



# Odyssey Academy Newsletter

October 3, 2008

## **Thank You for all the Great Help at Odyssey's Spruce Up and Family Fun**

**Night!** Thank you to the numerous families that helped out at both the Spruce Up Odyssey and Family Fun Night event! What a fantastic start to building the Odyssey community spirit for the school year.

Due to the increase in participation this year we were able to form six working teams and accomplish many projects. The front yard got trimmed, weeded and picked up. The staff supply room was rearranged, equipment moved to new locations in the building and the room organized. The school bookstore is now set up and books displayed. The first and second grade classroom tables got set up and chairs gathered for them. The back playground and yard area got weeded and trashed picked up AND all the graffiti removed! Lastly, one team worked to set up Family Fun Night.

Family Fun Night also showed an increase in attendance, both in volunteers and in families coming for the evening event. Tables were full and

chatter was abundant, in spite of some intense Bingo players!

Odyssey staff is very grateful to all the families and community members that put so much time and effort to help make the first event of the '08-'09 school year a great success

## **Next Week - Conferences And More!**

The end of next week, on October 8, 9, and 10 Odyssey will hold first trimester conferences. If you attended Open House, at the beginning of the school year, you were asked to sign up for a conference time with your child(ren)'s teacher(s). Teachers will send home notes to remind you of your scheduled time. If you were not able to attend the Open House and do not have a time reserved for your family, please contact the teacher(s) and schedule a conference time.

At Odyssey, conferences are a very important part of the education process for all the students. It is important for

students, parents and teachers to communicate together for an optimal learning environment. Please be advised, however, that family members should attend conferences together. If circumstances dictate that all children in your family not attend a student's conference, please help us by informing other Odyssey staff members. It is a safety issue when children are unattended in the school hallways, or outside, while the parent(s) is/are in a classroom conference.

During conferences two other things will be going on in the school. In the media center, there will be a **Scholastic Book Fair**. Stop in and pick up some new books to interest your student(s)! Also, the teachers put in very long days during conference week. On conference days, many teachers are not even able to break away for dinner. We ask that the families help them out by bringing in **food for the teachers** to snack on and for their dinner. Fresh fruit and vegetables, cheese and crackers, water bottles, crock pot meals, deli items are all possibilities. If you signed up at Open House to help with the first trimester meals for the teachers, please contact Shel Auld at [mikauld@aol.com](mailto:mikauld@aol.com) or (763)971-8200. Thank you in advance for showing support to Odyssey's fantastic teachers!

### **Kids' Club**

Don't forget that Odyssey Academy now offers before and after school care. Kids' Club opens at 6:00 a.m. and closes at 6:00 p.m. We are also open from 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. on non-school days. Child care assistance may be available through Hennepin County if you qualify. Please contact Kari Mitchell for more information.

### **Bus Issues**

Thank you all for being patient while we worked out bussing issues. This year, working out the bugs in transportation proved to be especially challenging due to the high number of students enrolling at the last minute. Thank you to all our parents, staff and volunteers for helping get students to school during those first hectic weeks!

### **Upcoming Events**

**Thursday, October 2:** I Love to Read day, Read-A-Thon ends.

**Friday, October 3:** Picture day

**Monday, October 6:** Custodian Appreciation day

**Wednesday, October 8 and**

**Thursday, October 9:** Conferences, Book Fair and Teacher Dinners, after school.

**Friday, October 10:** No School – Conferences and Book Fair.

**Monday, October 13:** CAC Meeting, 3:30

**Thursday and Friday, October 16 and 17:** No School

**Monday, October 20:** Evergreens and Pointsettias Fundraiser begins.

**Wednesday, October 22:** Board Meeting, 6:00 P.M.

**Thursday, October 29:** Evergreens and Pointsettias Fundraiser ends.

Please be aware that the Blue Sky Guide fundraiser ending date is past. If you have not returned your order form or the sample book to the school please do so as soon as possible. Any books not returned must be paid for. All families that have not paid the \$20.00 for the sample book, or have not returned it, will be billed. Thank you for your help. Fundraiser totals will be published when the sales are completed.

