

*"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.

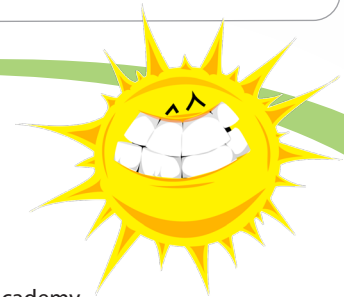
## **Summer Greetings from our Founder & Head of Schools ~ Ms. Constance**

Dear Odyssey Family – We hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer and welcome you to the 2014-2015 school year—another year of growth and learning for our students. Our leadership team has spent the summer working like busy bees and much has been accomplished through focused teamwork. We have enhanced our school kitchen on the Wyoming Campus to be able to offer more diverse food options. We have improved our science labs with additional science equipment. We have added the Core Knowledge Language Arts program to enhance our Kindergarten through 5th grade classrooms as we continue our aim for students to master the skills of the Common Core State Standards. We have added a gifted teacher to focus solely on the needs of our gifted and talented, as well as a full-time ESE coordinator, to build both our ESE and ESOL team of educators. Our teachers will receive eight full days of professional development during pre-planning to enhance our teaching techniques as we continue to grow as educational professionals serving your child. Over the last several years, Odyssey Schools have doubled in size. As our school struggled with growing pains, we formed a leadership team with the purpose of utilizing each leader's strengths for the benefit of our students and added stability for our expanding school. You will hear more about this team and their specific duties during the early part of the school year.

Our mission has remained true as we care about each child entrusted to us and as we strive to provide programs that meet their many diverse and holistic needs. Through our mission for children, we strive to help our children grow in empathy to not only care for themselves and others, but to care for the well-being of their community and Earth. Through rich academic programs and a holistic emphasis where children are encouraged to develop their full potential, we seek to help children develop their academic talent as well as become healthy, future leaders. Every child is as unique and as individual as a snowflake—designed with intricate beauty and care. Our team thanks you for entrusting your precious children to us. We look forward to your volunteer support and meeting with you throughout the year as we work together for their benefit. On behalf of all of our faculty and staff, we welcome you back!

## **CALENDAR**

July 24 – 1:30-3:30 pm, 5-7:00 pm Registration  
August 18-20 – Kindergarten Appointments  
August 18 – School begins (1st-6th Grade Students)  
August 21 – First Day of School for Kindergarten Students  
August 27 – Early Release Day  
September 1 – Labor Day/Holiday for All  
September 10 – Early Release/Prof. Development Day



## **Calendar**

Please remember that Odyssey Preparatory Academy follows the Brevard County School calendar. To see the full Odyssey calendar, go to [www.odysseyprepacademy.com/calendar](http://www.odysseyprepacademy.com/calendar).

**Students will report to their first day of school on Monday, August 18, 2014.**

## **School Hours**

### **SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**

Monday – Thursday, 9am-1pm  
Closed June 23-July 4

### **OFFICE HOURS (Beginning August 5th)**

8:30am-4:30pm

### **SCHOOL HOURS (Beginning August 18th)**

9:00am-4:00pm (breakfast served at 8:30am)

*"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."*

*~William Butler Yeats*

## Final Registration

Our Final Registration will be held on July 24 in our Healthy Café. Please remember that annual registration is mandatory for all new and returning students. Registration will secure your child's seat at Odyssey Prep.

Registration times:  
1:30-3:30pm  
5:00-7:00pm

ALL OPA students must have the following documents on file before the first day of school. The student categories listed in parentheses are required to update/submit current documents for this school year.

- Birth certificate (K and new students)
- Current Immunization form (K and new students)
- Current Physical Exam (K and new students)
- Parents – please remember your ID
- All IEPs, EPs, Behavioral Plans, or 504 Plans (All new students to OPA)
- Student Fees – check or money orders ONLY!  
(Made payable to Odyssey Preparatory Academy)
  - K-2nd grade - \$5 (technology & Spalding notebook)
  - 3rd-6th grade - \$7.50 (planner, technology & Spalding notebook)

## New Florida Standards and New Assessment

The new Florida Standards, Mathematics Florida Standards (MAFS) and Language Arts Florida Standards (LAFS) were adopted by the State Board of Education in February, 2014. These standards are designed to prepare Florida students for success in college, career, and life by emphasizing analytical, critical thinking, and problem solving skills. The Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) will continue to be used for Science and Social Science instruction for the 2014-2015 school year. Odyssey Preparatory Academy teachers and staff have been studying the new standards and will continue to be provided with resources and support to implement high quality and rigorous instruction of the standards next school year.

In addition to new standards in math and reading, a new assessment will take the place of the FCAT 2.0 next year. This test, called the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA), will provide a more authentic assessment of the Florida Standards because it will include performance tasks requiring students to demonstrate their mastery of the standards, not just multiple choice questions. Students will be asked to create graphs, interact with multiple types of texts, and write and respond in diverse ways that require higher order thinking. This summer, students, educators, and parents will be able to preview samples of new question types that will be made available on the Florida Department of Education website <http://www.fldoe.org/eduaccsummit.asp>. A schedule for all statewide assessments can also be found on this website.

## School-Age Before/After School Care

It's that time of year! School is around the corner. It is time to start thinking about before school and afterschool care for your students. Odyssey Preparatory Academy, offers a Before and After School Care Enrichment Program that is both varied and fun. We have a beautiful classroom, filled with many activities for the children to enjoy. It will include a library, a practical life area, art, homework area, games, computers, and a dress-up station for imaginative play. Homework time, Story-time and music are also part of our afternoon schedule. Outdoor recreation is important too, so each day the children will spend some time outside, involved in organized activities. We look forward to seeing everyone in August!

Hours of Child Care  
Before care 6:00am- 9:00am  
Aftercare 4:00pm-6:00pm

For further information please contact Nina Santos at [santosn@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:santosn@odysseycharterschool.com) or 321-345-4117.

## Technology News Update

Mr. Sheinman/Manager of Information Systems



Odyssey Prep will be participating in a program with Microsoft Corporation, which will offer our families the opportunity to download and install a fully licensed version of Microsoft Office 2013 for the duration of your student's enrollment at Odyssey Prep. More details on how to take advantage of this program will be announced early in the upcoming year.

## Family Literacy Resources

How is your family focusing on learning even during the summer? Consider some of the following:

1. Write a list of things your family wants to do this summer. Don't forget to include reading!
2. Make a chart to keep track of all the books you and your family members read this summer. Talk to each other about your books during meals or long drives.
3. Start a summer scrapbook with your family members. Include souvenirs of any trips you take, photos, ticket stubs, and projects you work on during the summer.
4. Take a walk as a family. Write about or draw the things you see that show summer is here.
5. Design your own family stationery and write a letter to a friend or family member outside of our community.
6. Start a journal with a friend or relative. Take turns writing in it all summer long. You can even do this by mail or e-mail.
7. Pretend your family is going to visit another city, state, or country with a friend or relative. Write to the tourist bureau for more information or look online (with help from family members) to find out more about your travels.
8. Pick wildflowers and press them between the pages of a heavy book until the end of summer.
9. Plan a family 'booknic' at your favorite outdoor spot, such as the beach, a park, or the woods. Pack lunch and plenty to read.
10. For more tips and ideas, visit the 10 weeks of Summer Reading Adventure website at <http://www.readingrockets.org/article/391> or consider looking at some other online resources.
  - a. Summer Time Reading Resources  
[http://www.rif.org/documents/us/summer\\_reading.pdf](http://www.rif.org/documents/us/summer_reading.pdf)
  - b. Sunshine State Young Reader Awards Program  
<http://www.floridamedia.org/?page=ssyrhome>
  - c. KidsReads Annotated list of Classic by Age  
<http://www.kidsreads.com/>
  - d. Reading Rockets – Monthly Tips for Parents  
<http://www.readingrockets.org/newsletters/extras>

## VPK/Preschool

Welcome to another wonderful VPK/Preschool year at Odyssey Preparatory Academy! We are very excited about working with our families again this year. We provide a positive and nurturing environment where your children can learn and grow as they explore and discover the world around them. Together we are creating a stimulating educational experience that encourages your children to learn and develop at their own pace. We look forward to providing the best learning experience possible for your children! As we get started, please remember that communication is the key to any successful program. All registered students must have required documentation submitted by the first week of school. For further information or questions you may have, please contact Nina Santos at [santosn@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:santosn@odysseycharterschool.com) or 321-345-4117. We look forward to meeting each and every one of you in August. Have a great summer!

## Bus Transportation

Free bus transportation will be provided to children who live 2-4 miles (or possibly farther) from the school based on student need. A bus slip must be completed for families who wish to sign up for bus service. Bus slips will be available at registration. For those families who applied for bus service during early registration week, a member of bus services will call you to finalize your registration. Students who live less than two miles from the school are not eligible for bus transportation. \*Student bus slips must be given to the driver on the first day you use the bus service. Parents who registered early and who qualify for bus service will receive a phone call from our transportation staff with their student's bus stop location and times. After receiving your bus stop, parents should pick up a bus slip (required for the first bus ride) from the front office of your student's campus, during regular office hours and before the first day of school.



## Summer Food Program - Free for ALL Students!

Students, ages 18 and under residing in Brevard County, can join us this summer for a free, delicious and nutritious breakfast and lunch at Odyssey Charter School's Flagship Elementary Campus (1755 Eldron Blvd SE, Palm Bay, FL). Breakfast is served from 8:30-9:30 AM and lunch is served from 11:30-12:30 PM. Adults meals are \$2.00 for breakfast and \$3.50 for lunch.

## OPA Transportation

This year OPA will be starting our school day at the same time as OCS Jr/Sr High School. We wanted to make you aware that with this scheduling change OPA students will be riding the bus with Odyssey's Jr/Sr High School students. To ensure student safety, we will be having OPA students sitting near the front of the bus and the Jr/Sr High students sitting near the back in assigned seats. Our team members from OCS and OPA will do our best to make sure that your child is safe and comfortable traveling to and from school each day. All of our students are aware of behavioral expectations that are set for them while on the school bus. Bus behaviors are closely monitored by our bus drivers and our administrative team, video tapes are reviewed daily, and any student who does not follow the bus procedures is subject to suspension and possible expulsion from the bus.

## Summer Reading Requirements

Summer reading assignments for Kindergarten through 6th grade will be due within the first weeks of school. Summer reading books and assignments are available on our website at [www.odysseyprepacademy.com](http://www.odysseyprepacademy.com) and are available through the front office.



## National Elementary Honor Society Coming to Odyssey Prep!

Odyssey Preparatory Academy is beginning a chapter of the National Elementary Honor Society (NEHS). The NEHS was established in 2008 by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NAASP) in cooperation with the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) to recognize elementary students in both public and non-public elementary schools for their outstanding academic achievement and demonstrated personal responsibility, to provide meaningful service to the school and community, and to develop essential leadership skills in the students of elementary schools. The OPA NEHS chapter will recognize outstanding elementary students who demonstrate excellence in scholarship and responsibility and will work to develop leadership and promote service to the school and community for its members.

## Uniforms

All Odyssey students are required to wear a school uniform. Our uniforms can be purchased through our uniform provider, All Uniform Wear (321-608-3845) or online at [www.alluniformwear.com](http://www.alluniformwear.com). They are located at 2585 West New Haven Avenue (rte. 192), West Melbourne, FL (across from the Melbourne Square Mall).

School uniform reminders for Odyssey Prep:

- Students will wear kelly green or royal blue polo's or tee shirts with proper logo.
- Students may wear khaki shorts, skirts, skorts, or pants.
- Belts should be black or brown.
- Shirts should be tucked in at all times.
- Jackets and undershirts should be solid school colors.
- All shoes must have backs or straps.

## Student Supply Lists

Supply Lists for Kindergarten through 6th grade students are available in the front office or on our website, [www.odysseyprepacademy.com](http://www.odysseyprepacademy.com).

## New Talented and Gifted Program

Odyssey Preparatory Academy is excited to announce a program for Talented and Gifted (TAG) students with the hiring of a gifted teacher. Ms. Jen Skaja has spent the last four years teaching gifted and ESE education at a small charter school in our county and has spent the last 16 years at the Kennedy Space Centers Visitors' complex developing a number of different programs for student visitors. One of these programs included the development of STEM curriculum and leading these programs every summer, winter, and spring breaks, which included interactive space and science demonstrations and simulated space shuttle missions. The purpose of TAG is to provide supports to meet the cognitive, social-emotional needs of gifted and talented students and help them prepare for their role in our global society. To advance the development of these students, Odyssey Prep will have a part-time teacher of the gifted to push the academic, social, and emotional development of our TAG students. In addition to these enrichment opportunities, we will be offering an academic enrichment club offering activities such as Odyssey of the Mind and Math Counts.

## Wanted: Substitute Teachers!

If you are yearning to make a difference in children's lives and are looking for a part time job working during your child's school hours, look no further. Odyssey needs you. Won't you please take a moment to apply to become an Odyssey substitute by contacting Ms. DeeDee Hearndon at [hearndond@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:hearndond@odysseyprepacademy.com) or 321-345-4117.

## FCAT Individual Student Score Reports

Our individual student FCAT score reports have arrived and are available for pickup in the front office. Our office is open from 9am-1pm Monday through Thursday. You may also pick them up at registration.

## Fourth Quarter Honor Roll

The following students achieved a 3.0 or higher Grade Point Average for our 4th quarter.

*Abigail Lupe	*Jadyn Small	Giselle Flores
Lauryn Roberson	*W. Dalton Thompson	Corinne Frontera
*Leitizia Jean	*Joseph Waldron	Mason Imperato
*Avery Held	*Hailey Chaney	Brandon Kelly
Ella Held	Nazliyan Duman	Roxanna Pena
*Kaelyn Back	William Greene	Hannah Sharpe
Jayda Anderson	T. Giovanni Jean	*Natajha Tompkins
Susana Areyan	*Mechiah Kirton	Brianna Tuttobene
Odin Cruz	Alana Lopez	Andrew Vickers
Nickie Flores	Mason Moffitt	
Skyler Franklin	Alexis Ruiz	*Students earning a
*Neveah Mannier	*Timothy Waldron	perfect 4.0 GPA
*Dylan Minter	Adam Anderson	
Brianna Morales	Jordan Baskerville	
Matthew Sauter	Hayden Berry	

## Congratulations!

Our congratulations go to the following students for surpassing grade level standards on the FCAT assessment!

Cristian Alexander - Math  
Jayda Anderson - Reading  
Precisha Aubin - Reading  
Kaelynn Back - Reading AND Math  
Hayden Berry - Science  
Hailey Chaney - Reading  
Giselle Flores - Reading AND Science  
Ella Held - Reading  
Avery Held - Reading AND Math  
Leitizia Jean - Reading AND Math  
T. Giovanni Jean - Reading  
Mechiah Kirton - Math  
Abigail Lupe - Reading  
Mason Moffitt - Math  
Brianna Morales - Reading  
Hannah Sharpe - Reading  
Jadyn Small - Reading  
Timothy Waldron - Reading AND Math  
Andrew Vickers - Reading



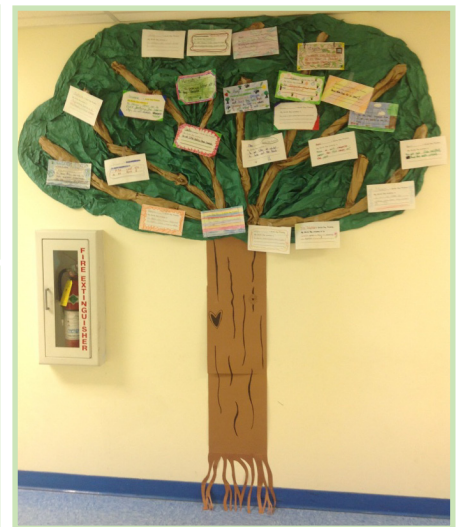
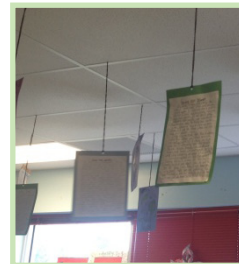
## Do you have a Special Skill or Expertise Area?

We are looking for parents, grandparents, and community members with special skills to help us enhance our learning community. Odyssey Preparatory Academy students can learn more about the real world by talking to community members about their daily work, interests, hobbies, and special skills. If you are a photographer, speaker of another language, artist, gardener, musician, scientist, cook, elected official, or if you have some other special skill or talent, please share it with us by emailing Ms. Hearndon at [hearndond@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:hearndond@odysseyprepacademy.com) and we will add your information to our speaker's bureau and volunteer list to help bring the academic standards to life in our classrooms for all of our students.

## Earth Day 2014

In honor of Earth Day, OPA's fourth and fifth graders at OPA got involved in multiple activities and discussions about our Earth. Discussions revolved around air pollution, water pollution, global warming, the ozone, and on humans and our impact on the environment around us. Each fourth and fifth grader wrote an essay about what can be done individually, as a class, as a school, and as a community to help our earth. To accompany our essays, students drew pictures representing their ideas.

Fourth and fifth grade students also made Earth Day Promises: a promise to the earth on Earth Day. Some students pledged to recycle, while others vowed to use products with less plastic and other harmful materials. Some even made promises to appreciate the world around them more. Their promises were hung on our Earth Day tree, to remind us that nature is everywhere and it's up to us to protect it! We are very proud of fourth and fifth grade's hard work on Earth day - and every day!



## OPA 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

\*\*Mr. Jon Chace 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. Mr. Chace can be reached at [chacej@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:chacej@odysseycharterschool.com) or 321-345-4117.