



## ☺ Small Talk ☺

### The Monthly Newsletter of Bethlehem Preschool January 2019

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Happy New Year from the children and staff at BPS.

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#### Taxpayer Identification Number

Our Taxpayer Identification Number is **14-1569614**. If you need an **end-of-the year payment summary**, please leave a note with your payment, or email us at [info@bethlehempreschool.com](mailto:info@bethlehempreschool.com).

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#### BPS Closed

BPS will be closed on **Monday, January 21** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

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#### Outside Play

It is the policy of Bethlehem Preschool for children to go outside twice a day. We believe outdoor play is a very important experience for children throughout the year. We do not go outside when the weather is too wet or, rarely, if we determine the temperature is dangerously hot or cold. On very cold days, teachers limit the amount of time spent outside to what is appropriate for the class and the weather.

It is important that your child is prepared to play outside each day. When the snow flies, please send in **a hat, a pair of mittens (waterproof mittens are better than knit), a pair of boots, snow pants, and a warm winter jacket every day**. Always send in a coat, hat and mittens on cold days! Thank you for your cooperation. **PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING!**

All children are expected to participate in outdoor play. If you feel your child is too ill to participate in outdoor play, please keep your child at home.

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#### Holiday Caring and Sharing Programs

We want to extend our thanks for your outpouring of generosity to the holiday caring & sharing programs. We were able to donate over \$100 in grocery store gift certificates and a large box of toys. We are most fortunate to have such a supportive group of families at BPS. We wish to extend to each of you our wishes for a Happy New Year.

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#### The Next Step: Becoming a Kindergartener

Please join us for our workshop, **The Next Step: Becoming a Kindergartener** scheduled for **Monday, January 28** at 6 PM. This workshop is geared for parents of the Pre-K 3/4s and Pre-K 4s children who will enter kindergarten in the fall of 2019. Topics of discussion will include kindergarten screening, kindergarten standards, transitioning to a new school and preparation at BPS for Kindergarten. Look for a sign up for the workshop on the sheet outside the Pre-k classrooms at the end of January.

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#### Bethlehem Central School District Census

Do you live in the Bethlehem Central School District? Have you completed the **BCSD Preschool Student Information Form**? It is very important for the school district to be aware of any resident preschoolers in order to plan for future enrollment and to ensure that your family receives the Seeds of Learning preschool newsletter. Please go to [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/viewform?usp=drive\\_web&formkey=dHJGNFh4UGxycTJrNjlCSHpDdUo3T0E6MQ#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/viewform?usp=drive_web&formkey=dHJGNFh4UGxycTJrNjlCSHpDdUo3T0E6MQ#gid=0) on the Bethlehem Central Schools website

(<http://www.bethlehemschools.org>) to complete the census form.

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### Info on Bethlehem Central Kindergarten Registration

If you have a child who will turn five years old on or before December 1, 2019, you will want to take note of Bethlehem's kindergarten registration, which begins January 7 for the 2019-20 school year. Kindergarten registration information was mailed to all eligible families currently in the district's database. If you did not receive a kindergarten registration packet, please fill out a Preschool Student Information Form [electronic form] for your child and a packet will be mailed to you. This packet includes registration materials, including detailed information on the documents you will need to register your child for kindergarten.

Parents of incoming kindergartners are asked to complete all registration forms and bring the forms, and required documentation, with them when they register in person.

### In-Person Kindergarten Registration: Monday, January 7 – Friday, February 8, 2019

Location: Educational Services Center, Bethlehem Central High School, 700 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054.

Hours: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. If you are unable to register during these hours, please call (518) 439-2442, to schedule another time.

Having all forms completed and reviewed and all required documentation in hand at the time of registration will help streamline the process. Once your child has been registered, a screening will be scheduled for your child at your home elementary school.

Questions? Contact District Registrar Melissa Haas at (518) 439-2442 or by email at [mhaas@bcsd.neric.org](mailto:mhaas@bcsd.neric.org).

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### Book Orders

The **Scholastic** Book Order Forms are attached to the newsletter. All orders are due on **Wednesday, January 16**. Checks are

payable to: **Scholastic Book Club**. If you would like to order on-line, our school code is **GTCDJ**.

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### Classroom Notes

**Infants:** Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a nice holiday.

As the new year starts, we would like to welcome some new friends, **P** and **R**, to our room. We are super excited for fun, learning and cuddles.

Winter is still here, so please be sure to check your child's supplies and clothing boxes to make sure they have appropriate extra clothes.

Please help us prevent coughs and colds; always wash your child's hands upon arrival in the mornings.

Please do not hesitate to speak to either of us about any questions or concerns you may have.

Happy birthday to **K**.  
- **Michele & Brianna**

**Toddlers:** Happy New Year! Where did 2018 go? We would like to say "goodbye" to **M** and **C** as they move on to new adventures in the 2's room. We welcome **J** and **E**, as they move up from the Infant room.

This month we will talk about "**Winter Animals**," and "**Winter Fun**." We will do many art projects with various winter animals, and make an "ice skating rink" for some winter fun.

Be sure to check your child's extra clothing box for warm and size-appropriate clothes, **especially socks**. We try to go outside every day, so please continue to bring in winter snow gear. Label everything!

We love visitors, so if you would like to come in and read or do a special project with the children, please talk to one of the teachers.

- **Alicia, Tara & Jenny**

**Twos:** Happy New Year! This year is getting off to a great start. We would like to welcome **M** and **C** to our room. We are excited to have them join us!

The Twos are ready to settle into January by exploring "**Winter**." We will talk about different winter animals, winter activities

for outdoor fun, and winter fun we can have indoors.

We hope everyone is enjoying our **“Cows in the Kitchen” take-home bag.** Keep them for 1 – 2 days, enjoy them, and return them for the next friend to enjoy.

If you would like to come in to read a story or do an activity, please speak to a teacher. We would love to have you visit.

**PLEASE LABEL** all snow pants, jackets, boots, hats and mittens. We have a lot of items that look alike. Also, check your child’s extra clothing box, especially socks, and restock if needed.

Happy birthday to **J, N and J.**  
**- Kristen, Cassidy & Tera**

**Threes:** Happy New Year! We hope you had a great holiday season. Over the past several months, we have seen our kids grow so much and so fast. More and more we hear them talking about the calendar, letters in their names, counting to (almost!) twenty, and applying old knowledge to new activities. Encourage learning at home and have them count how many plates are set at the table or how many Paw Patrol animals are in a episode during TV time.

We are excited to begin our January studies, which include **“The Season of Winter,” “Roads,”** and **“Dinosaurs.”** We will be exploring each of these through different activities such as finger plays, board games, art and the audio center. Many friends shared they received books for the holidays, so if there is a special one that fits our study, have them bring it in to share with the class.

Please remember to keep sending warm layers for both inside the classroom and outside, as it is very cold. We want the kids to be as comfortable as possible, so they can have the most fun! It is also important to label everything that comes to school. In the event something gets misplaced, it’s often easier to get it back if a name or initials are written on it.

Here’s to another month of investigation, imagination and exploration.

**- Jared, Ashley & Vanessa**

**Pre-K Three/Fours:** Happy New Year!

Reflecting back on 2018, we have had so many great memories and laughter in the 3/4s room, and we are looking forward to the new year filled with more learning and growth.

This month we will be focusing on two studies: **“Health and Wellness,”** and **“Music.”** We will discuss how to keep our growing bodies healthy by introducing concepts such as nutrition, exercise and doctor visits.

During our study of music, we will explore various instruments and styles of music. If you have any songs that are special to your family, please feel free to share them with us. Also, if you or anyone you know plays a musical instrument or sings, we would love to have him or her in the classroom to share their talent.

We are excited to study **“Hibernation”** and **“Snowy Activities”** in January. With that being said, please remember to provide your child with snow-play appropriate clothing every day!

We look forward to another month of fun and learning!

Happy birthday to **G, K, L and I.**  
**- Maura, Stephanie & Brenda**

**Pre-K Fours:** December was so busy! The children have had fun playing in the gingerbread house that they decorated! The children were very proud of the holiday gifts they made for you. We hope you enjoyed getting them!

This January we will be learning about **“Winter”** and **“Hibernation.”** We will also work on the letters **“W,” “X,”** and **“Y.”**

Thank you to all the great mystery readers we had in December. A new calendar will be up shortly, so please sign up to come in.

Happy birthday to **J, F, A & D.**  
**Happy New Year!**

**- Tara, Sherry & Angie**

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### Important Dates

**Jan. 16** - Scholastic Book Orders Due

**Jan. 21** - BPS is closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**Jan. 28** - **The Next Step: Becoming a**

**Kindergartener** - workshop at BPS 6pm