early beginnings. The children will assemble a special "Friendship Salad" with items each child will contribute for our special little feast. We will learn many new songs and create Indian necklaces, headbands and leaf prints too. Bill Jenkins will return with a fun and interesting program which includes songs and dances of the American Indians. November will go by fast and we will be busy!

we like to eat when the weather turns crisp. By mid-October, Halloween symbols will appear in our classroom. Even though Halloween is exciting, it can also be very scary for little ones. We will keep our activities low-key and use symbols we can relate to. Our Halloween party will be on Thursday, October 27. Songs and finger plays in October will include:

The leaves are falling down (2x) (tune of Farmer in the Dell)

*They touch my nose; they touch my toes,
The leaves are falling down.*

and

*Way up in an apple tree (point to the top)
Two little apples smiled at me. (hold up two fingers and smile)*

*I shook that tree as hard as I could (pretend to shake it)
Down came the apples (bring hands to the ground)
Hmm... they were good (rub tummy)*

By November, the weather will be turning cooler and some days we might even need mittens! In November, we shall talk about the concepts "hard and soft" as we touch the soft fur (yarn) on our squirrel project and the hard acorns that they eat. We will learn the song "Grey Squirrel" and the finger play "Two little Houses" to fit in with our Thanksgiving theme of "Homes and Families". Our art projects will represent Thanksgiving symbols and we shall conclude the month with our own simple Thanksgiving feast on Tuesday, November 22nd. We wish our families a blessed Thanksgiving holiday!

2 Year Old News



Welcome to all our new two's in **room 117** with **Mrs. Drozen** and **Mrs. Sutherland**. So far so good! We are enjoying the classroom, the Rainy Day Room and especially the playground. Starting in October, we will have music and aerobics. In the past the children have loved aerobics. We are also looking forward to our first "assembly"---A magic show at the end of the month. In November we will get to play Native American instruments with Bill Jenkins. We will continue to go outside as much as the weather allows. We love it outside! There is so much to do--sand, a tire swing, horses to ride, a climbing wall and a slide.

It was great to see so many parents at our recent Parents' Night. We look forward to having a great year with you and your children.

Thank you for sharing your children with us.

The TTh 2's in **room 107** with **Mrs. Jacob** and **Mrs. Schweitzer** had a very smooth start to the school year. We practiced peddling in the rainy day room and we loved the playground on sunny September mornings. Favorite activities were: painting at the easel, the indoor sandbox, and playdough.

In October, we shall observe the change in seasons when the leaves fall down and busy squirrels scamper by. Our art and craft projects will be related to trees. We will use beautiful fall colors like yellow, orange, and brown at the easel and talk about foods

*Two little houses closed up tight (make fists and push hands together)
Open up the windows and let in the light (open hands up and spread fingers apart)
Ten little finger people tall and straight (fingers tightly together)
Running off to nursery school (make running motion with fingers)
And don't be late! (shake pointer finger)*



Mrs. Gough and Mrs. Roberti in room 111 welcome their Two's Class! The class has settled in nicely. The children are making friends and playing together! Our little ones are also having fun with art, paint and playdough. We have been singing lots of songs and reading lots of books. It's been a busy month!

With the arrival of fall, we will talk about the change in the season and do art projects related to change using colors like yellow, red, orange, and brown. Also, we will be reading books and singing songs about Halloween. Talking about Halloween can be very scary, but we will make sure to tell our children they are safe no matter what.

As the weather turns chillier, please don't forget to send warm jackets, hats and mittens--We love the outdoors!

Your kids are great! Thank you for choosing Bradley Hills. We are looking forward to a great year!

The two's are off to a great start in Mrs. Bodine and Mrs. Brown's class (room 108). They have quickly settled into a happy routine. They love playdough and puzzles, doll and trucks, and painting too! Red was the color for September. We made red tissue apples; apple tree; used red paint at the easel and made a red apple page for our color book. We learned *Good Morning to You*, *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star* *The More We Get Together*, *Open, Shut Them*, *Friends, Friends, 123*, and *Goodbye Everybody*. We are trying our best to learn each other's names! We especially like playing on the playground and in the Rainy Day Room (which we share with room 111). It's hard to believe we can almost line up and say please at snack time. We like reading books about sharing (*I Can Share* by Katz) and about our new school (*My Preschool* by Anne Rockwell). Leaving mom is hard for the first time and so we are reading *Does a Kangaroo Have a Mother Too?* by Eric Carle

In October we will sing songs of fall and Halloween, squirrels and leaves and all the colors we see around us. Orange paint will be a favorite this month, but don't forget yellow, red and brown. We'll make fall trees and look for black cats and bats and spiders too! But, since we are only "two" we won't be too scary. At the end of the month we will have our Halloween Party!!!

November will follow with talk of families and turkeys. We

will use feathers for painting and on turkey tails too! We'll talk about families too! Turkey songs and finger plays are fun and we have 12 little Indian boys and girls to lead us to our Thanksgiving Day Party before our break. Bill Jenkins will come to visit and bring all his wonderful instruments for us to play and let us be Native Americans for a special treat.

In October we start having our monthly specials - music and aerobics. These are both wonderful and enriching activities that we enjoy with your children too!

As the days begin to get cooler, please send jackets, mittens and hats. We go outside everyday, weather permitting.

Mrs. Sutherland and Mrs. Cisternino's twos in room 117 have adjusted extremely well to school! We have had a lot of fun in the classroom playing with various toys, dress-up clothes, puppets, play dough and blocks. We did our first art project last week, making red apples with glue and glitter. It was messy, but fun! We love to sing all of the songs we know like, "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" and "Ring Around the Rosie", as well as learning a few new ones! At the end of the day, we enjoy reading a story together. Our favorite so far is *Brown Bear, Brown Bear* by Eric Carle.

The children all seem to relish the rainy day room where they can ride bikes, ride the ponies or be "kings" and "queens" of the play castle. Everyone enjoys our outdoor time; playing in the sandbox, twirling on the tire swing, going up the climbing wall and down the slide.

In October, we will look forward to having our first aerobics and music class. Also, as a special treat, we will get to see a magic show! We'll take advantage of the nice fall weather by going to the playground as much as possible. A sincere thanks to Cathleen Howard and Trish Jones for signing up to be our room parents this year. Mrs. Sutherland and Mrs. Cisternino are looking forward to getting to know your children. Thank you, parents, for sharing them with us!





Blessings We Say at Nursery School

God is great
God is good
And we thank Him
for our food

Thank You for the world so sweet
Thank You for the food we eat
Thank You for the birds that sing
Thank You God for everything

God our Father
God our Father
Once again
Once again
We shall ask Thy blessing
We shall ask Thy blessing
Amen
Amen

And now to the table, but first
we say our prayer.
We thank Thee for food and for
Thy loving care.

Oh, the Lord is so good to me
And so I thank the Lord
for giving me the things I need
The sun and the rain and the apple seed
The Lord is good to me
Johnny Apppleseed
Amen



MANGIA, MANGIA

Bradley Hills Nursery School Fall Restaurant Fundraiser

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2011
5-8 pm

Ledo Pizza
10301 Westlake Drive
301-469-6700

Dine in or Carry Out!





Songs We Sing

A selection of songs & finger plays we sing at Nursery School

Leaves are Falling Down

Sing to the tune of "Farmer in the Dell"

The leaves are falling down,
the leaves are falling down.
They touch my nose, they
touch my toes,
The leaves are falling down.



An Apple Surprise

Way up high in the apple tree
A little brown worm smiled at me.
I winked my eye,
And what do you suppose?
A shiny, red apple dropped on my
nose!

Two Little Houses

Two little houses closed up tight
(make fists and push hands together)
Open up the windows and let in the
light *(open hands up and spread fin-
gers apart)*
Ten little finger people tall and
straight *(fingers tightly together)*
Running off to nursery school *(making
running motion with fingers)*
And don't be late! *(shake pointer fin-
ger)*

When the Leaves are Red and Yellow in the Fall

sing to the tune of "She'll be Comin' Round the Mountain"

When the leaves are red and yellow in the fall
When the leaves are red and yellow in the fall
When the leaves are red and yellow,
the apples taste so mellow
when the leaves are red and yellow in the fall.

When the pumpkins are a-gleaming in the fall
When the pumpkins are a-gleaming in the fall
When the pumpkins are a-gleaming,
the jack-o'-lanterns are a-beaming, when the
pumpkins are a-gleaming in the fall.

Two Little Apples

Way up in an apple tree *(point to the
top)*
Two little apples smiled at me *(hold
up 2 fingers and smile)*
I shook that tree as hard as I could
(pretend to shake it)
Down came the apples *(bring hands
to the ground)*
Mmmm... they were good! *(rub
tummy)*

R-E-D

(sung to tune of "Three Blind Mice")

R-E-D

R-E-D

Red is the word.

Red is the word.

Apples and strawberries both are red.

Tomatoes and cherries are also red.

R-E-D

Red, Red, Red.



Stop and Go

Red on top means stop.
Yellow in between: stay and
wait for green.
Green below: Let's go!

Farmer Brown's Green Apples

Farmer Brown had 5 green apples
hang'in on a tree.
Farmer Brown had 5 green apples
hang'in on a tree.
So he plucked one apple and ate
it hungrily,
Leaving four green apples a
hang'in on a tree.
Farmer Brown had 4 green ap-
ples...
Farmer Brown had 3 green ap-
ples...
Farmer Brown had 2 green ap-
ples...
Farmer Brown had 1 green ap-
ples...
So he plucked that apple and
gave it all to me.
Leaving no green apples a hang'in
on a tree.

I am Special

(sung to the tune of Frere Jacques)

I am special, I am special.
Do you see, do you see
Someone very special, someone
very special
That is me, that is me.

October 2011
The Bear Facts



ORDER FORM FOR WREATHS

Your Name: _____ Your Child's name: _____

Your telephone number: _____

Child's teacher and days attending: _____

Number of wreaths: _____

x _____ \$21.00

Total amount enclosed: _____

Please make checks payable to: MCC
(orders due by October 14)

Thank you!

