

# BKS' Monthly Newsletter

# Lesson Plans



January 2022

Dear friends,

It's hard to believe that we are beginning a new year. It would be an understatement to say that last year continued to be an uncomfortable and disruptive time. The current surge of the omicron variant of Covid-19 has been difficult to navigate. Like the broader society, we face staffing shortages, and absences due to infections and quarantines. With all of this difficulty, the opening of a new year allows me the opportunity to look back and see what we have done together for our students.

BKS continues to focus on our three strategic priorities: 1) High Quality Outcomes for all children; 2) Foster strong relationships with parents and our community; and, 3) Cultivating an adult culture of learning and inquiry. We believe that by focusing on the fundamentals we can provide the highest quality education to our students.

We have expanded our enrichment program, our Music & Movement Program, to offer violin and tennis, but also to include yoga, mindfulness, and dance. We are working to address the gap in math learning through a new partnership with Math Shelf. We continue to provide an expanded curriculum that includes both play and STEAM-learning (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Mathematics).

I continue to be grateful for your commitment to BKS and our work. I want to thank you for your continued support of BKS and our work to provide the highest possible education to some of central Brooklyn's youngest learners. Thank you for helping BKS live its core values of collaboration, commitment, creativity, community, and compassion. All of us at BKS wish you a Happy New Year!

Together, good things are happening at BKS.

Regards,

Melisha Jackman  
Executive Director

"Children are not things to be moulded, but people to be unfolded."

- Jess Lair

## This is how we teach literacy at BKS

**Literacy in our "Seahorse Classroom."** After hearing the story *Conga Crocodile*, the children learned many things:

*Phonics:* They recognize the beginning letter in the words and are able to tell you that "C" is for Conga that's a type of drum, and that "C" is also for Crocodile that likes to bang on his conga drum. "B" is for bang, "B" is for boy, and "B" is for ball; "D" for drum, and "D" for dance.

*Literature:* Identify story-related events, by discussing with each other and recounting the story, as they look at the photos. They also match the picture. Lastly, children put the story in the sequence of how the story happened.

*Conversation:* Children talk about what is happening in the picture and whether they are right or wrong with the sequence or if they are correctly matched based on the scenery of the picture.

Below: Photo from our "Seahorse classroom" at our Nat Azarow Children's Center.



**SUPPORT BKS TODAY!**

## Our Music & Movement Program in action!

Below are photos showing our students learning violin, playing tennis, and even learning about sheet music.





**BKS' Music & Movement Program supports our students' cognitive, emotional, and social development as well as the physical development of their fine and gross motor skills.**

In April, we re-introduced our Music & Movement enrichment programs at all 7 Centers. Our students receive both violin and tennis lessons twice a week. We had to suspend those for a year during the height of the pandemic. BKS' Movement & Music Program is supported through private donors and the proceeds from our annual [Yuletide Ball](#).

We are greatly enhancing our Music & Movement program with the introduction of our Sensory Gym in 2022, which will offer our students occupational, physical, and speech therapy. Your support will allow BKS to expand this program to include yoga, dance, and other mindfulness techniques in an effort to address some of the learning and developmental delays caused by the pandemic.

BKS is proud to currently partner with the Noel Pointer Foundation and the Kings County Tennis League.

If you would like to support BKS' Movement & Music Program, you can give using this [link](#).

**BKS is working to address the math learning gap!**



Only 48% of low income children are ready for school at age five. BKS has made eliminating early math inequities a priority. BKS students learning early numeracy, counting, & other math skills with our Math Shelf partnership. Math Shelf is a Montessori-inspired evidence-based learning tool. We are thankful for Math Shelf grant which enables BKS to bring this powerful and fun learning tool to our classrooms.

**SUPPORT BKS TODAY!**

**Haven't seen the Yuletide Ball virtual toast?**

You can watch it [here](#).



BKS 101st Yuletide Ball Virtual Toast

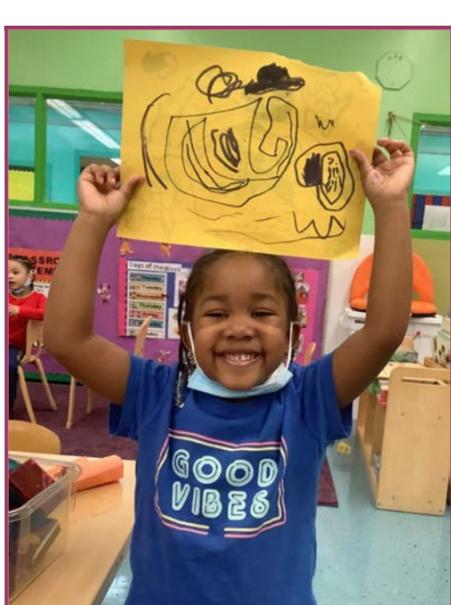
**XTEND  
BARRE**



**BROOKLYN  
KINDERGARTEN  
SOCIETY**  
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION  
SINCE 1891

Xtend Barre Brooklyn once again supported BKS through this holiday season to replenish the supplies and toys at our centers. Thank you for your support again this year!

**SUPPORT BKS TODAY!**



These are pictures of our students; learning, playing, expressing themselves through art, movement, and importantly, practicing mindfulness.

If you are an Amazon shopper, your every click and purchase could generate revenue for BKS. You can

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If you or your business would be interested in supporting BKS and our students or if you would like information on how to partner with BKS, please contact John Linder at [jlinder@bksny.org](mailto:jlinder@bksny.org).

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**Our mailing address is:**

Brooklyn Kindergarten Society  
25 Chapel St., Suite 900  
Brooklyn, NY 11201-1916

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