

# Odyssey Charter School

OCS Elementary Campus

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

## SUMMER 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.

**Odyssey Schools are safe, clean and ready to welcome back students!**

### CALENDAR

**(Odyssey Schools follow the Brevard School Calendar)**

- 7/6 – 31 Invite only- Jump Start to Success
- 7/16 OCS Elementary FINAL REGISTRATION- 10 AM - 7 PM -or-
- 7/17 OCS Elementary FINAL REGISTRATION- 9 AM - 2 PM
- 7/29 OCS Special Board Meeting – 5:15 PM
  
- 8/3,4,5,6,7,10 Staff Pre-Planning
- 8/11 First day of classes for 1st-5th grade
- 8/11-13 Kindergarten meet the teacher by appointment
- 8/14 First day for VPK
- 8/14 First day for Kindergarten
- 8/14 Early Release Day
- 8/21 Early Release Day
- 8/26 OCS Board Meeting- 5:15 PM
- 8/28 Early Release Day
  
- 9/4 Early Release Day
- 9/7 Labor Day – Holiday for all
- 9/11 Early Release Day

### Principal's Welcome:

Welcome Back to our new and returning Odyssey Charter Elementary School families! We hope you are enjoying your summer spending some time with family and that you are remaining safe during this unusual time. As we plan for the opening of another successful school year together, we would like to thank everyone for working diligently throughout the spring on home learning. We are ready to welcome you back refreshed and ready for another terrific year. We have plans to make sure our campus is safe and that all students, staff, and families stay healthy as we continue to provide a high-quality education. Stay tuned for details on how Odyssey is prepared to start the new year safe, clean, and ready to welcome back students!

This year, we are excited to continue to grow our student program offerings with the addition of a Project Lead the Way (PLTW) teacher, Ms. Jeannette Russell, who will provide PLTW for all students. PLTW will provide our students with opportunities to explore and discover through exciting, interdisciplinary learning modules filled with hands-on learning in computer science, engineering, and biomedical science. PLTW is great way to encourage and support creativity and problem-solving in our learners. It is going to be another wonderful year at Odyssey.

Wendi Nolder, Principal

### Welcome New Titan Team Members

We are excited to welcome Mr. James Monds to Odyssey Charter Elementary in his role as Assistant Principal/Dean. Mr. Monds will work alongside Ms. Deb Berg, Assistant Principal, and Ms. Carrie Young in her new role as Guidance Dean. It is wonderful to have such talented people collaborating to support our scholars, teachers and staff!

We also welcome our new OCS staff members for the 2020-2021 school year!

- Andrea Dana – Kindergarten
- Rachel Garcia – Kindergarten
- Valerie Maurey – Kindergarten
- Taylor Maurette – Kindergarten
- Kendra Traut – Kindergarten
- April Schindzielorz – 4th Grade Teacher
- Emma Stair – 4th Grade Teacher
- Armand Fruge – 5th Grade Teacher
- Kaitlyn Ketelsen – 5th Grade Teacher
- Scott Pearlman – 5th Grade Teacher
- Jeanette Russell – Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Teacher



## COVID Information

Odyssey School Leaders in collaboration with Green Apple School Management have been working on our plan to ensure that our students and staff are able to return to campus and remain safe, clean, and healthy. We have organized our rooms and the cafeteria to allow for social distancing in all rooms to the degree practicable. We have procedures for checking temperatures for all students and staff, along with procedures and guidelines that we will follow if we have someone that gets sick. Our cleaning procedures have been reviewed and enhanced and we have hired additional staff to assist in keeping our campus clean and disinfected throughout the day.

Our schedules will allow for reduced student travel to decrease the intermingling of students throughout the day. Our cafeteria has been set up with students facing one direction, and with fewer students per table. For our departmentalized grade levels (4th and 5th), students will remain in their homeroom and teachers will travel to ensure we can continue to offer quality instruction in the safest way. Several of our Special Activity teachers will travel to the homeroom classrooms, eliminating extra student transitions during the day. Every classroom has already been organized with desks and/or tables to allow students to be successful while ensuring they remain healthy. We have also restructured our arrival and dismissal to decrease opportunities for groups of students to congregate in the main hallway and cafe.

We will continue to monitor the plan that Brevard Public Schools provides as well as the CDC guidelines for schools and will adapt as needed.

### COVID Expectations – for sick students

If a student arrives to school with a temperature, or becomes sick during the day, they will be quarantined in a designated area of the clinic, required to wear a mask, families will be contacted, and the student is expected to be picked up immediately to eliminate exposure to other students or faculty members. A doctor note will be expected to allow for the return of the child to school. Students diagnosed with COVID-19 will be required to quarantine at home for up to 14 days and be released by their doctor.

## School Visitors

Due to COVID-19 and current conditions, we will not have any school visitors, including family members, until later in the fall when it is determined to be safe. As the year progresses, we will continue to monitor and evaluate the school's health and safety conditions for our Titans and our school community. We thank you for your help and support in making sure the safety of all our students and staff continues to be our priority.

## School Supply Lists

School Supply Lists are available for Kindergarten thru 5th grade students from the front office for each Odyssey Charter School, and at [www.odysseycharterschool.com](http://www.odysseycharterschool.com). To ensure we are not sharing germs we will not have shared materials this year. School supplies will be dropped off at school the week of pre-planning during our Meet and Greet drive through sessions by grade level.



## Final Summer Registration Dates for the 2020-2021 School Year:

**Final Registration is required for All Odyssey Charter School Families. You will complete the last part of your registration paperwork.**

We are excited to show off what we have been up to during this time of school closures. We have many new and exciting things coming for next school year! Please join us at final registration to verify information, complete missing documents, pay student fees (cash, check or money order), register for the school bus and more.

In our effort to follow CDC guidelines and social distancing we encourage you to allow plenty of time for final registration so that we can provide for social distancing. We ask that you bring your own pen to complete registration forms. Wearing a mask is optional but encouraged. We will clean and disinfect throughout the registration.

**July 16th 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM**  
**-or-**  
**July 17th 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

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

- Bus Assignment & Authorization to Ride
- Transportation form
- DRAFT Classroom Assignments (subject to change)
- Health Card
- Student fees (cash, check or money order)
- Before and After-Care Registration

The following documents must be provided (Kindergarten and new students) in order to successfully complete the registration process for the 2020-2021 school year beginning August 11, 2020:

- Birth certificate (Kindergarten & all new students)
- Current Immunization form (Kindergarten & all new students)
- Current Physical Exam (Kindergarten & all new students)
- IEPs, EPs, Behavioral Plans, 504 Plans (All new students - as applicable)

## Odyssey Charter Schools Student Fees

Kindergarten through 3rd grade - \$10, includes:

- \$1 Student Data Chat Folders
- \$1 Writing Journal
- \$6 Technology
- \$2 Science or other Laboratory Fees

4th– 5th grade - \$15, includes:

- \$1 Student Data Chat Folders
- \$1 Writing Journal
- \$3 Recorders
- \$8 Technology
- \$2 Science or other Laboratory Fees

## School Uniform Policy

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

**All Uniform Wear** - 4335 W New Haven Ave., Melbourne, FL - [store15@alluniformwear.com](mailto:store15@alluniformwear.com) (321) 608-3845

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

**'Dress for Success' Guidelines: Students can choose from a green or white Odyssey t-shirt, polo, or dry-fit shirt, along with black or khaki bottoms.**

- All students are required to wear khaki or black 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. Stretch pants, and athletic wear are not allowed. Students may wear solid color leggings under uniform shorts or 'skorts.'
- Belts must always be visibly worn. These belts must be black or brown and fastened securely at waist level. Pants must be worn at waist level. Loosely worn and lowly worn pants are not acceptable.
- Students must wear a collared polo shirt or t-shirt. Student polo's and t-shirts must be solid green or white. All shirts must bear the School Logo.
- Any attire and/or backpacks with any inappropriate logos or displays are prohibited.
- All hats, scarves, and bandanas are prohibited on school property.
- Shoes must be closed 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 and in accordance with the schools' uniform guide. **Odyssey Elementary School students may choose solid black, gray, or navy sweatshirts. Jackets that are not in compliance with the uniform policy will be confiscated.**

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## 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. However, we do need every family to still fill out the income verification form at registration. Please encourage your child take advantage of our healthy and delicious meals. We believe it enhances our students' academic and behavioral development.



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## Substitutes Needed

Please consider becoming a substitute for Odyssey schools. We are in need of a few strong, positive, and committed individuals who want to make an impact in our Titan's daily scholastic goals. Are you a dedicated person who will have the student's best interests in mind and a desire to work with our students and teachers? If so, please reach out to Barbara Marcus at 321-733-0442 ext. 109 or [marcusb@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:marcusb@odysseycharterschool.com)

## Bus Transportation

In preparation for the upcoming school year Odyssey Transportation is excited to announce we are now working with 3DEZROUTING!! Parents/guardians will be able to update any address changes that might alter a student's bus route through this website. We are happy that this will assist us in keeping you better informed throughout the school year.



Registering your student for school bus transportation will now be handled online for easy access, and the school will be able to provide you with updates on your student's application as well as information on their assigned bus and route. We will also be able to send you important information with any transportation changes or updates that might affect your student throughout the school year.

Registration is required for ALL (new and returning) school bus riders to ensure that your student is routed and assigned to the closest bus stop available. Bus transportation is available for students whose residence is located over two miles from the school they attend. Please register on our transportation website as a parent/guardian, using this link: <https://www.ezrouting.com/odysseyfl>.

You will need the following information to register:

1. Your student's name.
2. Student District ID for Brevard. (The same ID used in BPS Focus)
3. Your student's current physical address.
4. Current Parent/Guardian home and/or cell phone numbers.
5. Current Parent/Guardian email address.

This information will only be used for transportation routing and communication purposes, so accuracy is important.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Rosie Greer at Odyssey Transportation, 321-345-4117 ext. 1123, or by email [greerr@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:greerr@odysseycharterschool.com).

Odyssey Charter Schools provide bus transportation to students who live between two and four miles from the school (some farther than 4 miles). Bus registration is online this year and computers will 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.

Odyssey's Transportation Department will operate in accordance with CDC Guidelines We thank you in advance for your cooperation in keeping our children safe and healthy. Please take the time to review and discuss the following safety procedures and expectations.

- Students are encouraged to practice social distancing at their assigned bus stops.
- Students are encouraged to wear an optional mask during bus routes.
- Students will use hand sanitizer as they enter and exit the bus.
- Any students with an elevated temperature will be seated in the designated area in the front, parents will be contacted, and students will need to be picked up from the school.
- Siblings will sit together during all routes.
- Students will exit the bus one row at a time from front of the bus to the back of the bus, during arrival to the school in the morning.
- Be mindful and practice good hygiene and manners.

## Summer Reading



Students are expected to complete their selected summer reading assignments from the tic-tac-toe choice board during the summer break. All summer reading assignments will be turned in and reviewed during the first two weeks of school.

Information about summer readings for each Odyssey Charter School campus is available at: [www.odysseycharterschool.com](http://www.odysseycharterschool.com).

## Positive Discipline in the Classroom

The Positive Discipline in the Classroom Program focuses upon creating an environment for building classroom community and educating the whole child. When classroom teachers learn to implement effective class meetings, students become active problem-solvers and learn to solve problems in their classroom community. We have found that this program has had a profound impact upon our children. Children demonstrate more respect for one another and their peers and are more calm and settled.

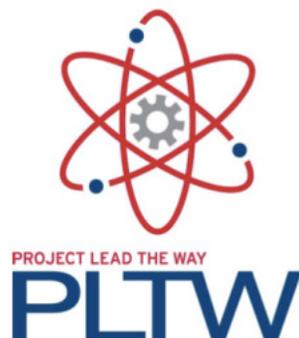
## Gifted and Talented- GATEway Program

We are very excited for this upcoming school year and some of the new additions we are adding to the Gateway program at Odyssey Charter School. Our focus will be to use an integrated curriculum specific for Gateway students such as Project Lead that Way, Renzulli and project-based learning for all of our Gifted and Talented students. Some additional skills that will be integrated into our GATEway program are group dynamics, self-advocacy and leadership. Our goal is to provide personalized learning opportunities that will foster growth and acceleration.



## Project Lead the Way Program

This year we are pleased to announce that we will be integrating Project Lead the Way (PLTW) activities into our Special Activity Rotation, which will be a hands-on project-based class for all students. The PLTW curriculum promotes inquiry, problem solving, and logic. We have a new teacher, Jeannette Russell, that will join our Special Team and work on the PLTW projects with all our students throughout the school year.



## Acceleration Block

At Odyssey Charter School teaching and learning are student-centered. Our acceleration block is a set period each day where all students have their learning "accelerated." This involves differentiation and personalization of instruction to address the needs and interests of each learner. Acceleration may appear different across the grade levels, but our goal is always the same, supporting each student as they reach their full potential.

## School Hours, Arrival, Dismissal and Early Release

Please note that our early release dismissals are every Friday.

Arrival Times

K-2nd 7:20-8:00

3rd-5th 7:20-8:00

M-TH Dismissal Times

K-2nd 2:35

3rd-5th 2:50

Early Release Friday

K-2nd 1:15

3rd-5th 1:30

## 20 Things We Should Say More Often

The words we speak matter. They help to shape the world around us. That's why we need to speak words of truth and hope, not only to ourselves but to others as well. Here are 20 things we should say more often if we want to make the world more positive:

*I love you.*

*I believe in you.*

*You are worthy. You deserve it.*

*The best is yet to come.*

*Stay positive.*

*I was wrong. I'm sorry.*

*Please.*

*How can I help?*

*I'm here for you when you want to talk.*

*You can do it.*

*You've got this.*

*Please forgive me.*

*I forgive you.*

*I've got your back.*

*I'm open to your feedback. Help make me better.*

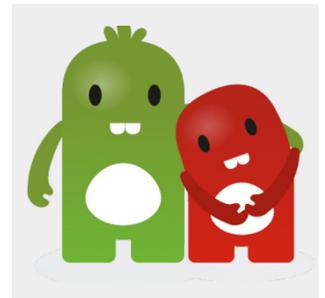
*You are not alone.*

*Even if we disagree, we can still be friends.*

*You matter.*

*Thank you.*

*There is greatness inside you.*





## Enrichment Before and After School Programs

**Before Care at OCS Elem Eldron Campus:** Before Care begins at 6:00am. Students participate in art, a variety of team-based games, and social fun. At 7:30am, students go to the café where they may enjoy a healthy breakfast at no additional cost. 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. The weekly rate for Before Care is \$35.00 per week and the daily drop-in rate is \$8.00 per day.

**Before Care at OPA Wyoming campus:** Before Care begins at 7:00am. Students participate in art, a variety of team-based games, and social fun. At 7:30am, students go to the café where they may enjoy a healthy breakfast at no additional cost. Registration forms are available in the front office of Odyssey Preparatory Academy. There is a one-time registration fee of \$25.00 per family. The weekly rate for Before Care is \$15.00 per week and the daily drop-in rate is \$4.00 per day.

**After Care on both campuses:** 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 art projects, outdoor recess, homework time, digital learning and Hip-Hop Dance instruction. Registration forms are available in the front offices of Odyssey Charter Elementary School and Odyssey Preparatory Academy. There is a one-time registration fee of \$25.00 per family. The rate for After Care is \$55.00 per week, and the daily drop-in rate is \$12.00 per day.

**Before and After Care payments are due every Monday** (in the form of a check or money order payable to OCS or OPA) to pre-pay for the week. Please place payments in the deposit box outside of the multi-purpose room at OCS or to the front office deposit box at OPA.

\*\* Registrations are based on a first come, first serve basis in the order they are received. If maximum capacity is reached, your child may be on a Wait List until a placement becomes available. \*\*

\*\* All 19-20 Before & After Care outstanding balances must be paid in full in order to participate in 20-21 Before & After Care. \*\*

For more information about Enrichment Before and After Care at Odyssey Charter Elementary School, please contact: Amy White at [WhiteA@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:WhiteA@odysseycharterschool.com).

For OCS Billing & Payments, please contact: Andria Ramm at [RammA@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:RammA@odysseycharterschool.com).

For more information about Enrichment Before and After Care and Billing at Odyssey Preparatory Academy, please contact: Danielle Johnson at [JohnsonD@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:JohnsonD@odysseyprepacademy.com).

## Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK)

Montessori Village Green, located at both Odyssey Charter Elementary School and Odyssey Preparatory Academy, provides Preschool (3 year old) and VPK (4 year old) early childhood education. Enrollment is on a first come, first serve basis starting January 1st for the following school year. Applications are available at the front offices or on the Odyssey Charter School and Odyssey Preparatory Academy websites.

### Montessori Village Green at Odyssey Charter Elementary School: 1755 Eldron Blvd SE, Palm Bay

- AM Montessori 8:25am-11:30am (3-year-old tuition based)
- Full Day Montessori 8:25am-3:30pm (3-year-old tuition based)
- VPK AM 8:25am-11:30am (mornings only, tuition-free with the VPK Certificate)
- VPK PM 12:25pm-3:30pm (afternoons only, tuition-free with the VPK Certificate)
- VPK Full Day 8:25am-3:30pm (tuition for wrap around afternoon hours)

### Montessori Village Green at Odyssey Preparatory Academy: 1350 Wyoming Dr. SE, Palm Bay

- AM Montessori 8:10am-11:15am (3-year-old tuition based)
- Full Day Montessori 8:10am-3:15pm (3-year-old tuition based)
- VPK AM 8:10am-11:15am (mornings only, tuition-free with the VPK Certificate)
- VPK PM 12:10pm-3:15pm (afternoons only, tuition-free with the VPK Certificate)
- VPK Full Day 8:10am-3:15pm (tuition for wrap around afternoon hours)

**Both campuses are ELC School Readiness Providers. To apply for the Child Care Subsidy, apply on-line at [www.elcbrevard.org](http://www.elcbrevard.org)**

## Moving to Jr. Sr. High

If you are interested in learning more about the Odyssey Charter School Jr. Sr. High School (grades 6-12) check out the Jr./Sr. Newsletter at [www.odysseycharterschool.com/news.html](http://www.odysseycharterschool.com/news.html)



### 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](mailto:cgilmore@greenappleschools.com) or 321-676-8737.