



NEWS

DECEMBER 2009

"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.

HOLIDAY EVENTS



Winterfest, Dec. 4th: The Winterfest will be at the Majors Golf Course (diagonally across from the Bayside Lakes Publix) at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 4th. Admission is \$3.00. They will have games and a snow machine among other things. The Odyssey orchestra will be performing Christmas songs at 5:30. Our art department will also be represented at the golf course.

Palm Bay Parade, Dec 5th: The Glee Club will be performing in the Palm Bay Parade on December 5th. We need to borrow rope and string lighting to decorate our float. If you have red, blue or clear lighting and can let us borrow it for the weekend, we would appreciate it. We also need to borrow a car battery for our float. Please contact Mr. Hoffman at hoffmang@odysseycharterschool.com.

Holiday Bazaar, Dec 6th: OCS PTO is having a Holiday Bazaar on Sunday, Dec 6th from 1 - 5 p.m. in our Cafeteria. Shop or sell gently used items, new items and gift wrapping. Rent a table for \$15 and set your own prices. Tables available for businesses. Contact Donna Marcinik for more info.

Holiday To Remember Show, Dec 17th: The Glee Club and Orchestra will be performing our Holiday show at Odyssey on December 17th at 6:30 p.m. in our cafetorium. Parent volunteers are needed that night at 6:00 p.m. Please contact Mr. Hoffman at hoffmang@odysseycharterschool.com if you can help.

Parents of Glee club members: Please make sure your children practice their songs. Also, we will be performing the musical, "Annie" in May. The show is currently playing at Cocoa Village Playhouse through Dec 12th. If possible, please take your child to see the play. Call 636-5050 for information.

BOGO BOOK FAIR

JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS! Our BOGO Book Fair will begin on Dec. 3-11, 2009. Buy One, Get One Free goes for all books and merchandise. We will open daily at 8 a.m. and close at 2:20 p.m. Our Family Fun Night is on Thursday, Dec. 10. We will open at 5 p.m. and reopen after our PTO meeting. We will have gift wrapping available on that night, so you can put the things right under the tree! We are passing the savings on to you. Our Media Center does not take a profit from this sale. We will have gift baskets for teachers and for the Media Center if you wish to contribute.

See you at the fair! Mrs. Baker

CALENDAR

▶ *The book fair is coming the first week of December!*

▶ **Dec 4:** Winterfest at Bayside - Orchestra performs 5:30 p.m.

▶ **Dec 5:** Palm Bay Parade - Glee Club Performs

▶ **Dec 6:** Holiday Bazaar - 1-5 p.m.

▶ **Dec 10:** PTO Meeting 6 p.m. - Kindergarten Performance

▶ **Dec 11:** Student Movie Night - 6 - 9:30 p.m.

▶ **Dec 16, 17 & 18:** Early dismissal K-4 1:00 and 1:15 for 5-8

▶ **Dec 17:** Holiday to Remember Show at 6:30 p.m. in our Cafetorium

▶ **Dec 18:** Dress Down Day - Last Day before Winter Break - End of first semester

▶ **Jan 5:** Second Semester Begins



THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS



Odyssey would like to thank our business partners for recent donations of food and gift items to our school.

- Fellowship of United Methodist Church
- Tropical Fruit Trees & More
- Standard Publishing Services, LLC
- Bayside Lakes Dev. LLC
- Home Depot in Palm Bay
- Papa John's Pizza, Bayside Lakes
- Publix Supermarket
- Winn Dixie
- Major's Golf Course
- Brevard Florist
- Emma's Florist
- Beautiful Bouquets & Baskets
- Larry Cherry & Mary at Sam's Club
- Ace Hardware
- Home Depot
- Lowe's

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Odyssey Families,

I would like to thank you for your outstanding support of our school this semester. We have had tons of opportunities for you to participate in school activities and you have risen to the occasion. Our Trunk O'Treat trunk, our Fall Family Feast, our PTO sponsored events, and our upcoming events this month are just a few examples of the opportunities you have had and will have. Please come out to support our orchestra at the Merchants of Bayside Winterfest on December 4th, our musical float at the Palm Bay City Holiday Parade on December 5th, and our local vendors at the Odyssey Charter School Holiday Bazaar on December 6th.

Our children and teachers are moving right along. Please ask about MAP Testing, or FAIR testing. FAIR is a pretty good measure to determine how our k-2nd grade children are reading. MAP is a good measure we are using to ensure that our 3-8th grade children are making progress in the very important academic areas of language, reading, math, and science. Please ask about what is happening in class with your child. Believe it or not, that kind of conversation actually makes them smarter! Our teachers have some research on parental involvement that I sent them before Thanksgiving, so ask about it.

Our student conduct is better than ever, and that is largely because of y'all. Your support of positive behavior and good choices at home reinforces our school values and makes everyone's job easier. Happy teachers and students learn more; it is just that simple.

Sorry, but I must say: please refrain from using cell phones while in car loop line. It makes me nervous.

I ask that you keep in touch. You should use our Google listserv; answer when our community voicemail calls; try our own email and voicemail accounts here at school. You can always contact me: revisr@odysseycharterschool.com or 321.733.0442 x107.

Most importantly, I wish all of you peace and love this holiday season.

Dr. Revis
Principal

GRATITUDE HELPS

A student article by: Tracy Oakes, 4th grade

Thinking positive can help you behave well in school, get along with others, and even make you a healthier person. If you think negatively, you are more likely to spend time complaining instead of studying or doing well on schoolwork, such as a review worksheet, all the way up to the FCAT. Some positive thoughts can be how supportive your teachers can be, your home, your clothing, your friends and family, even food. If a negative person treats you with disrespect while you are thinking positively, the best thing to do is to ignore his/her thoughts or actions and continue to think positively. And you know what? Thinking positive isn't just one person's thought. You can spread the word by reminding your friends and family of their favorite or most important resources.

NOTE: *If you are a student that would like to submit an article for our newsletter, please send it to julie@decographics.com for consideration.*

Grievance Procedures

Parents having a grievance with a teacher are asked to try to work out the problem with the teacher first. If this is not possible, please contact Dr. Reggie Revis, Principal, at 733-0442. If problems cannot be resolved at the school level, parents are welcome to present their problems at the next monthly board meeting by following the presentation procedures mentioned above.

3RD GRADE NEWS

Both 3rd grade classes will be celebrating a "Roman Holiday" on Thursday December 10th. Look for detailed information in your child's homework folder.

Mrs. Everington and Ms. Munoz had a wonderful experience going to the Osceola Organic Farm in Vero with their third grade class. This is a working farm and we were hosted by the owner who guided us through rows of growing produce. Students were able to gather their own herbs and vegetables and get a better understanding of where our food originates. Thank you, Dr. Martin for setting this up and helping us support Odyssey's vision of health and nutrition. Two guest speakers are also scheduled to come to the classroom and give us interesting information about planting our own class gardens and recycling.

2ND HALLWAY NEWS

Thank you to the parents and staff who attended our Rain Barrel workshop. We had a great time and who knew how easy they were to make. A special thank you to Nate Archibald for donating his time and energies to leading us through.

Our second fund raiser, selections of spring to summer flower bulbs and perennials for your gardens, will begin in December. Look for your flyer coming home soon or ask your child's teacher.

The teachers of the second wing are on fire with the recent submission of our second grant to the Welch's Harvest Grants.

HEALTHY CAFE'

Your Cafe' staff would like to thank all the parents for joining us Thursday, November 19 for lunch. We enjoyed serving you, and hoped you enjoyed our homemade lunch!

We continue to see more students take our delicious healthy lunch each day. Your children are eating lots of fresh raw carrots and tomatoes every day. Check out our menu. We serve fresh fruit every day, many salad choices, an entree and milk all included for \$2.40! Parents are welcome to join their children for lunch anytime.

KEEP UP TO SPEED AND
CHECK OUR SCHOOL
WEBSITE WEEKLY!

www.odysseycharterschool.com



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