

"Committed to academic excellence and the education of the whole child"

Our Mission For Every Child

The mission of Odyssey Preparatory Academy 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.

Summer Thoughts from Ms. Rachel



As you relax with your child, visit family and enjoy this extended vacation time, it is important to remember that just like your child's muscles and body need exercise your child's brain needs it too! Here are some simple ideas for avoiding the "Summer Slide"---

1. Play memory games while driving to grandma's house in Tallahassee. Remember the game, "On the way to grandma's house...." Or the "Alphabet Game"? Check out PBS Kids for more ideas and fun for your long road trips <http://www.pbs.org/parents/summer/road-trip-games-for-kids/>
2. Create "Screen Free" times. These are the times when you "drop everything and read"---grab a magazine, book or newspaper and hit the couch! Just don't turn on the TV! Check out ScreenFree.ORG for more ideas <http://www.screenfree.org/screen-free-activities/>.
3. Head out in nature! Brevard County is home to various outdoor activities that are FREE or nearly free. It is important to get out and enjoy the outdoors, notice the beautiful surroundings and breathe in the fresh air. Check out this website <http://www.destinationbrevard.com/articles/whattodo.html>.

Hopefully, these ideas help you maximize your summer time fun and provide a springboard for your vacation! See you in August.

—Ms. Rachel

CALENDAR

July 15 & 16 -	Registration
August 10-	Students first day of school
August 17-	Early Release
August 24-	Early Release
August 25 -	OCS Board Meeting
August 31-	Early Release
September 5-	Labor Day

OPA School Hours have CHANGED

For the 2016-2017 school year, Odyssey Preparatory Academy students will begin the day at 8:05 am; the school day will end at 3:00 pm. Our early release dismissals will now be every Wednesday at 1:45pm.

Leadership Team

Founder/Head of Schools

Ms. Constance Ortiz

Site Administrator, OPA

Ms. Rachel Roberts

Discipline Dean

Ms. Alicia Cohen

Instructional Coach

Ms. Paulette Brancaccio

ESE Coordinator

Ms. Charlotte Foreman

Science Coach

Dr. Jane Martin

Summer Registration

Required for All Odyssey Preparatory Academy Families

Friday, July 15, 2016: 12pm to 3pm

Saturday, July 16, 2016: 10am to 1pm

In the Café at our Campus

Odyssey Families who did not purchase a 2015-2016 yearbook will have the chance during July 2016 Registration!

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

- Lunch Application
- Bus Assignment & Authorization to Ride
- Elementary Students: Teacher Assignments
- Final Schedules for Junior/Senior High Students
- Before and After-Care Registration
- Health Card
- Student fees (check or money order only... Cash will not be accepted)
- All 'Dress for Success', school conduct, cell phone, technology, and bus behavior agreements

The following documents must be provided in order to successfully complete the registration process for the 2016-2017 school year beginning August 10, 2016:

- Birth certificate (Kindergarten & all new students)
- Current Immunization form (Grades: K, 7, 9, & all new students)
- Current Physical Exam (Grades: K, 7, 9, & all new students)
- IEPs, EPs, Behavioral Plans, 504 Plans (All new students - as applicable)

Bus Transportation

Odyssey Preparatory Academy 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. A bus slip must be completed for families who wish to sign up for bus services. Bus assignments 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.

School Supply Lists

School Supply Lists are available for Kindergarten thru 6th grade students from the front office for each Odyssey Charter School, and at www.odysseypreparatoryacademy.com.



School Uniforms: 2016-2017 Updates

All Odyssey Preparatory Academy students are required to wear a school uniform. Our uniforms can be purchased through our uniform provider: All Uniform Wear • 2585 W. New Haven Ave. (Rte. 192) • West Melbourne, FL. 32904 • www.alluniformwear.com • (321) 608-3845

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

- Uniforms eliminate pressure to wear brand name clothing
- Uniforms help school officials recognize intruders who come to the school

Volunteering

A part of Odyssey Preparatory Academy's mission is based on the sustained partnerships made with the families and within the communities served. Because of this, our Odyssey Families are encouraged to volunteer a certain amount of hours each school year. The annual requirement is 18 volunteer hours for one student, and 25 volunteer hours for two or more students.

Brevard Public Schools conducts criminal history background checks on all volunteers. All potential Odyssey volunteers are required to complete a Brevard Public Schools Volunteer Application. To complete the online volunteer application, please visit: http://www.edline.net/pages/Brevard_County_Schools/BPS_Links/Volunteer_Information

NOTE: All volunteers fingerprinted December 1, 2009, or later will be automatically grandfathered in to the new system free of charge as a level A PLUS volunteer. All grandfathered volunteers will expire five years from the original fingerprint date.



Before and After-School Enrichment Programs

Before-Care:

Do you have to be to work before school starts? Does your boss get grumpy when you show up late for that 7:45 am meeting? Good News! We at OPA offer Before-Care every day beginning at 6:00 am. During this time, students participate in art projects, a variety of team-based games, and social fun. Students also have time to get their last-minute homework completed and to study their spelling words! Every student enjoys a healthy breakfast in the café before the school day commences at 8:00 am.

You may find registration forms are 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 \$35.00 per week and the daily drop-in rate is \$8.00 per day.

After-Care:

Have a sibling who attends OCS Jr. Sr. High? Is grandma too busy to watch the kids after school? No Worries!!! We at OPA offer After-Care daily until 6:30pm each day, which includes a healthy snack to tide them over until dinner. Students are grouped by grade and activities include: yoga, art projects, hiking our nature trails, digital learning activities in the state-of-the-art computer labs, and homework support with a Certified Teacher.

You may find registration forms the front office of Odyssey Preparatory Academy. There is a one-time registration fee of \$25.00 per family. Did we mention that our rates for After-Care (\$55.00 per week) and the daily drop-in rate (\$12.00 per day) are amongst the most affordable in the area? Please be sure to sign up for After-Care during on-site registration!

Before and After-Care payments are due every Monday (via check or money order payable to OPA). Please place payments in the deposit box in the main office drop box.

For more information about Before and After-Care Enrichment at Odyssey Preparatory Academy, please contact: Diane MacGilvray MacgilvrayD@odysseyprepacademy.com

Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK):



Montessori Village Green, located at Odyssey Preparatory Academy provides tuition based preschool and VPK programs. Both offer an integration of Montessori and Classical Education, providing a

holistically integrated curriculum approach to learning focusing on the whole-child: heart, mind, socio-emotional, and spirit.

Our Lead Teachers are Montessori Certified with over 60 years of combined teaching experience. In fact, we recently received a 100% VPK Readiness Rate. This prestigious recognition of our program means that 100% of our VPK graduates were prepared for kindergarten based on the Florida Early Learning Standards.

We offer our preschool and VPK services every morning and afternoon, Monday - Friday. Our Montessori Village Green also offers a full-day option: 8:30am-3:30pm, tuition is based on a wrap-around calculation.

Montessori Village Green preschool is offered to children aged three, and our Montessori Village Green VPK is available for children who age four on or before September 1, 2016. In line with supporting the needs of all families, please visit: elcbrevard.org, to receive a VPK voucher, which provides families with three hours of tuition-free VPK education. Families may choose to use this three hour, tuition-free VPK voucher as follows: Morning VPK (8:30am-11:30am); or Afternoon VPK (12:30pm-3:30pm).

For the 2016-2017 school year, availability is as follows:
Montessori Village Green at Odyssey Preparatory Academy:
1350 Wyoming Dr. SE, Palm Bay

- VPK: 8:15am-11:15am – tuition-free (mornings only)
- VPK: 8:15am-3:15pm – wrap-around tuition (full-day)

The front office staff can provide registration folders at Odyssey Preparatory Academy.

For more information, please contact Amy White, Director by email: WhiteA@odysseycharterschool.com or by phone: (321) 733-0442 Ext. 126.



OPA Welcomes Jiji and Spatial Temporal Mathematics



Created by MIND Research Institute, Spatial Temporal (ST) Math is a game-based instructional program designed to boost math comprehension and fluency

through visual learning. Designed to be integrated with classroom instruction, ST Math incorporates the latest research in learning and the brain, promotes mastery-based learning and deep mathematic understanding.

OPA will be the first school in Brevard County to implement (ST) Math and is excited to bring this innovative, visual component into our mathematics instruction. In support of our first year of (ST) Math, OPA has created a state-of-the-art computer lab in addition to our current lab. This program has a wonderful home-based option, where your child can access all the exciting, math comprehension visual games at home as well.

Our Leveled Library and Book Room is OPEN

Thanks to Ms. Frey and her team of volunteers, OPA students have a brand-new leveled library for the 2016-2017 school year. Purchased with a large federal grant, our leveled library will house individual titles as well as a leveled book room for guided reading. Your child will now have access to over 30,000 titles and will visit the Leveled Library weekly with their class!



OPA's STEM LAB is READY

OPA is also creating a full-time STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) lab. Students will be able to explore the connections between and among STEM subjects and the relationships these have with the world around us. Ms. Meghan Bigwood, an expert in STEM learning, will lead the lab experiences with students during the 'specials rotation'.



OPA School Uniforms: Updates

For the 2016-17 School Year, we have made a couple of small adjustments to our uniform guidelines.

Students will wear blue or green polo shirts, our new 'dry-fit' shirts, and the previously purchased T-shirts. All uniform shirts must have the Odyssey Preparatory Academy logo.



Odyssey Preparatory Academy: School Fees (2016-2017)

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade:

Spalding Notebook (\$2.00) ; Technology (\$3.00); Science Lab (\$3.00);
Total \$7.00

3rd Grade – 6th Grade:

Spalding Notebook (\$2.00) ; Technology (\$3.00); Science Lab (\$2.00);
2016-2017: Daily Planner (\$2.00)
Total \$9.00

OPA Received a 5,000 Lowes Garden Grant

In the spring of 2016, OPA was awarded 5,000 from Lowes towards building a new outdoor solar kitchen and garden on our campus. The students helped build the first few beds right before school released for the summer and we will put the finishing touches on the gardens over the next few weeks. Each grade level will receive a bed for planting and we will have fully functioning outdoor solar kitchen to cook our harvest! We will keep you posted on the "growth" of our new project and bounty!



OPA 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

**Ms. Joy Perez 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. Perez can be reached at perezj@odysseyschool.com or 321-345-4117.

Congratulations on the FSA!!!

Our students really shined this year on the state assessments. Here are some fantastic highlights from this year's FSA:

- OPA's 3rd Graders made a 13 point increase over last year's reading assessment.
- OPA's 3rd Graders ranked #3 in Mathematics in Palm Bay amongst traditional public schools.
- OPA's 4th Graders ranked #3 in Mathematics in Palm Bay amongst traditional public schools.
- OPA's 6th Graders ranked #4 in Mathematics in Palm Bay amongst traditional public schools and they beat the state average!!!

OPA Athletics are BACK!

OPA will be participating in the SCCA (Space Coast Christian League) again this year! We are will continue to offer our student athletes the following sporting activities: Volleyball, Flag Football, Basketball, Soccer, Track, and Cheerleading. If you are interested in coaching or volunteering for any of these activities please contact: Ms. Caitlin Cummings, cummingsc@odysseyprepacademy.com.
Go OPA!!



Odyssey
Preparatory Academy