



# Odyssey Academy Newsletter

March 27, 2009

## **KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT FOR 2009-10**

We are now accepting kindergarten enrollments for next school year. We have three kindergarten classrooms, but spots are filling fast. Remember that all kindergarten students must be five years of age by September 1 to enroll in kindergarten. If you intend to enroll any of your children in kindergarten for next year, now is the time! Please contact Denise in the office at 763-971-8200 if you would like to receive enrollment materials for next year.

## **Kids' Club**

Kids' Club will be open during Spring Break. If you would like more information, please contact Kari Mitchell at 763-971-8200.

## **Head's Up! Box Tops Contest Coming Soon!**

Odyssey will be having a contest in April to encourage greater participation in the Box Tops for Education program. April 13 through April 27 students can bring in Box Tops for the contest. There will a (great) prize for the student that brings

in the most Box Tops during that two week period. Start saving up now!

## **Adventure Trips Are Right Around the Corner!**

Remember, all classes, kindergarten through middle school will participate in an adventure trip this spring. If you have questions about the adventure trip for your child's class, please contact the classroom teacher. If you have questions about your student's individual fund raising account please contact Shel at [mikauld@aol.com](mailto:mikauld@aol.com) or (763)971-8200.

The last opportunity to help your child raise funds for his or her adventure trip is the Spring Flowers sales, beginning Monday, March 30. The flowers come from Lynde's Greenhouse and Nursery and will be delivered the Thursday before Mother's Day.

### **Attendance**

Remember that it is important for your student to be on time each morning. Late arrivals disrupt the education of not only your student, but the other students in the class as well. Students should be in their classroom ready to learn promptly at 8:10 a.m. Please call the school office with any questions.

### **Lost and Found**

Please come and check lost and found for any items belonging to your students. Items left in lost and found after April 3 will be donated to Goodwill.

### **Help Wanted:**

We still need extra hands during **lunch periods** for kindergarten through fifth grades. Third through fifth grades eat from 11:50 – 12:15. Kindergarten through second eat from 12:15 – 12:40. Helping students with containers, assisting at the salad table, dispensing condiments and helping staff with dismissal times will be the main tasks.

### **Odyssey C.A.R.E.S.**

The C.A.R.E.S. program is a component of “Responsive Classroom” teacher training and a large part of Odyssey’s school climate and character-development for all the students, kindergarten through eighth grade. The letters stand for Cooperation, Assertion, Responsibility, Empathy and Self-control.

In March the focus was on “Empathy”. The students talked about how to show empathy and the classmates that they noticed were often empathetic, or have been working on being more empathetic. Some of the ways Odyssey students have been noticed to show empathy are by caring about others’ feelings, by treating others how they

want to be treated, by putting others’ needs ahead of their own, and more.

Stop in and check out the C.A.R.E.S. display in the center hallway to see the photos and quotes for the following students:

**Mrs. Pouliot** – Keyairra Davis, David Nyan and Dru Odero

**Miss Bovy** – Julia Caster and Ewan Kim

**Mrs. Montray** – Jylon Dudley, Emma Karr, Kaydence Meyer and Aniya White

**Miss Pam** – Frida Hernandez, Ahmad Hudspeth, Zachary Lerwick, Phebe Nihart-Arango, Ronaldo Rosas, Jacob Spencer and Malee Vang

**Miss Driscoll** – Trista Deng, Usamah Hayes, Jovan Jordan, JaDavia Overton, Clara Schmidt, Dillion Stai and Jade Xiong

**Miss D.** – Destiny Baggett, Rector Reeves, Becca Thorstad, and Amina Whitfield

**Mrs. DeGreef** – Kodi Meyer, Dee Reeves, Billy Schmidt, Anthony Williams, Olivia Williams, Jedell Yalartai, Hope Kannare and Eve Taye

**Mrs. Grabe** – Cassidy Deng, Thomas Gleplay, Joey Lewis and Breanna Minter-Moan

**Miss Kalmes** – Lisa Gweh, Julia Lexvold, Charo Nickens, Ben Thorstad and Amirah Watkins

**Mrs. Rosengren** – Alisha Carter, Julianna Horstmann, Yelshi Moua and Sitara Roden

**Mr. Skramstad** – Gabby Barclay, Nathan Hoppe, Kevin Hughes, Anthony Kieley, Kris Kurth, Matia Maciel, Destiny Nutter, Nirvana Tlacomulco and Nujerry Vang

**Middle School (Mrs. Swanson, Mr. Nordmann, Miss Erickson, Mrs. Hardenbrook, Mrs. B-H, Miss Kline)**  
Natasha Baker, Johvontea Blackman, Nick Erickson, Nick Mitchell, Bubbles

Auld, Mikayla Holland, Rhoda Yassin, Delaney Peterson, Amber Watros, Estrine Rockson, Sam Folley, R.J. Abellard, DeVale Barner, U-Jay Smith, Hakim Watkins, Asya Watkins, TajJenay Edwards, Emily Croft, Carolyn Weekley, Bailey Larson, Elizabeth Weeber, Marsay Johnson, Berenisse Portillo, Patrick Kollah, Onell Yalartai, Joe Sando, Kaleb Arradondo, Noah Whitfield, Todd Cotton, Grant Hollie, Alex Djavedan, Phillip Persell, Noah Chan, Haley Wincek, Kau Guannu, Jenkins Yonly, Nieshia Rodriguez, Yah Guannu, Nina Moua, ThaTee Yang, David LaForce and Kirk Anderson.

### **Congratulations to Middle School Tri II Honor Roll Students:**

The following students earned a 3.0 or higher average on their trimester II report card:

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

David Neve, Bubbles Auld, Kaleb Arradondo, Rico Bullock, TajJenay Edwards, Mikayla Holland, Noah Chan, Nick Mitchell, Nina Moua, Delaney Peterson, Haley Wincek, Rhoda Yassin, Yah Guannu, Rita Kwakye, Amber Watros, Nieshia Rodriguez, Nick Erickson

#### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Tyler Stier, Kayla Lyles, Jenkins Yonly, Samuel Roden, Asya Watkins, Natasha Baker, Patrick Kollah, Yobani Ruacho-Gomez, Brandi Brandner, Bailey Larson

#### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Lavelle Riser, Kirk Anderson, Jake Peterson, Tha Tee Yang, Carolyn Weekley, Kau Guannu, Bobbie Nutter, Naomi Chan, Brenda Kurth

### **MCA Test Tips:**

Odyssey students in grades 3 – 8 will participate in the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments in the month of April. The testing will begin the week school resumes after spring break. The reading portion is first on April 14,

15, and make-ups on the 16<sup>th</sup>. The following week will be the math portion on April 21, 22, and make-ups on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Students in grades 5 and 8 will also take a science portion on April 28, 29, and make-ups on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Families can help their student(s) perform to the best of his or her ability on the tests. During the testing weeks it is important for the students to get a proper night's sleep each night and to eat a healthy breakfast. Parents or guardians can also help their child prepare for the tests. There are helpful web sites, and the teachers also have access to handouts that you can use at home to practice test-taking skills. Please contact your child's teacher to request more information regarding these tools.

We also need parent partners for hall monitors on April 14, 15, 21 and 22, from 8:15 until approximately 11:30. Please contact Shel Auld at [mskbauld@yahoo.com](mailto:mskbauld@yahoo.com) or (763) 971-8200 if you are able to help with this very easy job.

### **Donation Request (again!):**

Thanks to the numerous donations from Odyssey parents of fabric and polyfil a few months ago we now have four large body pillows in the media center! The students have been enjoying them when they take part in the "reading to the dogs" program, or when relaxing with a book.

We have had a request for a couple more large pillows to be made that will be used by our occupational therapist. There is still a large amount of fabric available, but we need more polyfil for stuffing the pillows.

Please send in donations of polyfil to the office. For more information contact Shel Auld at [mskbould@yahoo.com](mailto:mskbould@yahoo.com) or (763) 971-8200.

### **Giving and more giving at Odyssey!**

Thank you, Odyssey families for the generous donations to the annual food drive! Our goal was three food items per student and staff person, for a total of approximately 900 items. The Odyssey community donated a total of 866 food items! The food is going to C.E.A.P. of Brooklyn Park.

### **Seventh Generation Donation**

Seventh Generation, a paper products company that follows sustainable practices, responded to a donation request by an Odyssey parent on behalf of our health care office. Dorene Thomas, the Odyssey health para, had placed a list of needed items in the school newsletter. One of the items was feminine hygiene products. After receiving a donation request letter from the parent, Seventh Generation sent 10 free product coupons! This was a donation valued at \$55. Thank you, Seventh Generation!

### **Gluten Free Group of Friends- Recipes for Kids**

With Chef Amber and Concierge Renee Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00-8:00 pm \$5, 1 child per adult for free

Join us for another fun class of learning and sharing, all gluten free! Amber will be preparing veggie quesadillas, crispy chicken fingers and grilled cheese sandwiches for you to try and talking about other easy healthy gluten free foods perfect for kids.

Whole Foods Market-Lake Calhoun  
Minneapolis, MN  
Amber Witherow  
Culinary Director  
Phone 612-927-8141

### **Head's Up! Trash to Treasure Contest Coming Soon!**

Odyssey will be having a contest in April to encourage greater participation in the Box Tops for Education, Kemps and Land O' Lakes milk lids programs and to remind people to turn in used ink cartridges and old cell phones. April 13 through April 27 students can bring in Box Tops, milk lids from Kemps and Land O' Lakes, along with used ink cartridges and old cell phones for the contest. There will be a prize drawing for the students and the class that brings in the most during that two week period will also get a prize. Start saving up now!

### **Get In Gear**

Are you ready to get your body in gear for spring? This year's Get in Gear runs are on Saturday, April 25 at Minnehaha Park. Each year there is a 2k run/walk, a 5k run/walk and a 10k run.

Schools that participate in the event as a team have the opportunity to earn gift certificates for physical education equipment. Odyssey does have a team registered on-line.

If you are interested in having your family participate and support Odyssey at this event, you can register at [www.getingear10k.com](http://www.getingear10k.com) and follow the "Fit For Fun" and "register for a team" links. If you have questions, please contact Shel Auld at (763)971-8200 or [mikauld@aol.com](mailto:mikauld@aol.com).

**Trimester III Dates to Remember:**

March 30, Monday – Spring Flowers sales fundraiser begins.

April 6-10 – No school, spring break.

April 13, Monday – Spring Flowers orders AND money due.

CAC meeting, 3:30. Media center.

April 14-16 – MCA testing, reading. Grades 3-8.

April 21-23 – MCA testing, math. Grades 3-8.

April 22, Wednesday – Earth Day events.

April 22, 23 – Tri III Conferences, evening. “Families Feed the Teachers”

April 23, Thursday – Early Release, 11:30.

April 24, Friday – No School. Tri III Conferences, daytime.

April 22-24 – Scholastic Book Fair.

April 25, Saturday – Get in Gear 2k, 5k and 10k runs. Minnehaha Park.

April 28-30 – MCA testing, science. Grades 5 and 8.

May 1, Friday – Asian/So. Pacific Heritage Day.

May 7, Thursday – Teacher Appreciation Day.

Band Recital and Spring Art Fair, 7:00.

Spring Flowers delivered.

May 11, Monday – CAC meeting, 3:30. Media center.

May 13, 14 – Grades 1-2 Audobon trip.

May 13-15 – Grades 3-5 Audobon trip.

May 22, Friday – Track and Field Day.

May 25, Monday – No School.

May 26-29 – grades 6-8 Wolf’s Ridge trip.

May 27, Wednesday – Board meeting, 6:00.

June 1, Monday – Tri III Project Demonstrations and Spring Picnic, 6:00 – 7:30.

June 4, Thursday – Last Day of School, early release, 11:30.