

ODYSSEY CHARTER SCHOOL

Nurturing a Lifelong Love of Learning

MAY 2009



HEADMASTER'S NOTES

First, we would like to thank you for your understanding this past month when the water main ruptured on Lancaster Avenue causing OCS to close for the day. We do apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

On another note, we are quickly approaching the last few weeks of the school year. While it has been a busy year, it has been another amazing year of watching the children grow.

The last day of the school year will be Friday, June 5, 2009. This will be a half-day. As the time gets closer, a half-day bus schedule will be sent home.

There are many exciting days ahead before we say good-bye for the summer. Many classes have their end of year field trips planned. On May 2, we will be sharing with our families and friends a night of fun at the Wilmington Blue Rocks game. On Friday, May 29th, the students will take a break from the classroom to participate in the fun field day activities the PTO has planned. This year, field day will take place at a new location, the DuPont Picnic Pavilion located in the Chestnut Run site.

While it does seem like there are many fun and games planned, the students will still be working hard in their classrooms to absorb that last bit of knowledge before the school year comes to an end.

After much thought and discussion, we unfortunately have had to cancel our annual end of the year assembly. This was a unanimous decision based on the limited space we have available in this building and the work that is being done over in the new building. We all look forward to this assembly each year, and will miss this wonderful experience. Thank you for your understanding.

The school will be busy over the summer preparing for the up-coming school year. Construction will be completed at the new site for our third, fourth, and fifth graders and staff to enjoy. More information on the logistics of combining the two buildings will be made available over the summer months.

Thank you to all of our parents and PTO volunteers for the time and energy you have put into this past school year. While it may seem to go unnoticed, your dedication and generosity has been greatly appreciated. A special thank you to our PTO

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1- Second Grade trip to Ashland Nature Center
- 2- OCS Night at the Blue Rocks
- 4-8 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 5- Mrs. Burrigge's Class to Petco
- 7- Mrs. Przywara's Class to Petco; 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Grade Science Fair
- 10- Mother's Day
- 11- Second Grade visit from "The Compost Lady"
- 13- Field Day Meeting 6:30
- 21- Uniform Fittings 5-6:30
- 25- Memorial Day
SCHOOL CLOSED
- 27- Kindergarten trip to Coverdale Farms; Field Day Meeting 6:30
- 28- Second Grade Trip to Bellevue State Park; Mrs. Roosma's class to Petco
- 29- Field Day



JUNE 2009

- 2- Rain Date for Field Day
- 5- Last Day of School
Noon Dismissal

*Don't forget Pizza Fridays!
Money is due on Wednesday*

The faculty and staff of OCS would like to Thank the PTO volunteers and all parents/guardians for your kindness during Teacher Appreciation Week. Your kindness and generosity was overwhelming. We are lucky to have such wonderful and kind parental support. It has been an honor to have been given the opportunity to be a part of your children's lives.

FIELD DAY IS COMING!

Friday, May 29, 2009

(Rain Date: June 2, 2009)

DuPont Chestnut Run Picnic Pavilion

Please dress your child appropriately for field day activities. Shorts or sweatpants, t-shirts, and sneakers are encouraged.

A pizza lunch will be provided. If you wish that your child not eat pizza, please send in a brown bag lunch labeled with your child's name and their teacher's name.

Please apply sunscreen to your children.

We look forward to a fun-filled day for all.

Meetings for field day volunteers will be held on:

Wednesday, May 13th, 20th, & 27th

At 6:30.

Please try to attend at least one of these meetings.

If there are any questions please email the addresses below:

daffydeli@gmail.com or audreyebank@yahoo.com



Goodbye and Best Wishes

Our Counseling Intern, Kristin Nannas, will be completing her internship with us on Friday, May 15, 2009. We have been so happy to have her with us the last few months. Kristin will be attending West Chester University for graduate school in the fall. She will be continuing her degree in school counseling. Thank you for all your hard work. You will be missed. We send our thanks and best wishes with you.



*Have a Safe and Relaxing
Summer*

The second grade would like to say Thank you to Brandywine Town Center's Regal Cinemas for accommodating the students on such short notice on May 1.



The second grade field trip to Ashland Nature Center was cancelled due to rain. With the help of Regal Cinemas, the children were able to see the Disney movie Earth in lieu of the Ashland Trip. Thank you Regal Cinemas and parents for your tremendous cooperation.

YEARBOOKS



Yearbooks are now being sold. The cost is \$14.00 each. Please return your payment and order form no later than Thursday, May 14.

CONGRATULATIONS THIRD & FOURTH GRADERS

On Tuesday, May 12, students from our third and fourth grades participated for the first time in an economics competition at the University of Delaware. Our third graders place first in the competition and the fourth graders placed second. Congratulations are sent out to: *Ms. Fendell, Mr. Corcoran, Chris Coulaloglou, Jennifer Zhan, Francesca Sedlacek, Jackson Webb, Lauren Naumann, Jordan Clark, Ahmed Masood, and Austin Parmer.* Nice job ladies and gentlemen. We are so proud of you!

Happy Mother's Day to all of our Marvelous Moms.

And let us not forget in June...

Happy Father's Day to all of our Fantastic Dads.



CLASSROOM NOTES

1 The first grade is hatching chicks! With the help of the University of Delaware's 4-H Club, the children have had the opportunity to observe first hand chick's hatching from their eggs and classifying the type of chick born. Each morning the students check for new arrivals. What fun and how cute!

2 The second grade classes have not had much success with field trips this school year. Two trips to Ashland Nature Center had to be cancelled due to rain. The students also had a field trip to the Grand Opera House cancelled due to the water main break. The second grade teachers send an enormous thank you to the students and parents for your understanding while we were trying to reschedule our field trips. Since the Ashland trip was cancelled on Friday, May 1, the students were taken to see the Disney movie, Earth. The teachers were so proud of the children. Thank you parents for your cooperation and flexibility.

3 & **4**
The third and fourth graders are learning all about economics in their Social Studies classes. The children are creating their own small businesses. They've developed business proposals and plans, earned business licenses, and will even be creating a product to sell to classmates. The teachers have also been paying the children a salary based on the effort they set forth. What little entrepreneurs they are creating!

Congratulations

On May 5th and May 7th, our second, third, and fourth grade students participated in the first ever OCS Science Fair. We were amazed to see all the things our little scientists discovered. Winners of the science fair and their category, are as follows:

Second Grade:

Madison Tolson-Testing Viscosity-*First Place*

Jenna Hunt-What Floats?/What Sinks?-*Second Place*

Bowen Kelley-Microwave Heating Different Liquids-*Third Place*

Kay Waltz-Crystal Formation-*Honorable Mention*

Third Grade:

Liam Gaughan-Testing Water for Bacteria-*First Place*

Chris Coualoglou-Electrostatic-*Second Place*

Cheyenne Rosa-Plant Growth-*Third Place*

Marlee Hargis-Plant, Tea, Coffee-*Honorable Mention*

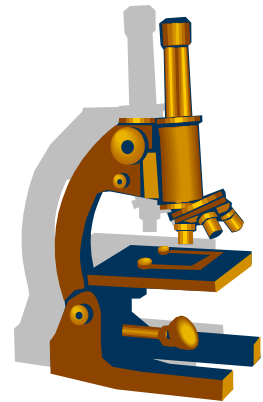
Fourth Grade:

Madison Curry-Plant Growth in Various Liquids-*First Place*

Shannon McNulty-Paper Towel Absorbency in Different Brands-*Second Place*

James Rosa-Tooth Decay (Iced Tea vs. Cola)-*Third Place*

Lauren Naumann-Which Water is Healthier (Rain vs. Tap)-*Honorable Mention*



Thank You

The week of May 3rd is National Teacher's Appreciation Week. During this time we would like to recognize those individuals that nourish our children with the tools needed for a lifelong love of learning. The teachers and staff of Odyssey are men and women who give so much of their time, talent, and hearts to each and every child they touch.

Thank you to each and every one of you for making a difference in the life of a child. Thank you for your commitment to our students and to OCS.

Kindergarten

Jeanne Giordano
Mary Lou Strauss
Theodora Galanis

P.E./Gym

Maria Kalfaki

Greek Language

Elpida Bairaktari
Katerina Thanou
Ourania Lalioti

Counseling

Barbara Berrick

Headmasters

Anthony Skoutelas

First Grade

Rebecca Roosma
Maribeth Przywara
Melanie Burridge
Lauren Evans



Third & Fourth Grade

Lilli Fendell
Emilie Englehart

Special Education

Francine Ansley
Amber Reader

Second Grade

Maggi McNutt
Sandy Poplos
Nicole Poulos
Bethany Peters

Music

Kostis Kritsotakis

Greek Mathematics

Eleni Spiliopoulou
Giorgia Konstantopoulou
Vassilios Guidoglou

Reading

Mary Romaninsky

...and all those who teach our children.