

Odyssey Charter School

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

FALL 2021 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

Full year student calendar can be viewed here: <http://odysseyprepacademy.com/Student-Calendar.pdf>

Casual Dress Days – last Friday of each month (October 29, November 26, December 17, January 28, February 25, March 25, April 29, May 20).

NOVEMBER

- 11/6 Homecoming
- 11/10 Veterans’ Day Event
- 11/11 Veterans’ Day / Holiday for All
- 11/12 Second Interim Ends
- 11/18 OCS Board Meeting
- 11/19 Interim Reports Issued
- 11/24 –26 Thanksgiving – Holiday for all

DECEMBER

- 12/17-21 Exam Days / Early Release
- 12/22-31 Winter Break

JANUARY

- 1/6 Students Return
- 1/3 Holiday for All
- 1/4-5 Winter Break

From the desk of Principal Iacono...

There is one thing I know for sure...time passes fast when you are enjoying working with amazing students, staff, parents, and community partners! I want to share that I really appreciate and am thankful for the opportunity to be a part of the Odyssey family. I know that the Opening of the 2021-2022 school year was not exactly how we visualized it because of the continued challenges brought by the pandemic, but we have and will continue to build relationships with all our stakeholders. Soon, I look forward to inviting our parents into our facility so that we can work in partnership more often together to grow our learning community. I have an open-door policy, so please reach out to me at any time.

With completion of a successful 1st quarter, our mission will continue to focus on developing the whole child. At all times, I emphasize the importance of respect of self, others, and our school. As Principal, I do support and understand that each of our students need to achieve a balance of intellectual, emotional, physical, spiritual, and social skills as a foundation for life. For this reason, we offer our students opportunities to accelerate in their curricular courses, join athletic teams, lead clubs, and enjoy diving in to work on community service projects.

Make sure you check our calendar for important occasions that are just around the corner. It includes testing, upcoming events and holidays. You can see what our students and staff have been accomplishing in and outside of our school immediately. I am also thrilled, as I assume you are as well, that Odyssey Charter School remains an A+ School and has met the criteria for high performing charter school status for the 2021-2022 school year.

Go Titans!!



Bowling

Congratulations to our Brevard district runner-up Lady Titan Varsity Bowling team heading to State ONCE AGAIN!

We are so proud of you! Way to show your Titan Pride in the classroom and on the lanes! Gooooo TITANS!

Special thanks to Ms. Amanda, head coach, and all the families that support these amazing ladies.



Title I Corner

Odyssey Charter School is a Title I school holding the highest academic expectations for your child. Title I documents are available online for your review and are accessible at www.odysseycharterschool.com under the "about us" section under school reports: <http://odysseycharterschool.com/reports.html>.

Odyssey Charter School es una escuela de Título I que tiene las expectativas académicas más altas para su estudiante. Los documentos del Título I están disponibles en línea para su revisión y son accesibles en www.odysseycharterschool.com en la sección "acerca de nosotros" en los informes escolares: <http://odysseycharterschool.com/reports.html>.



Healthy Café and Wellness

We believe that fresh, seasonal, local, sustainable grown foods are a primary and recommended source of nutrition for growing, high-achieving children and we offer these FREE daily in our healthy café

at breakfast and lunch times. YES, WE SAID FREE. This year, Odyssey students all qualify for free breakfast and lunch. So please help your child take advantage of our great food. We believe it enhances our students' academic and behavioral development. You can find our wellness policy and menus on our website at <https://www.odysseycharterjrjr.com/cafe-tertia-balance-viewer>

Please remember to send healthy snacks to school with your children.

Space Coast Art Festival

Titans had a great showing at the Space Coast Art Fest! Special congratulations to 8th grader Angelique Muller who won 3rd place in the fair with her beautiful painting of hands in nature (her artwork has a yellow ribbon on it). Thank you to our amazing art teacher, Ms. Reilly, for supporting these blooming visual artist.



Bus Transportation

Odyssey Charter Schools provides bus transportation to students who live between two and four miles from the school – more miles might be allotted as per established bus routes. Bus registration is online this year and computers be available during summer registration. Each student is allowed one designated bus stop. Changes to assigned routes or bus transportation needs will not be permitted until a new registration form is completed by a parent/guardian with proper ID completes a new registration form.

Here is a snapshot of the enhanced Transportation Services for the 2021-2022 school year:

- For the safety of our bus drivers and all students, students are highly encouraged to wear a mask during bus routes
- Any students with an elevated temperature will be seated in the designated area in the front, parents will be contacted, and students will be picked up from the school.
- Siblings will sit together during all routes
- Please be mindful and practice good hygiene and manners.

The Farm

Titans in our Agricultural class learned about Integrated Pest Management just in time as we've been having an infestation of tomato hornworms. Students are preparing many crops for our annual Odyssey Harvest Festival - carrots, lettuce, tomatoes, sun flowers, and more!



Masks

We are happy to see the COVID numbers declining and hope we will continue to see the numbers reduce. Just a reminder that masks are optional, but are highly encouraged on buses and in small group settings.

Rotary Club

Thank you Palm Bay Rotary Club for "Adopting" Wyoming Drive! 72 students along with Rotary Club Members, Principal Iacono, Mr. Rebman, Ms. Garcia, and parents worked together to clean up Wyoming Drive as a community project. We look forward to participating in more community service projects in the near future. Thank you to their Sponsors, Mr. Rebman and Ms. Garcia, and all involved, for influencing these young people to becoming valuable members of our society.

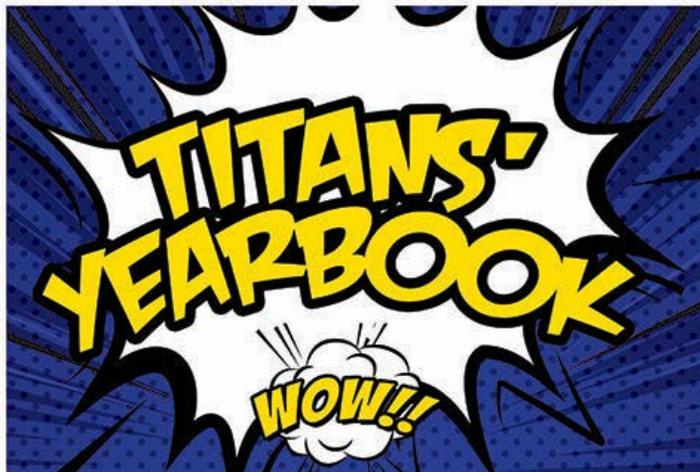


DEPARTMENT NEWS

ELECTIVE CORNER

Gaming

In Mr. Donte's class students are modeling a 3D treasure chest using normal maps, getting ready for their virtual reality tour and programming a Galaxy Shooter Asteroids game.



Yearbook

Yearbook staff needs your help!

Help us make our Titan Yearbook fun by participating in this quick student survey about YOU.

Use the QR code on the right or click on the survey link here: <https://forms.gle/MBB3CVr-WReBRsRbY9>



If you would like to submit photos for yearbook of yourself, your friends, or your class, send them with your name, grade, and a caption to Mrs. Oakes at oakesj@odysseycharterschool.com.

All photos must be taken at school with teacher permission if it's during a class.

Last year we sold out of our yearbook so make sure you order yours early! Click on the link below:

<https://www.balfour.com/student-info?smi=107864>

Commercial Art

Students in Commercial Art are learning how to create graphic design projects like animations, vector illustration portraits, mobile apps, and building the Titan yearbook.



Visual Arts

Students in Mrs. Reilly's art class are fired up about the new ceramics class where they created unique and beautiful pinch and coil pots.



MUSIC NOTES

Band

Marching band is working on their 2021 Marching Show "A Night At The Movies". Beginning band is learning notes and rhythms in preparation for the Winter Concert, and the older groups are honing their skills in order to prepare intricate music for the 2021 Winter Concert.



Musical Theater

The 2021-2022 drama program is conquering many big projects this year. Not only are we performing Beauty and the Beast as our spring musical, we are also staging a fall student-directed one-act titled "Me, Myselfie, and I." Both of these projects have students in leadership positions to ensure the growth and progression of the program is led by responsible and professional youth. Our program strives to help Odyssey students step out of their comfort zone in a safe, secure environment in order to grow as performers and as people.

Keyboarding

In keyboarding students are learning to play the piano and have already performed for their classes multiple times. First-year students are now preparing to play level 1 songs with a metronome, and advanced keyboarding students are learning how to read chord charts and create variations and improvisations. A few are preparing for MPA solo, and all will be performing in a piano recital in the spring.

Orchestra

Beginning orchestra is currently working on music for our annual winter performance "Carol of the Bells". Advanced orchestra is currently working on music to perform selections from "The Nightmare Before Christmas" and "Winter" from Antonio Vivaldi's Four Seasons.



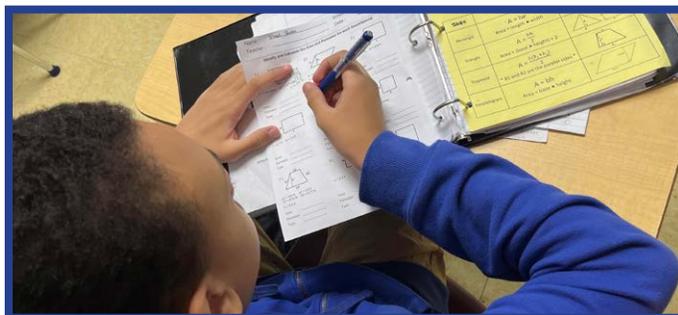
ACADEMIC CORNER

Math

Mrs. Padilla's 9th grade Algebra class is practicing with solving and graphing inequalities (left photo). Mrs. Farrell's 7th grade advance students are working on linear vs. non-linear functions in small groups (right photo).



Mrs. Bailey's students are singing a fraction song project and designed a geometry project and Mrs. Valladares students are learning areas and figuring out the different types of shapes.



Science

Mr. Nicholson's 8th grade Science class has been hard at work learning about the Periodic Table and chemistry. On this day students matched question cards with answer cards using their Periodic Tables.





Students in Ms. Guslawski's Science class prepping for an experiment.

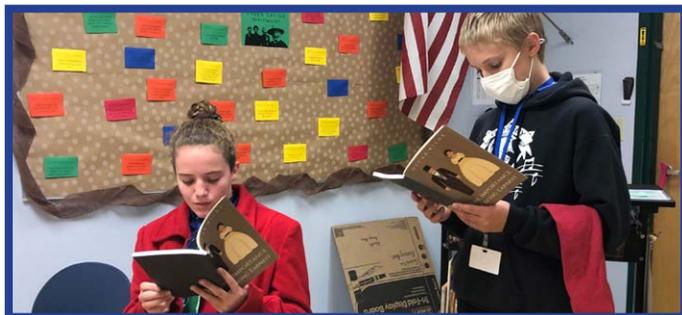
Civics

In a district with thousands of 7th grade students, only a handful earned perfect scores on the Florida State Civics exam and three of them were from Odyssey. State Representative Randy Fine presented awards to these students in their classroom. Thank you to teachers, Mr. Rebman and Ms. Garcia for making this happen.



English / Language Arts

Students who are lucky enough to have Mrs. Holmes for their English teacher learn about "The Importance of Being Earnest" with props and costumes. These student-actors learned about satire in Oscar Wilde's play by acting it out.



SENIOR CORNER



Senior Painted Parking Spots

Attention seniors who would like to paint their parking spot...The painting dates will be November 6th, 13th, and 20th from 9:00-11:00. The cost is \$35 and includes parking pass and parking spot. Designs must be pre approved by Admin. Please see Ms. Amanda for forms.

Senior Formal Photos

ALL seniors must have their formal photos taken at Dean Stewart Photography NO LATER THAN January 7th to have them appear in the Titan yearbook! **Don't miss this deadline!** Go to this link for info: <https://www.dsp-photo.com/Senior-Portraits.html>



SAT Testing

The next SAT test date is Nov. 6th. Last registration deadline was October 8th. If you missed it you can still register for the Dec. 4th test by Nov. 4th or the March 12th test can be registered by Feb. 11th. See the flyers posted in the hallways for more info and test dates offered in the spring semester.

ACT Testing

The next ACT test date is Dec. 11th and must be registered by Nov 5th. The one after that is Feb. 12th with a registration date by Jan. 7th. See the flyers posted in the hallways for more info and test dates offered in the spring semester.

Homecoming

This year's Homecoming dance, Enchanted Evening, will be held in the gym on Saturday, November 6th from 7-10pm. Tickets are \$20 for 1 and \$35 for 2. Tickets will be sold until Nov 1st. The attire is semi-formal and the dance is for **High School students only.**



Social Emotional Fitness

Help better yourself and others to give and spread positivity and kindness. Contact Ms. Moccia in room 216 to sign up for meetings held on Thursdays at 8:15.

E-Sports at Odyssey

New members are still being accepted into Odyssey's E-Sports program. If you want to compete, the admission cost is \$20 and jerseys must be worn. Still accepting sales on jerseys for \$25 and masks for \$8. See Mr. Donte in 242 for more information.

Monday is Smash Bros. @ 4:08-5:30
Thursday is Overwatch @ 4:08-6:15
Friday is all teams @ 2:45-4:30



Need Extra Help ?

Finish Friday

Odyssey Charter Jr/Sr High School will continue the Finish Friday program for this school year. Finish Friday occurs every Friday after school from 2:45-4:00pm in the TLC. Students are expected to be on time and are required to stay until dismissed at 4:00pm. Bus transportation will not be provided, so please make arrangements for students to be picked up at the car loop at 4:00pm.

This is an excellent opportunity for students to finish strong for the week by completing missing assignments and making up tests, and also by providing access to technology. Students may attend voluntarily; however, in some cases a student will be invited by their teacher to attend. Parents and students will be notified by their teacher via email or phone call if they are required to attend Finish Friday.

Success Saturdays

Are you behind on your work? Do you need more instruction? Come to Success Saturdays!! We meet on Saturday mornings at 9am and you leave at 11:30am. You can get assistance in Math, English, Social Studies (History and Civics) and English. You need to arrive no later than 9:30am. This is an excellent way of getting caught up in your classes or getting extra help on current assignments. Please enter through the back doors where I will be doing temperature checks! Any additional questions may be directed to Ms. Irving via email at irvingr@odysseycharterschool.com.



Please Bring Water Bottles

We have replaced all of our water fountains with water refilling stations. Please make sure you are sending your teen with a refillable water bottle each day in order to stay hydrated throughout the day.

Important Weblinks

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) requires for schools to provide parents with an annual school status report at the beginning of each school year. The Odyssey Charter School Report Card can be accessed via the link below

<https://edudata.fldoe.org/ReportCards/Schools.html?school=6507&district=05>

The Odyssey Parent/Student Handbook, School Improvement Plan, and Parent and Family Engagement Plan can be found on the school's website at <http://www.odysseycharterschool.com/reports>

Grievance Procedures

- Step 1: Request Teacher conference to clarify issue
- Step 2: Contact Principal if unresolved with the teacher
- Step 3: **Contact Board Designated Parent Representative
- 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

**Ms. Cindy Gilmore has been designated by the OCS Board of Directors as 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. Ms. Gilmore can be reached at cgilmore@greenappleschools.com or 321-676-8737.

Black History Club

Are you interested in learning about African American heritage, culture and historical contributions? If so come be a part of Odyssey's Black History Club. Meetings will be held every 1st and 3rd Wednesday morning from 8:15-8:45 in the TLC.

See Mrs. Lewis for details.

