



# 😊 Small Talk 😊

## The Monthly Newsletter of Bethlehem Preschool January 2018

Bethlehem Preschool, Inc.,  
397 Rt. 9W PO Box 4 Glenmont, NY 12077  
(518) 463-8091 [www.bethlehempreschool.com](http://www.bethlehempreschool.com)

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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 15** 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, a large box of toys and a box of food. 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, February 12** 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 2018. 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/spreadsheet/viewform?usp=drive\\_web&formkey=dHJGNFh4UGxycT](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?usp=drive_web&formkey=dHJGNFh4UGxycT)

[JrNjICSHpDdUo3T0E6MQ#gid=0](http://www.bethlehemschools.org) 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, 2018, you will want to take note of Bethlehem's kindergarten registration, which begins January 8 for the 2018-19 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 8 – Friday, February 9, 2018

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@bcasd.neric.org](mailto:mhaas@bcasd.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 17**. 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.

We have three new walkers in the room. M, C and JM are now taking many independent steps on a regular basis. E and B won't be far behind. They are all over the room, pulling up and getting down on their own. JL is our little social butterfly, watching and babbling to all his friends. E is finding her place among all of the big kids.

Hopefully it will warm up so our big friends can venture outside and play in the snow! We are also exploring more art and gross motor activities in our own room.

- **Michele & Kristen**

**Toddlers:** Happy New Year! Where did 2017 go? 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 and snow house 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!

If you would like to come in and read or do a special project with the children, please talk to one of the teachers in the classroom.

Happy birthday to **J, N and J**.

- **Alicia, Tara & Cassidy**

**Twos:** We hope everyone enjoyed all the busyness in December. The Twos are ready to settle into January by exploring a "**Winter Wonderland**." Our dress up has been changed into an ice skating rink with a warming hut. We will play ice hockey and pretend to ice skate. We will also explore the real outdoors with its snow and cold. We will also study animals that hibernate for the winter and those

that stay awake all winter. Our art projects will include ice painting, and we will practice our scissor skills by making snowflakes.

Be on the lookout for our **Take-home Bags**. 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 **E, G** and **I**.

- **Bonita, Lanita & Tera**

**Threes:** The Three Year Old Room is welcoming winter with a study of the season. We will investigate the changes outside and learn about freezing water, snow and ice. The class will participate in winter activities and go on nature walks outside. We enjoyed our **"Hibernation and Migration"** study, but now we will learn about the animals who brave the cold and how they adapt to survive the winter months.

The classroom would like to say a big "thank you" to postwoman Patty. We learned so much about her job at the post office. Also, the Three's had a blast with R's mama, learning about Hanukkah and eating traditional yummy treats. Finally, a thank you to S and G's mom for preparing a holiday craft for friends to share with their families. If anyone would like to visit the room and share a talent or spend time learning with us, please speak to a teacher to set up a date.

The Three Year Old Room loves outdoor time, even on the coldest of winter days. Please be sure to send in warm coats, snow pants, hats and mittens, and snow boots every day.

Happy birthday to **D** and **K**.

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

- **Jared, Maura & Ashley**

**Pre-K Three/Fours:** December was a wonderful month filled with tons of winter

activities. We studied **"Snow"** and **"Family Traditions."** We have enjoyed many different activities in the snow these last few weeks! They included building snowmen, making snow angels, and of course catching the occasional snow flake on our tongue.

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 are really looking forward to our upcoming field trip on **Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>** to see "Curious George and The Boat Show" at MiSci in Schenectady.

We look forward to another month of fun and learning!

Happy birthday to **A, S** and **J**.

- **Brittany, Stephanie & Becca**

**Pre-K Fours:** December was so busy! The children enjoyed making their holiday gifts for you. We hope you enjoyed getting them!

Thank you to W's mom and dad for coming in to make the hot chocolate creations, and to H's mom for being a Mystery Reader. Our Mystery Reader calendar is empty. We have enjoyed the parents, grandparent, siblings and former students coming in to read to us. So sign up to come in!

This January we will be learning about **"Winter"** and **"Hibernation."** We will also work on number and letter recognition.

Our next field trip is on **January 23** to the MiSci in Schenectady. We will leave at 9:00 and return by noon. Please sign-up if you can drive. We appreciate your help!

Happy birthday to **L, W & E**.

**Happy New Year!**

- **Tara, Sherry & Angie**

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### Important Dates

**Jan. 15** - BPS is closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**Jan. 17** - Scholastic Book Orders Due

**Jan.23 Pre-k classes - field trip**

**Feb. 12 - The Next Step: Becoming a**

**Kindergartener** - workshop at BPS 6pm