



# Odyssey Preparatory Academy

1350 Wyoming Drive S.E. • Palm Bay, Florida 32909 • 321-345-4117

## SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER

“Committed to academic excellence and the education of the whole child”

### OUR MISSION FOR EVERY CHILD

The mission of Odyssey Charter School is to work in partnership with the family and community, with the aim of helping each child reach their full potential in all areas of life. We seek to educate the whole child with the understanding that each person must achieve a balance of intellectual, emotional, physical, spiritual and social skills as a foundation for life.

### CALENDAR

#### MARCH

- 3/30 – Odyssey Board of Directors Meeting – 4:30
- 3/31 – National Elementary Honors Society Induction Ceremony

#### APRIL

##### *Mission & Vision Month – How can we give back?*

- 4/5 – 3rd Grade FSA Reading Assessment
- 4/6 – 3rd Grade FSA Reading Assessment
- 4/7 – 4th & 5th Grade FSA Writing Assessment
- 4/15 – No School Good Friday
- 4/22 – Earth Day
- 4/29 – Early Release Day - Dress Out of Uniform
- 4/29 – Quarter 4 Interim Report Cards Sent Home
- 4/30 – Annual 5K

#### MAY

- 5/2 – 5/6 – Teacher Appreciation Week
- 5/3 – 4th & 5th Grade FSA Reading Assessment
- 3rd Grade FSA Math Assessment
- 5/4 - 4th & 5th Grade FSA Reading Assessment
- 3rd Grade FSA Math Assessment
- 5/5 - 4th & 5th Grade FSA Math Assessment
- 5/6 - 4th & 5th Grade FSA Math Assessment
- 5/12 – Parents as Partners meeting
- 5/12 – 4th Grade Wax Museum Showcase
- 5/16 – 5th Grade Science Assessment
- Odyssey Board of Directors Meeting – 4:30
- 5/17 – 5th Grade Science Assessment
- 5/23 – 5th Grade Stepping Up Ceremony – 6:00
- 5/26 – Last Day of School/ Report Cards Sent Home
- 5/27 – Last Day for Teachers
- 5/30 – Memorial Day – Holiday for All

#### SUMMER

- 6/7-6/30 – Summer School Mon-Thurs (select students)
- 7/13 – Mandatory Registration for the 2022/2023 school year from 10-6 in cafeteria

**Casual Dress Days** –4/29, 5/27

### From the Desk of the Principal, Ms. Miedona

It is hard to believe that April is upon us all ready. I hope you and your families had a restful spring break. As you can see in this newsletter, we have been extremely busy on and off campus this second semester. In addition, we have many things planned as the year comes to an end. Please continue to keep informed via Blackboard and on Facebook. With only a few months left of school, it is extremely important that your child attends school each and every day, ready to learn. The school day begins promptly at 8:00 with morning announcements. If it is at all possible, try to schedule dentist and doctor appointments for early release Fridays so that instruction is not lost. Thank you for the support you provide to partner with us educating your child!

As always, I am available at any time via telephone or email at [miedonas@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:miedonas@odysseyprepacademy.com) or at 321-372-7263 (OPA) or 321-408-9549 (cell).

**Shelly Miedona Ed.S., Principal**

### Volunteering at OPA

Please visit the following link to register for volunteer hours. <http://odysseyprepacademy.com/Volunteer.html> We appreciate all the help our volunteers provide our teachers and students and would love your support for the remainder of the school year. Please contact Angela Tudor by calling 321-372-7263 or emailing her at [tudora@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:tudora@odysseyprepacademy.com). You must be fingerprinted.

In addition, we are looking for volunteers to help us with the annual 5K in April. Please contact Coach Badrak to assist at [badrakk@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:badrakk@odysseyprepacademy.com).

Looking for volunteers for Teacher appreciation week May 2-6, please contact [tudeora@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:tudeora@odysseyprepacademy.com) to donate or volunteer for this week's events.

You can also earn volunteer hours by participating in our Read Aloud Program.

### SCHOOL-BASED LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Ms. Constance Ortiz, Founder
- Ms. Shelly Miedona, Principal
- Mr. Mike Davis, Assistant Principal
- Mr. Sean Antonio, Guidance
- Ms. Kim Cappelen, Behavior Tech
- Ms. Marie Cimirro, Instructional Coach
- Ms. Leslie Guevara, Instructional Coach
- Ms. Emily Dent, STEAM Coordinator
- Ms. Nancy Gervais, Registrar



## Read Aloud Program

The Read Aloud Program is a wonderful way for parents to fulfill their volunteer hours while supporting students academically, socially, and emotionally. In 1983, the U.S. Department of Education report "Becoming a Nation of Readers" found that, "the single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children." To participate in the Read Aloud program, parents should spend at least 15 minutes reading aloud literature to their child that is about two grades above their independent reading level. For more information about the importance of reading aloud to your child, please visit Jim Trelease's web site at: <http://www.trelease-on-reading.com/> or you can visit our website at <http://odysseyprepacademy.com/read-aloud.html>.

Parents are invited to check out books from our Media Center for their Read Alouds. Please feel free to contact Kyleigh Gross at [grossk@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:grossk@odysseyprepacademy.com) if you have any questions or concerns.



## From our Instructional Coaches

Elementary students have access to iReady, Reflex Math and Study Island/Discovery Science online programs to support instruction in the Florida State Standards. iReady provides individualized online instruction that targets each student's individual needs in reading and math.

- Students are encouraged to utilize iReady for 45 minutes per week on both reading and math to progress toward their expected annual growth.
- Students are encouraged to use Reflex Math which is an online program that provides students with practice with math fluency in addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.
- Discovery Science (all grades) provides practice for students in science concepts and supports science instruction taking place in the classroom.

For our 3rd-5th students, the Florida Standards Assessment will be taking place in April and May. Our teachers and staff have worked very hard this year to ensure our students are prepared and will feel confident for the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA). Here are some strategies for success when taking the FSA:

- Get a good night's rest
- Eat a healthy, protein-rich breakfast in the morning
- Communicate in a positive manner the day of the test so students arrive to school calm and settled
- FSA Parent Portal is a good resource for you and provides some practice tests and information that may help you and your child feel more at ease. <https://fsassessments.org/users/students-and-families.stml>

## Title I Corner- Mike Davis

As we finish up this school year, we would like your input on events for next year that OPA families think would be beneficial to helping support your Olympians. Any ideas or suggestions, please email Mr. Davis at [davism@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:davism@odysseyprepacademy.com). Don't forget that our PFEP (Parent and Family Engagement plan and School Improvement Plan) are on our website and you can view anytime.

## Summer Camp is Coming!

Join us for Odyssey's STEAM Summer Camp – A Journey of Exploration! Camp kicks off on our OCS Elementary Eldron campus June 6th with fun and exploration. Each week, campers ages 3-12, will experience a different STEAM-based theme and will enjoy fun, hands-on learning in their grade level groups, arts & crafts, and sports. Camp activities are 8:00am – 3:30pm, however, the camp day includes Before & After Care option with our Monday-Friday hours being 6:30am-6:00pm for our families' convenience. Summer meals of breakfast and lunch will continue to be included, and are made from scratch in our Healthy Café with a focus on healthy, organically-sourced components that meet or exceed USDA nutritional standards. For more information, email Ms. Hartwick at [HartwickA@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:HartwickA@odysseycharterschool.com) or Ms. Nina Lucchini-Memoli at [LucchiniN@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:LucchiniN@odysseycharterschool.com) or call 321-733-0442 ext. 214. Summer fun awaits!



Testing Windows	Assessment	Subject	Grade
4/5-4/6 (makeups to 4/14)	FSA-R	Reading	3
4/7 (makeups to 4/14)	FSA-W	Writing	4 & 5
5/3-5/4 (makeups to 5/13)	FSA-R	Reading	4 & 5
5/5-5/6 (makeups to 5/13)	FSA-M	Math	3, 4 & 5
5/16-5/17 (makeups to 5/20)	NGSSS	Science	5

Finally, the link below will bring you to the Parent Guides for the Florida B.E.S.T. English Language Arts standards.

<https://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/just-read-fl/parent-guides-for-english-language-arts.stml>

If you need support with any of the programs, contact your child's teachers or our instructional coaches, Ms. Cimirro, [cimirror@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:cimirror@odysseyprepacademy.com); or Mrs. Guevara, [guevaral@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:guevaral@odysseyprepacademy.com)

## Substitutes

We are always looking for parents or community members to join our OPA family. We are in need of great, positive, and driven individuals looking to make an impact in our Olympians daily scholastic goals. If you are interested in joining our team as a substitute, please contact Nancy Gervais at [gervaisn@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:gervaisn@odysseyprepacademy.com). Training is provided.



## Survey Results

We would like to thank all who completed our recent surveys (parents, students, teachers/staff). Below are some of our results and some proposed actions.

**STUDENT SURVEY:** Our students shared that they feel their teachers and administrators care for them and want them to be successful. Students expressed that they would like their teachers and administrators to ask them about their school and what would make it better. They would like the addition of some foods to the café (strawberries, watermelon, avocado) which we plan to try to acquire and add to the menu. Students also expressed concern about some students being unkind to one another and to teachers/ staff. We will be encouraging more classroom meetings to help all children develop the important social/emotional skills needed to be successful.

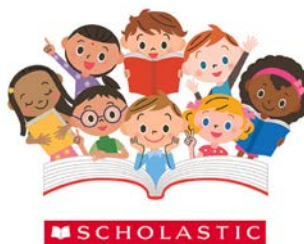
**PARENT SURVEY:** Our parent surveys indicate that they want to be informed and involved and have clear communication from the school and teachers. We are working to set a clear standard for communication to ensure that families know what is happening and how their children are doing in class as they move from grade level to grade level. The school will continue to use Blackboard as our primary communication tool (email, text, phone) and will encourage all families to provide accurate information. Now that COVID concerns have eased up, we will be having more opportunities for families to be involved (lunch, field trips, FSA hallway monitors, volunteering).

## Counseling Corner – Mr. Antonio

As we get ready to face the last quarter of the school year, let us focus on the things that our students have learned. From that standpoint, parents and teachers in a collaborative effort, should continue to build on the student’s strengths, and work on the areas (academically, emotionally) in which the student may potentially struggle. Giving clear directions and positive feedback will be significant towards the child’s learning. Also, please put forth good effort to associate schoolwork to the student’s interest. Students are more motivated to comply academically when assignments are presented to them in a stimulating and positive way. Motivation is key for success. Parents and teachers utilizing a positive approach will help students to be successful as there is a need or drive that energizes their behavior towards their specific goal. Furthermore, parents and teachers collaborating effectively on the progress of their learner will help alleviate the role parents play in their child’s academic success. Let’s face everything and rise (fear), and instill the same attitude in our students to end the school year on a positive note!

## Scholastic Book Fair

Our Spring Scholastic Book Fair is coming soon! Our theme for this book fair will be Books Bring Us Together and will be starting on April 22nd- April 29th. Our family event will be held on Thursday April 28th from 4:30-6:30 pm. Parents can create an eWallet,-a cashfree way to shop the book fair- for their students by using the below link.



<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/cptoolkit/homepage.do?method=homepage&url=odysseyprepacademy>

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Angela Tudor at [tudora@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:tudora@odysseyprepacademy.com)

## WE ARE GROWING AND HIRING!

We are looking for committed, talented and community-minded men and women who care for and value children to join our Odyssey family.

**TEACHERS:** Elementary and Secondary Certified Teachers Those interested, please email Dr. Monica Knight at [mknight@greenappleschools.com](mailto:mknight@greenappleschools.com) and/or [employment@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:employment@odysseycharterschool.com)

**TEACHING ASSISTANTS:** Elementary Those interested, please email Mr. Mike Davis at [davism@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:davism@odysseyprepacademy.com) and/or [employment@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:employment@odysseycharterschool.com)

**GUIDANCE:** OCS ELEM (Full Time) Those interested, please email Dr. Monica Knight at [mknight@greenappleschools.com](mailto:mknight@greenappleschools.com) and/or [employment@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:employment@odysseycharterschool.com)

**SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS:** Elementary and Secondary Substitute Teachers. Those interested, please email Ms. Shelly Miedona (OPA) at [miedonas@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:miedonas@odysseycharterschool.com) and Ms. Gayle Iacono (JrSr) at [iaconog@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:iaconog@odysseycharterschool.com)

**CAFÉ:** Cashiers, Serving Line, Food Prep, and Line Cooks (Part-time) Those interested, please email [ChapmanC@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:ChapmanC@odysseycharterschool.com) or [employment@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:employment@odysseycharterschool.com)

**BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL CARE:** Group leaders (Part-time) Those interested, please email [HartwickA@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:HartwickA@odysseycharterschool.com) or [LucchiniN@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:LucchiniN@odysseycharterschool.com) or [employment@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:employment@odysseycharterschool.com)

**TRANSPORTATION:** Bus Drivers (Full-time 37.5 hours a week) Those interested, please email Ms. Rosie Greer at [GreerR@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:GreerR@odysseycharterschool.com) and [employment@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:employment@odysseycharterschool.com)

**VOLUNTEERS:** We would love to have some committed volunteers to support our café during lunch (10am-1pm) to help provide supervision and support to students so our teachers can enjoy a duty-free lunch every day. If interested, please reach out to Angela Tudor at [tudeora@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:tudeora@odysseyprepacademy.com)



## RECENT EVENTS & PHOTOS

### South Brevard Elementary Science Fair Winners

Dahlia Young- 2nd Place in Animal Sciences AND BFT Girls in STEM Award

Jude Rettemnier- 2nd Place in Engineering Mechanics

Elena Mirabal- 1st Place in Mathematics

Abigail Rhodes- Lockheed Martin Innovative Computer Science Award



Farmer Ian helping our garden grow.



Kindergarten and 2nd grade book buddies talking about their favorite books!



2nd Grade Learning about money!



4th and 5th grade Math Bowl with OCS lower campus



2nd grade Barrier Island Trip



4th Grade visit St. Augustine



Students work collaboratively on research papers exploring the effects of global warming on coastal populations

## Parents as Partners

Parents as Partners (PasP) is a collaborative effort between parents, teachers, and administrators. The committee develops ideas and plans programs to support student success. Mrs. Angela Tudor and Mrs. Allison Mosquera are the co-chair persons of this very important partnership. Please join us at our next meeting on May 12, 2022 @ 5:00 p.m. in the Media Center. If you have any questions please contact Angela Tudor at [tudora@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:tudora@odysseyprepacademy.com). This meeting will be to prepare and build our partnership for the next school year.

## SUMMER REGISTRATION

### Required Final Registration

#### Save the Date!

Mandatory 22-23 Summer Registration for all new and returning OPA Students – Final Summer Registration:

**Wednesday July 13, 2022 from 10 am – 6:00 pm** in our school cafeteria.

During final summer registration you will be able to sign up for bussing, speak to staff about our aftercare program, sign up for Kindergarten pre-testing, pay your student fees and complete final paperwork needed.

If you returned all of your demographic pre-registration paperwork and received an "OPA Fast Pass" this time will be shortened considerably. If you will be unable to come to the registration due to a previous commitment please contact the front office to set up an appointment to come in during our summer hours (8-2) Monday – Thursday and pick up a registration packet to be completed and pay the student fees.

Any questions please contact our registrar Mrs. Nancy Gervais at [gervais@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:gervais@odysseyprepacademy.com) or our front office assistant Mrs. Angela Tudor at [tudora@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:tudora@odysseyprepacademy.com)

#### Grievance Procedures

- Step 1: Request Teacher conference to clarify issue
- Step 2: Contact the Site Administrator if unresolved with the teacher
- Step 3: \*\*Contact Board Designated Parent Representative, Amber Miller
- Step 4: Contact the President of the Governing Board
- Step 5: Present issue at the next monthly Board Meeting if unresolved
- Step 6: Seek mediation with the Sponsor

\*\* The Representative to Facilitate Parental Involvement, provide access to information, assist parents and others with questions and concerns, and resolve disputes according to charter requirements, will be determined by the OCS Board of Directors at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year.