



Odyssey Charter School

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

FALL 2020 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

Visit <https://www.brevardschools.org/cms/lib/FL02201431/Centricity/Domain/4/2020-202120District20Calendar.pdf> for the calendar for the 2020-2021 school year.

- 10/14 SAT/PSAT Tests Onsite
- 10/14 Senior Night – Varsity Volleyball
- 10/15 Title I Parent Night
- 10/15 -16 FASFA Nights
- 10/16 Early Release Day
- 10/23 Early Release Day
- 10/23 End of First Nine Week
- 10/26, 29, 30 College Board Scholarship Nights
- 10/28 Secondary Report Cards Issued
- 10/28 Picture day in the TLC (Brick & Mortar)
- 10/30 Early Release Day
- 10/30 Color Out Cancer Dress Down Day
- 11/6 Early Release Day
- 11/11 Veterans Day (Holiday for All)
- 11/13 Early Release Day
- 11/20 Early Release Day
- 11/25 Teacher/Student Holiday
- 11/26-27 Fall Holiday for All
- 12/1 Second Interim Ends
- 12/4 Early Release Day
- 12/4 eLearning Picture day, tentatively set
- 12/11 Early Release Day
- 12/18 Early Release Day
- 12/21-31 Winter Holiday for All
- 1/1 Winter Holiday for All
- 1/4 Students Return
- 1/8 Early Release Day
- 1/13-15 Exam Days/Early Dismissal
- 1/15 End of First Semester

Message from Dr. Knight, Principal

It has been an exciting start to the new school year even with the unusual circumstances. We have successfully opened school with almost 900 students in grades 6-12, around 400 of those currently being served at home. Remaining on a seven period day schedule, we have been able to continue to grow our courses for brick and mortar and eLearning students with the addition of more Advance Placement and Honors courses, such as AP Art and AP Literature, specialized STEAM and other electives, like Nutrition/Health, Robotics, and Marine Science, and additional career and technical (CTE) certification classes that are certifying students in UNITY and Autodesk. If you are interested in learning about all of our new courses and programs, please visit our new website at <https://www.odysseycharterjr.com/academic-programs>.

As we have grown our student numbers, we have also been able to grow our campus with the new addition of the Constance Ortiz Wellness and Performing Arts Centre. In this beautiful new building, we are able to expand our fine arts programming for Band, Chorus, Musical Theatre, 2-D and 3-D Art, and more, as well as expand our daily Physical Education courses to include volleyball and basketball, as well as sports conditioning. The new building and the track and field (expected to be completed in October) will also allow us a chance to continue to grow our Titan athletic programs, which currently includes bowling, volleyball, track, cross country, soccer, basketball, and flag football. We hope to see all of you at a future TITANS event in our state-of-the-art athletic facilities.

Odyssey Charter Jr/Sr High has settled into a solid routine this fall and we are thrilled with the implementation of the Canvas platform and the continued use of FOCUS. These two platforms are key to communicating with students at school and on eLearning. If your family needs any training on either one of these platforms, please email Assistant Principal Moore, at moorem@odysseycharterschool.com. Each week, we are happy to welcome back to face-to-face instruction, eLearners that are ready to return to brick and mortar schooling. We are trying hard to simplify this process for the student and family, so if you are interested in discussing your student returning to school, please contact Mrs. Moore. *We want to remind you that we are continuing to clean classrooms daily after each lesson during class change and we strive for social distance in all transitions. We also highly encourage mask wearing for all students and staff and we require that students wear masks during transitions and on the buses at all times.*

We are also excited to share the growth of our guidance department, now with staff serving each grade span and dual enrollment.

Ms. Cooper: 10, 11, 12, College Counseling

Ms. Mackie: 6 & 7

Mrs. T. Campbell: Social Worker & Mental Health

Mrs. Alary: 6(Onsite), 8, 9

Mrs. Gawlawski: ESE/504 Students Counselor

Mrs. Havet: Testing, Dual Enrollment

If you are interested in discussing your student's progress with a counselor, please email the counselor directly or call 321-345-4117 and ask for your counselor's extension. General questions about guidance can also be sent to Assistant Principal Guevara at guevaram@odysseycharterschool.com. Please note that Mr. Guevara is also the person to contact if you have any COVID-19 questions or concerns.

We know the start of this year has been different than ever before but we have **TITANed UP** and made it through together. If you feel that your student or family needs any additional help or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 321-446-6659 (cell) or by email at knightm@odysseycharterschool.com. Thank you for your assistance with this as we consider each of you a member of our Odyssey family. Together, we can get through this unusual time by remaining calm, showing courage and staying compassionate. **GO TITANS!**

FAFSA

High School Teachers: FAFSA Season has begun!!! FAFSA (Federal Financial Aid) Began October 1, 2020. The sooner our Seniors can get on and apply, the more free money they will have access to. At Odyssey, we are entering our FAFSA/Scholarship/College fair season. Below are important dates for our Seniors to remember:

Oct 15 - FAFSA by appointment with guidance counselors in the TLC. 9-3pm. 1:1 FAFSA assistance.

Oct 16 - FAFSA Night 5-7 in TLC. Short presentation on what you need and TLC is available to students and families to fill out FAFSA.

Oct 26 - College Board Scholarship. Zoom 5-7. What Seniors need to fill out a successful College Board Application (presentation).

Oct 29 - College Board Scholarship by Appointment with guidance counselors in the TLC (9-3pm). 1:1 College Board Scholarship assistance.

Oct 30 - College Scholarship Night in TLC. Short presentation on what you need and TLC is available for students and families to fill out Scholarships.

Nov 13 - College Fair in the Constance Ortiz Wellness Center from 4-7pm. Thirty Florida Colleges and Universities will be on site to gather information to help make decisions about academic future. Schools invited: Florida State University (Go Noles), Univ of Miami, Univ of Central Florida, Barry University, Univ of South Florida, just to name a few.

Picture Day Status

Picture day will be 10/28/2020 and pictures will be taken in the TLC (Brick & Mortar). E Learning Picture day, tentatively set for 12/4. More details to follow.

SGA Updates

Student Government Association held their initial elections in May of 2020. Over the summer, they worked together to formulate and ratify an SGA Constitution, as well as draft proposals for several projects including the Waste Reduction and Composting Initiative, and the Senior Painted Parking Spots Project. In early September, SGA held their second round of elections for additional senators, as well as an official SGA secretary. Several projects are under way and being discussed, including the first ever Odyssey Charter School College Convention, the Winter Ball, Varsity Jackets Project, Odyssey Community Fair, and most importantly focusing on our main goal of communicating these developments with the student body. SGA has formed official committees, such as the Communications Team, Dance Committee, Spirit Committee, College Committee, and Composting Committee, so that each which will uphold the responsibilities of separate tasks and execute the events accordingly. SGA's Dance Committee will also be responsible for major events of the year, including Homecoming and Prom, and the Communications Team has taken the initiative to host an official Morning Announcements broadcast each morning, as well as maintain an SGA Bulletin Board with helpful information located in the Healthy Café. SGA continues to discover new opportunities for the advancement of Odyssey Charter School, despite the unprecedented events of the last few months. We are looking forward to making this the best year Odyssey has seen yet, for students at the campus, students at home, and all the rest of the Odyssey family.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

FINE ARTS

Band

The music from the Titan Band of Gold can be heard throughout the halls of the new Constance Ortiz Wellness and Performing Arts Centre. The advanced and intermediate ensembles have already begun to work on their semester concert pieces and the beginners are starting to play their first notes! We are looking forward to putting together a beautiful virtual winter performance. Students are encouraged to practice nightly at home in order to progress on their instruments. Additional materials can be found on the band website (sites.google.com/view/titanband), FOCUS (under "Resources"), and in the required Accent on Achievement method book (Book 1- Beginning & Intermediate, Book 2- Advanced).

Our fall fundraiser has begun! Students in the Titan Band and Color Guard are selling flower bulbs through catalogs and our online platform, <http://odysseyband.pfundraising.com/>. Funds will be used to purchase additional music stands and music PPE. Thank you for supporting the Titan Band!



Color Guard

The members of the Titan Color Guard are improving their dance repertoire and have begun incorporating flags, swing flags, chain flags, and air blades into the winter concert choreography. There are still a few spots left open for interested high schoolers that would like to join the superior rated Titan Color Guard. This year, we will participate in our first Winter Guard competition circuit. Rehearsals will take place after school in late November. More information can be found on the band website, sites.google.com/view/titanband

Our fall fundraiser has begun! Students in the Titan Band and Color Guard are selling flower bulbs through catalogs and our online platform, <http://odysseyband.pfundraising.com/>. Funds will be used to purchase winter guard tarps and additional uniforms. Thank you for supporting the Titan Color Guard!



Orchestra

Advanced and Intermediate Orchestra:

Both hybrid classes are focusing on Suzuki string theory. They are playing from Suzuki level 1 and level 2. Both my face to face and on-line students will be recording their performances on Canvas. In addition, they are practicing their scales and arpeggios and sight reading. We are also rehearsing some pieces for the upcoming online winter concert.

Beginning Orchestra:

Beginning orchestra students are practicing from the Suzuki book, level 1. They are also practicing the G major scale and it's arpeggio. The class is learning music theory through canvas videos. They will also be recording themselves through canvas.

Music appreciation, history and theory:

This is an online class. They are working in canvas learning music theory on Monday, Wednesday and Friday's. On Tuesday's and Thursday's, they have been exploring Asian and Indian music. We are now beginning listening sessions on Medieval and Renaissance European music.



Keyboarding

We have more kids learning piano this year than ever before, with fifty keyboarding students across four classes. The beginning students have just now started to put both hands together as they move into level 1, and the advanced students are getting a deeper appreciation of theory as they work on a variety of skill games and active practices. We got a full class set of new keyboards this year, with touch sensitivity, built-in metronomes, and other features that will allow students to work on all aspects of their repertoire. They can't wait to share their skills at the end-of-the-year recital.

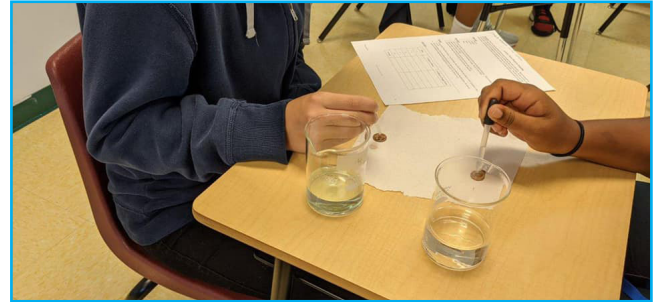


Chorus

The Titan Chorus – both beginning and advanced – have started working on this year's selections, and with both face-to-face and online members, we are learning in an entirely new way. This year, we are bringing back the very popular "Greatest Showman" medley from last year, as well as new additions such as "A Tribute to Queen" and "Like, Totally 80s." We are enjoying the challenge of finding performance opportunities in our current situation and using technology to record ourselves and do virtual performances.

Drama

This year the drama program continues to expand, with advanced acting, music theater, and an after-school program that will kick off later in the year. In both classes, students are working on monologues, preparing for auditions, running practice scenes, and more. Advanced dramatists are learning how to deconstruct characters, scenes, and plays, and even writing their own material with hopes of performing original pieces this year or next. Meanwhile, we are getting back into pre-production for School of Rock, last year's musical which we have postponed until the coming spring. Much of the cast and crew remains, but a few roles will need to be re-cast, so keep an eye out for upcoming audition information!



STEAM

STEAM – The Science Department is focused on the S and the M this month.

The Science Department has been focused on math skills that are needed in science with numerous cross-content area discussions.

Middle school students have learned much of the vocabulary needed to analyze data in data sets; studying patterns in specific graphic relationships (distance vs. time, temperature vs. thermal energy); manipulate formulas for density, mass, and volume; and not limited to discovery and application of significant figures (i.e.: as they are used in scientific notation to the nearest 10th).

In **Chemistry**, students have learned how to incorporate units within their mathematical operations. For instance, going from density of a spherical matter to number of atoms to radii of the sphere. In short, the students have learned that variables can be carried through operations even without knowing the numerical values associated with them. Additionally, students have learned how to strategically work with systems of equations where they set the independent variable as such which allows the other variables to be efficiently solved.

In **Physics**, students are learning the ins and outs of Newtonian mechanics concerning the mathematical relationships among, mass, acceleration, force, work, power, momentum, impulse, torque and pressure.

In **Biology**, we worked annotating scientific articles using annotating symbols and highlighting. We also worked on graph and how to gather data from data tables.

Did you know we teach Marine Science?

In Mr. Zelonski and Ms. Caleb's Marine Science, the students have been monitoring water quality of our artificial reef. They monitor and calculate the following parameters 3 times per week: Salinity, pH, Ammonia, Nitrates and Nitrites. These data points are then entered into an Excel spreadsheet where they are then graphed to monitor trends. Stable parameters are vital to the health of marine species.

Math Dept. News

The Junior/Senior High School Math department is excited and prepared to begin another successful year with their students at OCS! We are pleased to have two new teachers in our department this year, including Ms. Yenedith Valladares teaching 6th grade and Mr. Timothy Carney teaching Pre-Algebra. We also welcome back Mrs. Audrey Padilla and Mrs. Nina Brent teaching 6th Advanced Math and 7th Math, Ms. Rebecca Irving teaching 7th Math, Algebra 1 and AP Statistics, Mrs. Courtney Harris teaching 7th Advanced Math, Mr. William Young teaching Algebra 1 and Algebra 2, Mrs. Kathy Jacobs and Ms. Beata Janowicz teaching Geometry and Mr. Joesph Bajger teaching Algebra 2, Trig and Pre-Calc. **Go MathemaTITANS!**



Students in grades 6th through 8th will be using "I-Ready" (online program) as a major tool to pinpoint student performance of the Florida State Standards. I-Ready provides individualized online instruction targeted to each student's needs. Students in grades 9th-12th will be using "Study Island" (online program) as a major tool for instruction and practice. Study Island is an internet-based computer program where students learn and practice the skills necessary to be successful in the course. All students are expected to work on I-Ready or Study Island at home as part of their grade on a weekly basis. I-Ready and Study Island are both major tools to help students master the state standards in preparation of our Florida State Assessments (grades 6-8 FSA's) and End of Course Exams (Algebra and Geometry EOC's), which will take place in May.

Parents can help their students master these standards by taking an active role in monitoring their progress on I-Ready or Study Island. Please remind your students to practice using the program weekly, ask questions regularly about their progress, and have them physically show you the program to demonstrate their mastery levels of each practiced skill. Mastery of each objective is continuously averaged as the student practices, and indicated as a percentage. Pay special attention to the percentages your student achieves for each practiced objective. If students are struggling with a particular objective or perform below a 70%, there are lessons embedded in the program as well as Khan Academy video tutorials to help them increase their level of mastery. Students are expected to review these embedded lessons and use the videos as remediation, and then continue to practice the objective until they reach their goal. If students continue to struggle with the objectives after reviewing the lessons, morning tutoring is available. This tutoring program is also available for homework help. If you have any questions or concerns, always feel free to contact your child's math teacher by e-mail or phone.

English/Language Arts

Ms. Randolph 6th Gr. ELA and Advanced classes have been working to understand how advertising/marketing uses information and misinformation to both sell and convince consumers to buy products and services. Students are preparing to do their own research and are learning to understand how authors of informational texts choose information to support their own viewpoint. We are also just beginning our study of Latin and Greek Affixes and Root Words for this semester.

In **Ms. Liddell's** 7th Grade English class, students are learning reading comprehension and writing skills through evidence-based, multi-sensory approaches. They are writing original myths using stories from ancient Greek mythology as examples.

In **Ms. Russo's** 7th grade Adv English classes, students are studying the elements of fiction through a novel study of the book, *The Hunger Games*. We are also practicing cursive writing. 8th grade is studying the elements of fiction through a novel study of the book, *Fahrenheit 451*. We are also practicing cursive writing.

In **Ms. Boehr's** 8th grade Advanced English classes, we just concluded an extensive short story unit, in which we identified literary devices through annotating and writing numerous literary analyses on various pieces of literature. Next week, we will begin an expository essay unit, refreshing our memory about primary and secondary sources as well as credibility and reliability. After that, the students will create research notecards, delving into the exhaustive world of sources (JSTOR), distinguishing which information best suits their thesis. From there, they will compose a 4-5 page paper, backing their claim with textual evidence and commentary on the topic of their choice.

In **Ms. T Williams** 8th honors and 9th grade classes, we have been reading short stories and the 11th grade just started *The Harlem Renaissance*.

In **Ms. S. Williams** 9th grade Honors and 10th grade English classes, we are learning how to identify and write claims, counterclaims, and rebuttals. They are also learning about the different types of rhetorical appeals that authors use in argumentative texts.

In **Ms. Connelly's** 10th Honors, 11th, and 11th Honors courses, we are wrapping up reading Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, and we're moving into setting the play into place historically. We've been adding vocabulary to our repertoire and we are moving into essay writing next week. Ms. Connelly's 12th grade is about half way through our novel study of Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*. We are studying this novel as a means to discuss Perspectives in writing. Ms. Connelly's 12th Grade Honors is currently working on our third essay of the year; we started with Personal Narratives, moved into Illustration, and we are now composing Compare/Contrast essays. With each essay, we read several exemplars to further our understanding of the genre.

World Languages Department - Espanol Classes continue to grow!

Odyssey Charter Jr/Sr High School now has a full thread of middle school and high school Spanish courses, allowing students to take a minimum of 3 years of foreign language before high school graduation. Here is a few notes about our middle school Spanish program.

Middle school Spanish language learners are being introduced to the building blocks for the year, using interactive notebooks to organize the new vocabulary for use on projects such as the weather forecast! High school Spanish students are reading fictional text in the target language as they review key concepts to start the year! All students now have Quia.com subscriptions, here they can access millions of educational games, quizzes, and review activities including flashcards, battleship, and challenge boards to support the content they are learning in the classroom.

In Ms. Burke's high school Spanish class, students are utilizing Quia (short for the Quintessential Instructional Archive) in preparation for an upcoming Spanish assessment. High school students are engaged in participating in educational review games in the Spanish language such as *Who wants to be a Millionaire*, *Jeopardy*, etc. Teachers and students have used this valuable on-line tool to create interactive quizzes and games using their own content! Visit www.quia.com

Social Science News

The Social Studies Department has continued its development of future responsible citizens. **7th Grade** Civics has been focusing on the development of self-government in the colonies leading up to the American Revolution and the promulgation of the Declaration of Independence based on ideas from the English Constitution and the English Bill of Rights as well as Enlightenment Theory. **8th Grade** U.S. History has been discussing early European exploration of the New World, Spanish settlements, and the effects of the meeting of three separate and distinct cultures in North America including the Columbian Exchange. **9th Grade** World History has covered the Byzantine Empire and moved to Far Eastern History including Japan, China, and the Mongol Empire. These students are currently discussing post-Roman Western Europe. **10th Grade** U.S. History started the year discussing historiography then began its study of U.S. History with the Antebellum Period and the Civil War. These classes are currently in the process of studying the method of Reconstruction following the devastation wrought by the War Between the States. **11th Grade** U.S. Government students have dissected the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution as well as the ratification debate between the Federalists and Anti-Federalists. These students are currently analyzing the Bill of Rights with the goal of understanding their value and their impact on American citizens.



Senior News

Senior year has arrived for the Class of 2021! It's going to be a great year at Odyssey Charter Jr/Sr High as we embark on the last year of high school and help you prepare for graduation. Here are a few reminders to ensure that you have a great senior year. We are excited to announce a new senior tradition of painted parking spots. Please check your student e-mail for more information. In addition, seniors have the opportunity to have a senior quote included with their senior portrait in the yearbook. Quotes must be e-mailed to Mrs. Harris (harris@odysseycharterschool.com) for approval. Senior portrait appointments need to be booked with Dean Stewart Photography (<https://www.dsp-photo.com/>). Information regarding Cap/Gown and Class Rings will be announced in the near future. If you have any questions, please e-mail Mrs. Harris.

Dual Enrollment Updates

This year, we tripled the number of students registered for dual enrollment. We currently have students enrolled at Florida Institute of Technology (FIT) and at Eastern Florida State College (EFSC) – Go Panthers and Titans!

Registration for Spring 2021 for currently enrolled EFSC students begins Tuesday, November 9, 2020, and continues through Thursday, January 14, 2021. Registration for Spring 2021 for currently enrolled FIT students begins Monday, November 8, 2020, at 8 p.m., and continues through Wednesday, January 20, 2021. Spring 2021 classes at both EFSC and FIT begin Monday, January 11, 2021.

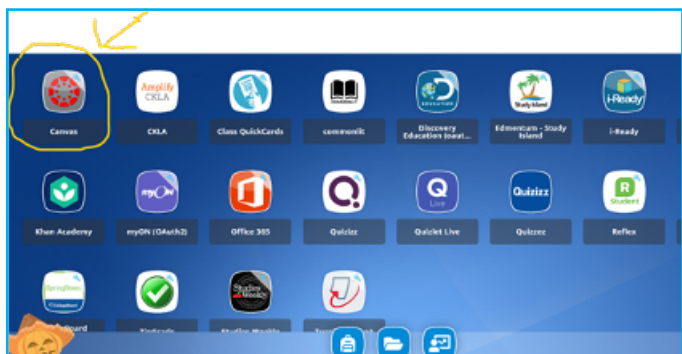
The Spring 2021 schedules for both EFSC and FIT are now available online. Both returning and potential dual enrollment students should contact Mrs. Havet in October or early November in person in room 250 or by email at havetk@odysseycharterschool.com to begin the registration process.

Pointers for successful dual enrollment:

1. Find a dedicated space and dedicated time to work. I always focus best when my desk or table is facing a wall.
2. You should plan on spending at least 3 hours a week per college credit. Most students do not do this, and it does affect grades.
3. Keep track of your grades on Canvas.
4. Work for the grade you want. Grades are not given; they are earned.
5. If you do not understand directions, make sure you speak up. Know how to contact your professors.
6. Finish Friday and Success Saturday are options for both face to face and eLearning Odyssey students.
7. Take time to relax. You need time for your own mental health, not just study time. Be well!!!
8. If you have any questions about dual enrollment, please contact our dual enrollment coordinator, Ms. Havet, at havetk@odysseycharterschool.com.

ID Cards

We are excited that all our student now have ID cards. Please remember that these are a part of the school uniform. These will be used for the cafeteria and for the buses. You can also use them at placed like the movies for student discounts. If you have lost or misplaced your ID card, please reach out to Ms. Amanda in the guidance office. We will be happy to assist you in replacing it. If a card is lost or misplaced there will be a \$5 replacement fee for the first replacement fee.



The Power of Canvas

Canvas Instructure is a digital learning management system that supports online learning and teaching. It allows educators and professors to post grades, information, assignments, design assessments, and streamline student and family communication online for both Brick & Mortar and E-learning scholars. It is being used by universities and colleges all over the world. Canvas provides students with a password-protected online classroom in which you will submit your work and communicate with your instructor and classmates. Note that your instructor uses the tools provided by Canvas to create his or her own virtual classroom. Odyssey Jr/Sr Educators have been diligently designing and creating their Canvas courses for their middle and high school students. Canvas is also accessible through Odyssey's Class Link Launch pad on launchpad.classlink.com/Odysseyfl Odyssey Charter School has enabled this digital platform to prepare our scholars for 21st century College and Career Readiness skills and technology integration!

Need Extra Help – Finish Friday

Odyssey Charter Jr/Sr High School will continue the Finish Friday program for the 2020-2021 school year. Finish Friday occurs every Friday after school from 2:45-4:00pm in the TLC. Masks and social distancing will be required. 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.

This year we will be including an e-learning component that can be accessed via a Zoom link. If you are an e-learning student, please reach out to your teacher for the Zoom link. Any additional questions may be directed to Nina Brent via email at brentn@odysseycharterschool.com.

Are you behind on your work? Do you need more instruction? Come to Success Saturdays!! We meet on Saturday mornings at 9am and you we leave at 11:30am. You can come in and get face to face help or join our Zoom link. 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.

If you are still working on the newsletter, here a few examples of student work that Zimmerman shared that can be added to our section.

Transportation

We would like to thank all the parents who have logged on to our new system EZRouting, and to all of our families that have signed up for transportation. We are asking that all students continue to wear masks and use the hand sanitizer when getting on the bus. We are using this and many other steps to ensure the safety of all our students. If you would like to sign up for one of our bus routes, and live 2 miles or more away from your child's campus, please contact our transportation department and they will be happy to assist you. We would like to kindly remind all parents that Transportation changes may not be made over the phone. You may, however, submit these requests in writing.

Please feel free to contact our transportation department at:
Transportation office 321-345-4117 Opt. 3
Email greerr@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.

Title I Parent Night

Please join us via zoom for our Annual Title 1 Night on Thursday, October 15th. The meeting will start at 5:30PM at the zoom link below. We look forward to seeing you there!

Topic: Odyssey Schools Title I Annual Parent Meeting
Time: Oct 15, 2020 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93234938182?pwd=ZVNmVU9remZ6OCtXbzFWVCtLVFNmZz09>

Meeting ID: 932 3493 8182

Passcode: Odyssey

Testing Updates

On October 14, 2020, Odyssey will be hosting the SAT and PSAT School Day. All 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students, both brick & mortar and eLearning, will participate in one of these exams here on campus, while students in grades 6 through 9 will take the Mock Writing exam.

Here are some pointers to help prepare for these tests:

The Night Before:

- Relax!
- Avoid screen time.
- Have a healthy dinner.
- Organize your bag for Test Day.
- Make a plan to get to the testing site early.

Test Morning:

- Wake up early and have a healthy breakfast. Here are a few good choices: eggs, toast, cereal, bagel, fruit, juice, cheese, milk.
- If you drink tea, then stick to your routine. If you don't drink a caffeinated beverage every day, though, Test Day isn't the time to start. You need calm, slow-burning, consistent energy today.
- Get to the test site early.
- When you get to the test site, try to steer clear of nervous people. You don't need their anxious energy rubbing off on you!

Here are some things you can do that might make you more confident and comfortable on Test Day. Keep in mind that everyone is different, and all of these don't work for everyone, so it's always better to try them out before you actually use them on Test Day.

From <https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/sat/new-sat-tips-planning/new-sat-how-to-prep/a/tips-for-test-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 2018-2019 Report Card, (we still are working off this report card due to no FSA from last year), 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>

Odyssey Jr/Sr Teacher Spotlights

Kudos to **Ms. Adams** for utilizing the digital assessment tool “Plickers” in assessing student mastery and knowledge on “Scientific Theory.” For teachers all over the world, Plickers is a revolutionary way to collect instant multiple-choice responses from students, without requiring them to have clickers, computers, or tablets. By using a printed card with a design unique to each student, our iOS and Android apps allow teachers to scan student responses and respond in real-time. Plickers can turn assessments or check-ins into opportunities for play, engaging students by empowering them to share what they know. As a teacher, you can use student results to address misconceptions, tailor instruction, and inform long-term planning. Plickers is data without devices. <https://get.plickers.com/>



Our intervention teacher, **Mr. Gawlowski** (lovingly called Mr. G) has started conducting data chats and academic student conference check-ins with 7th grade scholars in Civics. Mr. G sit with students to discuss their academic progress as tracked in student performance data, identifies strengths and areas for growth, as well as utilizes Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs in collaborating with the student to identify underlining reasoning for study habits, student work ethics, and absenteeism. As an educator, he has effectively communicated class expectations in preparing students for the current grade as well as motivating students to be prepared for their career pathway in education as well as provides a genuine and thoughtful dialogue in recognizing the “whole child” and their well-being during this challenging time of COVID-19.



Grievance Procedures

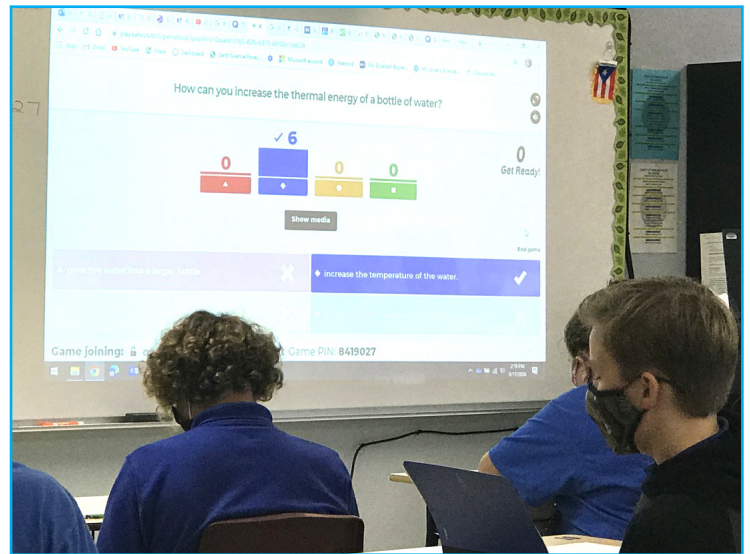
- Step 1: Request Teacher conference to clarify issue
- Step 2: Contact Principal if unresolved with the teacher
- Step 3: **Contact Board Designated Parent Representative
- Step 4: Contact the President of the Governing Board
- Step 5: Present issue at the next monthly Board Meeting if unresolved
- 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.



Mr. Ayala, 8th grade US History, is utilizing Weebly in creating a digital website for students and families to gain useful information about his History course. Please feel free to check out Mr. Ayala’s Weebly site: <https://mrayalahistory.weebly.com/>.

In **Ms. Velez’s** 7th grade science class, she creates a kahoot quiz with a variety Depth of Knowledge questions and images for students to review content for their upcoming science assessment on Monday as an interactive review game to increase student engagement. Ms. Tiffany Williams also uses Kahoot during ELA instruction with e-learners. Ms. Williams says, Kahoot “definitely promotes engagement for my students. They gain excitement even when we are reviewing vocabulary terms and build up motivation in learning from remote! The areas that they struggle with when it gives me the report, I can review for the upcoming lesson”



Choice, Control, and Change Nutrition and Health Classes

Did you know that we teach 6th graders health daily. In our new 6th grade Health/Nutrition class, led by **Coach Williams** and **Dr. Caleb**, students have been studying and researching healthy meals and the short term and long term benefits, as well as analyzing food labels to help students learn to make better food choices. Additionally, they are tracking calories for school lunches, as well as the meals and snacks consumed away from school. Ask your 6th grade student about how to make your at-home meals more healthy. Soon enough, these 6th graders will lead the re-opening of The Farm at Odyssey. **Stay tuned as they GROW into even more healthy TITANS.**