

Odyssey Charter School

OCS Elementary Campus

1755 Eldron Blvd. S.E. • Palm Bay, Florida 32909 • 321-733-0442

SUMMER 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.

OCS ELEMENTARY LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Ms. Constance Ortiz, Founder
- Ms. Wend Nolder, Principal
- Ms. Deb Berg, Assistant Principal
- Ms. James Monds, Assistant Principal/Dean
- Ms. Brittany Powell, Guidance
- Ms. DeAnna Bernardo, Instructional Coach
- Mr. Mike Senick, Instructional Coach
- Ms. Amanda Gayle, Instructional Coach
- Ms. Suzette Ventura, GATEway
- Ms. Kristina Snelling, Office Manager/Registrar
- Ms. Amy White, Director, Preschool/VPK and Before & After School Care

CALENDAR

Odyssey Schools follow the Brevard School Calendar

| | |
|--------|---------------------------------------|
| 7/16 | Summer Registration (10 am - 6:30 pm) |
| 8/ 2-9 | Preplanning |
| 8/10 | First day of school (1st-5th and VPK) |
| 8/14 | First day of Kindergarten |
| 8/26 | Board of Directors Meeting 4:30 pm |

Welcome Back from our Principal, Ms. Wendi Nolder:

Dear Odyssey Titan Families,

We hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer and that you are relaxed, recharged and ready to start a new, and more normal, school year. As a reminder, our Odyssey Charter School Board has determined that masks are optional as of June 1, 2021. If your family desires your child(ren) to wear a mask, you must provide them. Our team is delighted that your family is part of our school community and we look forward to welcoming each and every Titan scholar back in August. We look forward to seeing each and every one of you during the school year at our meet and greet events, open house, family education evenings, and arrival and dismissal.

All signs point to an incredible and productive school year. Our skilled and devoted staff is already planning and preparing for your return. Our enthusiastic office team is registering our families, ordering needed materials and updating student files. Our hard working and conscientious custodians have spent the entire summer thoroughly cleaning the facility. We are indeed a joyous and caring community committed to the common goals nurturing responsible, caring, balanced students and promoting high-level learning.

Thank you to all who are helping prepare for the new school year. Our final registration takes place on Friday, July 16, from 10am-7pm. We eagerly look forward to seeing you there. Please check out the calendar of important dates above. Your commitment to Odyssey Charter School is inspiring and much appreciated. It remains an honor and privilege to serve your family. Together, I know we will make this school year one of growth and achievement for all children.

Warmest Regards,

Welcome New Titan Team Members

Each year brings positive change and this includes a few additions to our staff. We are delighted to welcome Ms. Brittany Powell, our guidance services professional. Brittany brings a solid skill set and a gentle, sensitive approach to meeting children's social and emotional needs. We also are happy to welcome Ms. Amanda Gayle, our new instructional coach, joining our team to support instruction in math/science. Amanda has experience working as a science coach and coordinator as well as working with Lego robotics. In addition, we are excited to welcome Ms. Tori Fritsma, our new ESOL Teacher, who will support our ESOL students at both OCS Elementary and OCS Jr/Sr High. We are, of course, thrilled to welcome some new teachers to our fantastic instructional team.



School Hours

For the 2020-2021 school year, Odyssey Elementary students will begin the day at 8:00am; the school day will end at 2:50pm for K-5th. Our early release dismissals will now be every Friday at 1:30pm for K-5th. We are excited to have our brand new extended car loop and will be sharing the changes in arrival and dismissal at registration. As a reminder our schools follow the Brevard County School calendar which families receive during registration, also available on our website at <http://odysseycharterschool.com/Student-Calendar.pdf>.

Early Release Days

We will continue early release days on Fridays throughout the school year following the same schedule as Brevard County School Board's schedule.

Student Placement

A great deal of time, effort and thought has gone into the process of student placement for the 2021-2022 school year, beginning with input from our teaching staff. Careful consideration was given to their input as well as student learning styles. Classrooms have been balanced academically and socially. Our class lists are structured to provide equitable class sizes at each grade level. Moving students is difficult without causing imbalances and inequities.

Facilities Update

If you drove past the school this summer you can see that we are awaiting permitting to move forward with construction on our new 2nd-5th grade playground. Land clearing has begun and we anticipate the playground's installation in September/October.

Healthy Café and Wellness

We believe that fresh, seasonal, local, sustainably 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 Charter School 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 performance and behavioral development. You can find our wellness policy and menus on our website at <http://odysseycharter-school.com/cafe.html>.



Summer Registration

Required for All Odyssey Elementary Families

Final registration is taking place now through July 16. You can come to the front office between 8am and 3pm Monday through Friday to complete registration. Our Friday July 16 final registration will take place from 10am to 6:30pm.

Please be prepared to complete the following for your student(s):

- Income Verification Form
- Questions Regarding Bus Assignment
- Before and After School Care Registration
- Health Card
- All 'Dress for Success', school conduct, cell phone, technology, and bus behavior agreements
- **Odyssey Charter School Fees 2021-2022 School Year**
Kindergarten through 5th grade - \$15, includes:
 - \$2 Student Data Chat Folders
 - \$2 Writing Journal /Interactive Notebook/Folder
 - \$6 Technology
 - \$5 Student ID & Lanyard

Odyssey Charter School –Supply Lists

Odyssey Charter School grade level supply list will be available during registration on 7/16. The list can also be found on our website, <http://odysseycharterschool.com/supplies.html>.



Parent/Student Handbook

Please take a moment to review our Parent/Student Handbook, It is full of important information for you and your student and is available on our website at <http://odysseycharterschool.com/Parent-Student-Handbook.pdf>.

Clubs/Extra-Curricular

Prospective / Tentative (based on interest)

Our Before and After School Enrichment Program offers a variety of afterschool club opportunities to our students. Look for information to come out in October and January on our available clubs for 2021-2022.

Winter- 2021

- Odyssey of the Mind (Parent Volunteer Coach)
- Chess Club
- Art
- Fit Kids
- Taekwondo
- Legos
- Running Club
- Yoga

Spring- 2022

- Chess Club
- Art
- Spanish
- Glee
- Soccer
- Running
- Taekwondo



Before and After-School Enrichment Programs

We are delighted to offer our Before and After School Enrichment program to our families who need it. Registration forms are available in the front office of Odyssey Charter Elementary School. There is a one-time registration fee of \$25.00 per family. Before and After-Care payments are due every Monday (via check or money order payable to OCS). Please hand in payments at the OCS Front Office. For more information about Before and After-Care Enrichment at Odyssey Charter Elementary School, please contact: Amy White WhiteA@odysseycharterschool.com.

School Age Before-Care

Before-Care begins at 6:00 am. Students participate in art, a variety of team-based games, and social fun. Every student enjoys a healthy breakfast in the café before the school day commences at 7:30am. Registration forms are available in the front offices of Odyssey Charter Elementary School and Odyssey Preparatory Academy. The weekly rate for Before-Care is \$15.00 per week and the daily drop-in rate is \$4.00 per day.

School Age After-Care

After-Care is available to students until 6:30pm each day, and every student is provided a healthy snack. Students are grouped by grade levels and activities include: Yoga, art projects, nature trails, digital learning, and homework support with a certified Odyssey Teacher. The weekly rate for After-Care is \$55.00 per week and the daily drop-in rate is \$12.00 per day.

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 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:

1) Student Grade-Level Identification Cards (IDs). Each Odyssey student will receive one ID card at the start of the school year. Students are required to always carry their IDs with them at all times.

2) Online Student Transportation Registration (eZRouting). eZRouting is an online registration tool to help families sign up for bus transportation annually. This means that you will not have to fill out forms at school to apply for transportation.

3) *New* Student Tracker System (Here comes the bus). This system will give you a “real-time” notification when your student’s bus within 100 yards of the stop. The system will send “real-time” notification to your phone or computer when your student scans his/her ID upon entry to the bus.

Rosie Greer - Fleet Coordinator

greerr@odysseycharterschool.com • 321-338-5187



Summer At-Home Readings



All Odyssey Charter School students are required to read the grade-specific novels(s). The reading list and accompanying assignment was provided to students in late spring and is also available on our website: <http://odysseycharterschool.com/summer-reading.html>. Stop in the front office if you still need your book(s).

Uniform Policy (Grades K-5)

All Odyssey Charter students are required to wear a school uniform. Our uniforms can be purchased from our uniform provider:



All Uniform Wear (Address 4335 W New Haven Ave, West Melbourne, FL 32904). (Note: Please be certain you select Odyssey Charter School uniforms and not Odyssey Preparatory Academy uniforms).

** Discount coupons will be available during Summer Registration at all campuses.*

All students are required to wear full-length solid colored pants, shorts, skirts or skorts. Inappropriately rolling or altering the pants in any way is in direct violation of the dress code. Shorts, skirts and skorts length must be at least mid-thigh.

Pants, shorts, skirts and skorts that are too big or too tight, as determined by Administration, are not acceptable and will be deemed in violation of the uniform code. Joggers are allowed. Jeans, stretch pants, and athletic wear are not allowed. Students may wear solid color leggings under uniform shorts or skorts.

Students must wear an approved t-shirt, collared polo shirt, or dress shirt. Student shirts must be a solid color and in accordance with the individual schools' uniform guide below. All shirts must bear the School logo.

Any attire, including backpacks, displaying gang related paraphernalia or symbols, profanity or any inappropriate logos or displays are strictly prohibited.

All headgear (hats, scarves, bandanas etc.) are prohibited on school property.

Shoes must be closed or be strapped in the back. Flip-flops, slippers, or high heel shoes are prohibited.

If a student chooses or needs to wear a jacket or sweatshirt due to cold weather, it must be a solid color of blue, black, or grey and in accordance with the individual schools' uniform guide.

You can find our uniform policy on our website at <http://odysseycharter-school.com/OCS-Uniform-Policy.pdf>.



Volunteering at OCS

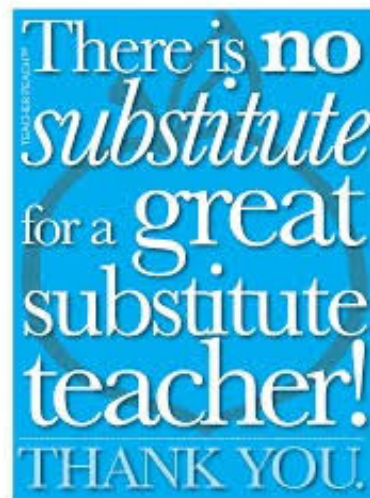
Please go to the Brevard County Schools web page: www.brevardschools.org

- 1) Click the Parents & Students heading.
- 2) Scroll down to Volunteer Information and click on the link
- 3) On the left of the screen, click on the Fingerprint link (The application is at the bottom of the page)
- 4) Complete the Application (\$35 for the first year, \$8 for renewals)
- 5) After completing the Application and payment, please visit: District and School Security - 2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Viera, FL 32940
Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (No appointment necessary)

If you are planning to chaperone any field trip please complete this process as soon as possible so it is completed before any field trips might occur.

Substitutes

We are always looking for parents or community members to join our OCS family. We need positive and driven individuals looking to make an impact in our Titans daily academic goals. Training is provided. If you are interested in joining our team as a substitute, please contact Barbara Marcus at MarcusB@odysseycharterschool.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
- 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 2021-2022 school year.