



# Odyssey Academy Newsletter

March 26, 2010

## **Four students create a Wolf Ridge Scholarship Fund**

Fundraising is awesome but sometimes students still run short on earning what they need to go to Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center. Four middle school students, Nujerry Suadoavang, Jr., Nirvana Tlacomulco, Yobani Ruacho-Gomez and Romario Tlacomulco wrote a letter to see if they could get private or corporate donations to help fund their trips. So far the group has earned \$550 which will be enough to finish paying for their trips to Wolf Ridge in June.

If you would like to donate to our Fund, the money will go to pay part of other middle school students' trips. Students will be awarded the scholarship money based on financial need, they must be going to Wolf Ridge with Odyssey for the first time, they

must be respectful to teachers, staff and other students to be eligible.

If you would like to help sponsor a student's trip please send a donation in any amount to:

Odyssey Academy  
6201 Noble Avenue North  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429  
c/o Wolf Ridge Scholarship Fund

Make checks out to: Odyssey Academy (Wolf Ridge Scholarship Fund). There also is a link also on Odyssey's Web site.

## **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.

At the March C.A.R.E.S. assembly the students that were nominated for “Empathy” were recognized, and other family groups introduced “S” for “Self Control”.

All parents are welcome to attend the C.A.R.E.S. assemblies, and the next one will be April 30 at 8:00 AM. Be sure to check out the C.A.R.E.S. display case in the center hallway to see the photos of the students that were nominated for representing “Empathy”. Congratulate those students when you see them!

### **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: Alisha Carter, Meagan Chalfen, Julianna Horstmann, Edward Kim, Noah Newbauer and Alana Wells  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Kaleb Arrandondo, Bubbles Auld, Nick Mitchell and Delaney Peterson

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Natasha Baker, Grant Hollie, Patrick Kollah, Samuel Roden and Tyler Stier

### **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 13, 14, and make-ups on the 15<sup>th</sup>. The following week will be the math portion on April 20, 21, and make-ups on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Students in grades 5 and 8 will also take a science portion on April 27, 28, and make-ups on the 29<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 13, 14, 20 and 21, 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.

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

Thank you, Odyssey families for the generous donations to the annual food drive! Our goal was five food items per student and staff person, for a total of approximately 1250 items. The Odyssey community donated a total of 1070 food items! The food was donated to C.E.A.P. of Brooklyn Park.

### **Get Your Act Together! – Variety Show is Coming Soon!**

Odyssey's annual Variety Show is coming up on May 7, 2010. This year we are continuing the "Festival of Nations" theme.

We are looking for students, parents or family members, and Odyssey staff members to participate! Singing, dancing, musical instruments, magic tricks, tumbling, skits, and many other acts have been popular in the past. We will need student M.C.'s, and there will also be the ethnic clothing fashion show component again.

Get involved! Look for more information to come home in April. Fill out the form, turn it in, and join in the fun!

### **Brooklyn Center Earth Fest**

Mark the date on your calendar: Saturday, April 24 will be the Brooklyn Center Earth Fest! It will be held at the Brooklyn Center High School from 1:00 – 4:00 PM. There will be a variety of topics, including "Reuse", which Odyssey is involved in and helping to display. Some of the displays will be hands-on and family-friendly.

### **Greetings from music!**

Fourth and fifth graders will be starting a recorder unit after spring break. If your student already owns a recorder, please have them bring it by Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. If your child does not have a recorder, we have recorders at school that can be used in class.

Also, students in grades 3-5 as well as a few middle-school students will be presenting a Patriotic music program on **Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** in the gym. Please mark this date on your calendar. It will be an exciting night with fun Patriotic music!

### **Spring Running Club**

Mr. Fritschel and Mrs. Auld will be offering Running Club again this spring. We will be meeting on 6 Thursdays in April and May. The dates are April 8, 15 and 29, May 6, 20 and 27. Running Club will be from 2:45 – 3:45, and students **MUST be picked up by 3:45.** Students may attend Running Club only if parents can provide transportation no later than 3:45 for those 6 Thursdays.

Running Club is open to all Odyssey Academy students, grades k – 8. Snack will be provided, and there is no fee. All students that would like to participate in Running Club must have a signed permission slip turned into Mr. Fritschel before participating.

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\_\_\_\_\_(student name) may participate in Running Club. I understand I must provide transportation and my student **MUST** be picked up **NO LATER THAN 3:45.**

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\_\_\_\_\_  
(parent signature)

### **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 [mskbould@yahoo.com](mailto:mskbould@yahoo.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 Thursday, March 25. The flowers come from Lynde's Greenhouse and Nursery and will be delivered the Tuesday before Mother's Day.

**PLEASE NOTE: Date Changes!**

As the end of the school year approaches, we have had to make some adjustments to the school calendar. We apologize for any inconveniences these changes may incur.

There will be a **Patriotic Performance** featuring our third through fifth grade music classes and the middle school choir program, on **Friday, May 21, at 7:00.**

The Rollerskating Parties previously scheduled for April 29 and 30 have also changed, due to the delivery of the roller skates. There will now be an **After School Party**, for the third through eighth grades, on **Friday, April 30**, from 3:00 – 7:00.

**Dates to Remember:**

March 25, Thursday – Spring Flowers sales fundraiser begins.

March 29 - April 2 – No school, spring break.

April 5, Monday – School Resumes.

April 6, Tuesday – Spring Flowers orders AND money due.

April 8, Thursday – Marketing meeting, 3:15.

April 12, Monday – CAC meeting, 3:00.

April 13, Tuesday – Wellness and School Improvement meetings, 4:00.

April 14, Wednesday – Technology meeting, 4:00

April 13-15 – MCA testing, reading. Grades 3-8.

April 20-22 – MCA testing, math. Grades 3-8.

April 21, 22 – Tri III Conferences, evening. “Families Feed the Teachers”.

April 22, Thursday – Earth Day events. Early Release, 11:30.

Tri III Conferences, daytime.

April 21-23 – Scholastic Book Fair.

April 24, Saturday – Get in Gear 2k, 5k and 10k runs. Minnehaha Park. Brooklyn Center Earth Fest at BCHS, 1:00 - 4:00.

April 27-29 – MCA testing, science. Grades 5 and 8.

April 28, Wednesday – Finance meeting, 5:00.

School Board meeting, 6:00.

April 30, Friday – After School Party, grades 3-8, 3:00 – 7:00

May 3, Monday – Asian/So. Pacific Heritage Day.

May 4, Tuesday – Spring Flowers delivered.

May 6, Thursday – Teacher Appreciation Day.

May 7, Friday – Festival of Nations Variety Show, 7:00

May 10, Monday – CAC meeting, 3:30.

May 11, Tuesday – Wellness and School Improvement meetings, 4:00.

May 12, Wednesday – Technology meeting, 4:00

May 12-14 – Grades 3-5 Audobon trip.

May 13 – Marketing meeting, 3:15.

May 13, 14 – Grades 1-2 Audobon trip.

May 21, Friday – Patriotic Music Program, 7:00.

May 26, Wednesday – Finance meeting, 5:00. School Board meeting, 6:00

May 28, Friday – Track and Field Day.

May 31, Monday – No School.

June 1-4 – grades 6-8 Wolf’s Ridge trip.

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

June 10, Thursday – Last Day of School, early release, 11:30.