

# NEWS

AUGUST 2010

"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 much achieve a balance of intellectual, emotional, physical, spiritual and social skills as a foundation for life.

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Hello Odyssey families and welcome back to our A+ School! I am thrilled to introduce Joe Kroto as our new Assistant Principal. Mr. Kroto was with us at Odyssey last year as our science consultant, and brings with him many years of classroom and administrative experience. Please welcome Mr. Kroto when you see him on campus.

We have several exciting, new initiatives at Odyssey this year. Our middle school wing has opened up with 4 state-of-the-art classrooms, a computer lab, and a multi-purpose room. Our new classrooms will be outfitted with projectors and smart boards, or with virtual computers. We are in the process of completing our basketball court cover, giving our students a shady place for physical activity.

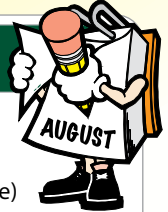
This year we are placing a special emphasis on Reading. Our faculty and staff will be working collaboratively with one another to improve instruction and to help all children be successful. Reading will be emphasized in all content areas. By participating in our Read-Aloud program at home, you can help your child improve his reading fluency and comprehension while earning your required parent volunteer hours. For a recommended reading list, contact your child's teacher.

Our Parent/Teacher Organization, or PTO, is working to increase parental involvement this year. Look for ways to join the PTO in helping to build community within our school and for volunteer opportunities both on campus and off. I challenge you to join our PTO this year and to be a full participant in your child's education!

I look forward to a great school year!  
– Ms. Wendi Nolder

**Come join Ms. Nolder on Tuesday, August 24, for tea or coffee and conversation. We will meet at 9 a.m. in the Healthy Cafe. Remember to bring your own mug!**

## CALENDAR



- ▶ **Thursday, Aug 19 -**  
PTO Welcome Meeting and Dinner at 6 pm (Healthy Cafe)
- ▶ **Tuesday, Aug 24 -**  
Tea and coffee w/ our Principal
- ▶ **Friday, Aug 27 -**  
Dress Down/ Early Release Day – Students released at 1:30 pm
- ▶ **Monday, Aug 30- Thursday, Sept 2**  
Scholastic Book Fair
- ▶ **Tuesday, Aug 31 -**  
K-2nd Open House - 6:30 - 7:30 pm
- ▶ **Wednesday, Sept 1 -**  
3rd - 5th Open House - 6:30 - 7:30 pm
- ▶ **Thursday, Sept 2 -**  
6th - 8th Open House - 6:30 - 7:30 pm

## DRESS DOWN/ EARLY RELEASE DAY

Remember that Friday, August 27, will be an Dress Down/Early Release Day! Students are invited to dress down for that day, making sure they are still dressed appropriately and complying with the dress code.

All students will be released at 1:30 p.m. and should be picked up in the car loop by 1:45. If your child is a bus rider, remember that the bus will arrive approximately 1 hour 10 minutes early at the bus stop.

## HEALTHY CAFE

Healthy Cafe is in need of a cashier! Please see Debra Chapman, Cafe Manager if you are interested.

## STUDY TIME

Families can help their children be more successful in school by scheduling a set time and place for studying each day. Children respond well to routines and having a fixed study time is no exception. A quiet supervised location within the home provides an appropriate environment in which to set high expectations. Being supervised gives children a sense of security and allows them to seek help when needed. Monitor your child's studying so they do not become frustrated by their work. If they have multiple assignments, help them organize and prioritize their time. Offer support and encourage them to do their best in every assignment. Take a stretch break with your child to help them maintain focus. At the end of each session, check your child's work to see if it is complete and as neat as possible. Set a goal to prepare each assignment by always giving their best effort.

Joe Kroto, Assistant Principal.

## MUSIC

The music department will be focusing on Beatle songs this year (a.k.a. the fab four - Beatlemania). We plan to have a large scale Beatlemania performance at the end of the year involving most of the school. It should be a beatlerrific year!

We will be having our after school glee club for 3rd through 8th graders. The date will be forthcoming. If any parents have experience singing and need volunteer hours please consider helping Mr. Hoffman with the glee club.

All parents of students for 2nd grade through 5th grade should consider buying their child a violin. Students will be receiving a letter about where to buy or rent one or they can check Mr. Hoffman's webpage. Any parents who want to sell their violins to other parents should contact Mr. Hoffman at [hoffmang@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:hoffmang@odysseycharterschool.com).



## CAR LOOP

A NOTE FOR OUR CAR RIDING FRIENDS... WE NEED YOUR HELP!!! We know that you would like to get in and out of our car loop as quickly as possible. In order to get your child to your car in a quick and safe manner we would appreciate it if you could help out in the following ways:

- 1) Please make sure that your name card is PROPPED UP on the passenger side dashboard for easy viewing by our teachers and staff. (If you have misplaced your name card please be sure to pick up another from the front office)
- 2) Remember that grades K-4 are DISMISSED at 2:30, grades 5-8 are DISMISSED at 2:45, and PRESCHOOL parents should arrive no earlier than 2:55 as our preschool is the last to dismiss. Please arrive on time to pick up your child(ren). (If you are picking up children from both K-4 and 5-8 dismissal times please use the later (2:45) as your dismissal time)
- 3) PLEASE STAY IN YOUR VEHICLE... If you need assistance please roll down your window and politely ask one of our teachers, members of the staff, or Safety Patrols to come to you so that we can help you out.

**Please remember that parents are NOT to park or drive through the Pineapple Cove parking lot and are NOT to drop off students on Eldron Blvd. Student safety is our primary concern. Until further notice we will begin accepting students in the morning at 7:40 a.m. to help alleviate our traffic in the car loop.**

### Grievance Procedures

- Step 1: Request Teacher conference to clarify issue.
- Step 2: Contact Principal if unresolved with the teacher
- Step 3: Contact identified person at Academia Central Florida Management Company
- Step 4: Contact the President of the Governing Board
- Step 5: Present issue at the next monthly Board of Directors Meeting if unresolved
- Step 6: Seek mediation with the Sponsor

## SCHOOL STORE

The OCS Safety Patrol is sponsoring a new school store opening Tuesday SEPTEMBER 7th, 2010. School supplies and seasonal items will be sold so come prepared! Prices for items will vary (25 cents and UP). The hours will be 7:45-8:00 AM before school each day and all profit goes toward our school's Safety Patrol. If you choose to purchase some things from our store please remember to form a line that is orderly; wait patiently to be helped; have your money out and ready; and look at the items posted while you are waiting so you know what you want to purchase. We appreciate your support!

Thank you,  
Mrs. Grant and the 5th - 8th grade Safety Patrol Students

## MISC NEWS

### • ESOL

ESOL is starting up again this year. This is a great program that the government is offering for children/parents that speak two languages at home. Even if your child doesn't speak the second language please contact Ms. Ramos anyway for information.

### • PE class

Please have your children wear sneakers on their assigned PE day and bring a water bottle. This month the students will be learning rule/regulations, seat belt safety and they will do a run through on a monthly physical assessment, including: cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, flexibility, abdominal strength, and agility. I look forward to a fun and exciting year with the students. If there are any questions please feel free to email Ms. Ramos at [ramosd@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:ramosd@odysseycharterschool.com)

### • Shop For A Cause

Fourth grade is selling Macy's coupons for \$5 each. The coupon is good on Oct. 16th. It is for 20% total purchase and 25% off one item. 100% of the coupons sold comes to the Fourth grade for the St. Augustine trip.

## LUAU BOOK FAIR IS COMING!

Happy New (School) Year! Our first Scholastic book fair is coming on August 30-September 3 and we are going "Luau Loco!" It is our way of saying Aloha to our students and parents. We will be open before and after the Open Houses on Aug. 31-Sept. 2, as well as during the regular school day. Come on in and enjoy the tropical magic.

Odyssey's Media Specialist and loving it!  
Mrs. Baker

KEEP UP TO SPEED AND  
CHECK OUR SCHOOL  
WEBSITE WEEKLY!

[www.odysseycharterschool.com](http://www.odysseycharterschool.com)



ODYSSEY CHARTER SCHOOL • 1755 Eldron Blvd. S.E.  
Palm Bay, Florida 32909 • Phone: 321.733.0442  
Fax: 321.733.1178 • [www.odysseycharterschool.com](http://www.odysseycharterschool.com)