



Odyssey Academy Newsletter

November 20, 2009

Tri I Project Demonstrations Night with the Annual Soup and Chili Cook- off!

Odyssey's first Project Demonstrations Night of the school year will be next **Monday, November 23, from 6:00 – 7:30!** This is an exciting evening for all the students and teachers. The classes have been working very hard to be ready to show parents and community members the academic gains they have made in the past three months. Demonstrating their project to others is a very important part of the student's education.

This event also includes our Annual Soup and Chili Cook-off! Notices were sent home last week to all families to inform them what will need to be brought for the meal. To insure enough food for all families and guests, each family is requested to bring one pot of soup or chili. It does not need to be homemade unless you would like to enter it in the cook-off for a chance to win the prize. Each grade has also been

assigned one food item per student to be donated. If you do not know what your student's class assigned food item is, please contact the school and we will let you know. Food will be served from 6:00 – 7:00.

There is no fee to attend the event. Please be sure to make time to come and view the projects, even if you choose not to eat at the cook-off. Please contact your child's teacher or Shel Auld at (763)971-8200 if you need assistance with transportation to the event.

Poinsettias Delivery Change

The poinsettia fundraiser orders will be delivered to Odyssey on Thursday, December 3rd. This is a change from the original date published.

We apologize for any inconvenience. Please contact Shel Auld at mskbauld@yahoo.com or (763)971-8200 with any questions.

Winter Carnival / Silent Auction

Remember to check out the end-of-the-year sales for items to donate to the Silent Auction and Winter Carnival (February 5). Items that can be added to baskets for the Silent Auction (such as arts and crafts items, cooking/kitchen items, health and body care items, ect.) are needed. We also need small prizes for the many games during the carnival and "dollar store" merchandise for the Bargain Boutique.

We have available a "donations request" letter, with the school's tax ID information, for area businesses. As you go about your weekly errands, please think of businesses or stores that you frequent that you could approach with the letter. The success of the Silent Auction depends on the amount of donations we receive from businesses through Odyssey staff and families. Please contact Shel Auld at mskbauld@yahoo.com or (763)971-8200 for a copy of the letter.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Help Wanted

We need partners during **literacy time** in all the grades, to either work one-on-one students as they read, or help with small groups. Improving literacy skills increases the students' success in all the classes and helps improve the test scores throughout the school.

We also need extra hands during **lunch periods** for kindergarten through fifth grades. Helping students with containers, dispensing condiments and helping staff with dismissal times will be the main tasks.

Please contact your student's teacher or contact Shel Auld at mikauld@aol.com or (763)971-8200, to get more

information or schedule a time you can come in and help.

Odyssey Committees Start!

We are please to announce the start of 3 additional Odyssey committees. The School Improvement committee, the Wellness committee, and the Technology committee will join the Community Action committee and the Finance committee.

All committees will be meeting in the month of December, and on a monthly basis through the end of the school year. School Improvement and Wellness will be meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 4:00 (December 8), and Technology will meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 4:30 (December 9). Community Action will continue meeting the second Monday of each month at 3:00 (December 14), and Finance will continue on the forth Wednesday of each month at 5:00 (except December will be on the 16th, due to the holidays). Childcare will be available, with advance notice, for the Community Action, School Improvement, and Wellness committees.

We need parent participation on all the committees. Please contact Shel Auld for more information at (763)971-8200 or mskbauld@yahoo.com.

Health Update

For the last few weeks we have had a small epidemic of strep in the school (about 5% of our students). We continue to have new cases every day. Please watch your student for symptoms, which have been predominantly headache, stomachache with no fever. If your student has these symptoms please take them to the doctor for a strep test. Thanks for your help.

Is My Child Well Enough To Go To School?

Many students and parents are frequently concerned about when students should stay home or attend school. The following is intended to help with this decision.

General Practices:

- If the student has had a fever of 100 degrees or more, the student should stay home for 24 hours after the temperature returns to normal, without fever reducing medication.
- If student has vomited or had diarrhea, the student should stay home until 24 hours after the last episode.
- If the student has had any rash that may be disease-related or cause is unknown, check with family physician before sending the student to school.
- If student is ill please call the school daily to report the illness at 763-549-2388. This number can be called 24 hours a day.

News from classrooms:

Music:

Our music program for grades K-5 is quickly approaching! It will be on **December 10th at 7:00 p.m.** in the gym. Please be sure you have marked the date on the calendar! Even if you do not have a student in the program, you are more than welcome to attend! The students have worked hard in preparation for the program. Parents of students in the program will be receiving a notice soon regarding details about the evening, where I could use assistance, etc. Thanks!

Kindergarten News

November has been a very busy month in kindergarten. We have been learning all about the wonderful state of Minnesota and what makes it a special place to live. Students are excited for their very first Odyssey Academy project night!

Learning to read has also kept us working. Kindergarteners have been practicing letter sounds from A to J, been filling up our word walls with words, and practicing 12 heart words!

Odyssey C.A.R.E.S.

On Friday, November 13, Odyssey had an all-school assembly for our C.A.R.E.S. program. Some of the family groups presented 2 skits about the letter "A" for "Assertion".

There were also over 70 students nominated for representing "Cooperation"! Those students have had their photos put into the display case across from the media center. Be sure to stop by and check out the pictures of the many Odyssey students that show cooperation in the classrooms.

The next C.A.R.E.S. assembly will be on Friday, December 18, at 8:00. The students that are nominated for "Assertion" will be recognized, and other family groups will introduce "R" for "Responsibility". All parents are welcome to attend the C.A.R.E.S. assemblies.

Lost and Found

Our lost and found cabinet is overflowing with unclaimed items. If you are missing a lunch box, sweater, sweatshirt, shoe or book please check the lost and found cabinet near the first

floor exit. Items not claimed by winter break will be donated to Goodwill.

December Dates:

Thursday, 3rd – Poinsettias orders pick up, 2:30 – 4:00 PM
Friday, 4th – Middle School Lock-in, 3:00 – 9:00 PM (grades 6-8)
Tuesday, 8th – School Improvement Committee, 4:00 PM
Wellness Committee, 4:00 PM
Wednesday, 9th – Technology Committee, 4:30 PM
Thursday, 10th – Winter Music Program and Art Show, 7:00 PM
Monday, 14th – Community Action Committee, 3:00 PM
Wednesday, 16th – Finance Committee, 5:00 PM
School Board Meeting, 6:00 PM
Friday, 18th – C.A.R.E.S. assembly, 8:00 AM
Winter Break: December 21 – January 1. (School resumes January 4.)

School Event Dates at a Glance:

Kindergarten Open House – January 12, 6:30
Health and Wellness Fair + Pancake Breakfast – January 16, 9:00-11:00
Conferences – January 20-22
Winter Carnival – February 5, 6:00-8:00
Black History day – February 17
Tri II Project Night / Science Fair – March 2, 6:00-7:30
Play Performance – March 19, 7:00
Earth day – April 22
Conferences + Book Fair – April 21-23
Roller skating party, grades 1-5 – April 29, 3:00-7:00
Roller skating party, grades 6-8 – April 30, 3:00-7:00
Asian / So. Pac. Heritage day – May 3
Festival of Nations Variety Show – May 7, 7:00
Audobon Trip, grades 1-5 – May 12, 13, 14
Track and Field day – May 28

Wolf Ridge Trip, grades 6-8 – June 1-4
Tri III Project Night + Spring Picnic – June 7, 6:00-7:30
End of the Year Program, Last day of school – June 10