



inspired learning in "green" and healthy schools



Spring Newsletter

From Our Founder
April 2026

Happy Spring, Odyssey Community,

I hope each of you had a restful, joyful, and meaningful Spring Break. This time of year is always special across our campuses as we see our students return refreshed, re-engaged, and ready to finish the school year strong.

At Odyssey, we are continually reminded that what makes our schools truly exceptional is not just our programs or achievements—it is our people. Our students, families, faculty, and staff create a community rooted in purpose, growth, and a shared commitment to excellence. It is something we never take for granted.

I am deeply honored to serve this community each day—and I know I not only speak for myself when I say that, but for the Odyssey Board of Directors and every faculty and staff member.

As we move into these final months of the school year, we remain focused on our mission of educating the whole child. This means developing strong thinkers, capable leaders, and individuals of character—students who are not only academically prepared, but also confident, healthy, and ready to contribute meaningfully to the world around them.

Throughout this newsletter, you will see just a glimpse of what that looks like in action. From academic achievements and artistic expression to athletics, leadership, and service, our students continue to rise to high expectations and exceed them in remarkable ways.

You will also see the continued growth of our programs—particularly in literacy, health and wellness, and community engagement. These are not isolated initiatives, but part of a larger vision: to build a school model that truly supports the development of the whole child and serves as an example of what education can and should be.

Thank you for your continued partnership, your trust, and your investment in this community. Your involvement matters, and it strengthens everything we do. And thank you for reading this newsletter, where you will get 1 hour of volunteer service by scanning the QR code or clicking the link below.



With gratitude,

Mrs. Constance

CEO, Green Apple School Management
Founder, Odyssey Charter School, Inc.



Use this QR code or click this link [HERE](#) to earn your volunteer service time and participate in our school engagement competition.

Our Mission for Every Child

Odyssey's mission is to work in partnership families and our community with the aim of helping each child reach their own unique and wonderful potential—spiritually, academically, emotionally, socially, and physically. Our child-centered programs are selected so that children have multiple opportunities to find and develop their passions.

New Board Member



The Odyssey Board of Directors is proud to welcome our newest member, Mr. Zak Walker.

Mr. Walker brings both professional expertise and a personal connection to our community. As a project manager and engineer at Northrop Grumman, he leads complex initiatives that require precision, strategic thinking, and strong leadership. His ability to bridge design and execution ensures that projects are completed thoughtfully and effectively.

Equally important, Mr. Walker is part of the Odyssey family. As the parent of two Odyssey students and the fiancé of an Odyssey alumna, he understands our mission not only professionally, but personally.

We are excited to have him join our Board and look forward to the perspective and leadership he will bring.

Supporting Reading Through Summer Camp

We understand that many of our families rely on summer programs, and we are committed to ensuring that students continue to grow during this time.

As part of our summer camp program, students will participate in a dedicated 20–30 minute reading block, Monday through Thursday.

- Rising K–1 students will be read to or supported as they develop early literacy skills
- Rising 2–6 students will have access to a variety of summer reading selections

This structure allows students to stay engaged with reading in a consistent, supportive environment while still enjoying all the fun of summer camp.

Summer Reading – Building Lifelong Readers

At Odyssey, we believe that reading is one of the most important foundations of a strong education. It is through reading that students learn to think deeply, understand the world around them, and develop their own voice.

This summer, we are continuing to strengthen our reading program with intentional updates designed to support both skill development and a love of literature.

For rising grades K–6, students will now have access to three types of selections:

- Deep Read
- Classical Text
- 250th Anniversary Edition

Reading expectations for grades 7–12 remain consistent, with a continued emphasis on thoughtful engagement, comprehension, and a well-educated mind.

Each student is required to read at least one book over the summer. Students who choose to go beyond that and read two to three books will be recognized at the start of the school year as Scholars or Scholars of Distinction.

Summer reading is not simply an assignment—it is an opportunity. It helps prevent the well-documented “summer slide,” strengthens vocabulary and comprehension, and encourages curiosity, independence, and critical thinking. Even a small amount of daily reading has a lasting impact.

We are also working to raise funds to provide at least one book to every student. If we are unable to fully meet that goal, these titles are widely available through Amazon, ThriftBooks, Barnes & Noble, and our local libraries.

You can find more detailed information for Elementary at https://odysseyschools.com/pdf/Summer_Reading.pdf and for Jr/Sr High at <https://odysseyschools.com/pdf/jrsr-summer-reading.pdf>.



Parental Rights and School Prayer

The Florida Department of Education has reaffirmed that students and school staff retain their constitutional rights to voluntary prayer and religious expression in public schools, in line with updated federal guidance. This includes treating religious speech the same as secular speech in assignments and student activities. To support these protections, the state has established a process for families to report concerns if these rights are not upheld, along with additional resources available on the Florida Department of Education's Parental Rights page (<https://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/parental-rights.html>). Florida remains committed to partnering with families to ensure students can freely and respectfully express their beliefs while supporting their overall success.



Founder's Day – Friday, April 10

Founder's Day is a meaningful tradition established by the Odyssey Board of Directors—a day set aside to honor Ms. Constance and the founders whose vision, courage, and dedication brought our school to life in 1999. Among those founders are Ms. Wendi, Ms. Marcus, Ms. Anderson, and Ms. Frame, who helped shape the earliest days of our school community, even when it began in a humble church building.

This day is more than a celebration of our history—it is a celebration of purpose. Founder's Day invites us to reflect on the heart of our mission: the belief that every child is wonderfully unique, filled with potential, and capable of making a meaningful, positive impact on the world. Each child is as individual as a snowflake, and within that individuality lies the power to contribute something truly special.

Through special activities, students will be encouraged to connect personally with this mission.

- Elementary students will read “Ms. Constance Had a Dream” and express their own hopes and dreams through writing and drawing.
- Secondary students will dive deeper into the meaning of our mission, exploring what it truly means to discover, develop, and fulfill their unique potential.

Founder's Day is a time to honor where we began, celebrate who we are, and inspire every student to imagine who they can become.

A Vision for Healthy Schools

At Odyssey, we are intentionally building something larger than individual programs—we are developing a comprehensive Healthy Schools model.

This model integrates physical health, nutrition, and wellness into the daily student experience, recognizing that students learn best when they are active, nourished, and supported.

Through structured movement, enhanced physical education, improved nutrition, and a strong school culture, we are seeing real results. Students are more focused, classrooms are more productive, and overall engagement is increasing.

This work is grounded in research and aligned with current best practices, but more importantly, it reflects what we believe: that educating the whole child requires attention to both mind and body.

As this model continues to grow, Odyssey is positioning itself as a leader—demonstrating what is possible when wellness and academics are fully integrated.

Structured Recess & Physical Education

Our students at Odyssey Charter Elementary and Odyssey Preparatory Academy are thriving through expanded Fit 4 Life opportunities.

With the addition of Science in the Gym, enhanced PE instruction, and structured recess, students are building:

- Teamwork
- Coordination
- Agility
- Positive social interaction

Research from the American Academy of Pediatrics consistently shows that increased physical activity improves attention, emotional regulation, and academic performance. We are seeing those benefits every day in our classrooms.

Students are not only benefiting—they are excited. Many are even asking for more opportunities for structured recess.

In addition, both elementary campuses have introduced a Morning Walking Club, providing even more opportunities for movement and healthy habits.



Campus Growth & Development

This summer, the Wyoming Campus will see several important improvements, including:

- Roof replacement
- Addition of 85 parking spaces
- Updates to our Scratch Kitchens

The Eldron Campus will receive a double oven to amplify and improve its scratch cooking efforts. These enhancements reflect our continued investment in our facilities and our long-term vision for growth.

The Odyssey Preparatory and Montessori Village Green building projects are currently on hold as we review and refine building locations. We will share updates as plans are finalized.

For any questions about our new growth and development, please reach out to Green Apple Director of Operations, Mr. Tim Wilson, at twilson@greenappleschools.com.

Building a Strong Faculty & Staff

As our schools continue to grow, so does our responsibility to build and sustain a strong, mission-aligned team. We are seeking individuals who are not only skilled educators, but who are passionate about educating the whole child and contributing to a positive, high-performing school culture.

We are currently hiring:

- Elementary Teachers
- Middle & High School Teachers (Science, Mathematics, English, ESE)
- PE Teacher
- Media Specialist
- ESE Teacher & ESE Coordinator
- Substitutes

If you or someone you know feels called to this work, we encourage you to reach out to our Executive Director, Dr. Monica Knight mknight@greenappleschools.com.

Together, we are building a team that will continue to elevate Odyssey for years to come.

6th Grade Elective: T.H.R.I.V.E.

This year, our rising 6th graders will have the exciting opportunity to T.H.R.I.V.E.! This new required elective is thoughtfully designed to support students as they transition into middle school and prepare for success in the years ahead.

T.H.R.I.V.E. combines physical education with engaging academic coursework, creating a balanced, full-year experience that nurtures both body and mind. The course will follow a two-week alternating schedule:

- Week A: 3 classroom days / 2 PE days
- Week B: 3 PE days / 2 classroom days

Our goal is to provide a structured, supportive environment that helps students build confidence, develop strong habits, and navigate the transition to middle school with success.

T.H.R.I.V.E. stands for:

T – Think Positively
H – Healthy Body, Mind, and Spirit
R – Respect Others and Self
I – Inspire Growth
V – Victory and Academic Success
E – Empower Yourself

Throughout the year, students will explore key skills and concepts including academic success strategies, study skills, health and wellness, positive peer relationships, life-long fitness habits, digital citizenship, and responsible decision-making.

We are excited to see our rising 6th graders grow, gain confidence, and truly thrive in this new chapter!

Purple Star Schools – Purple Up!

We are proud to be recognized as a Purple Star School, honoring our commitment to supporting military-connected students and families.

On April 15, students may dress out of uniform and wear purple as a visible show of support for those who serve our country. We are grateful for their service!

Moments That Matter – Celebrating Our Students

Across all campuses, our students continue to demonstrate excellence in a wide variety of ways. These moments reflect not only achievement, but growth, dedication, and the strength of our community.

STEM Excellence

Students earned multiple top placements at the Brevard County Science & Engineering Fair, continuing a strong tradition of innovation and inquiry.

Art & Creativity

Senior Alanna Samuels Leon earned 1st Place at the BPS End of Year Extravaganza and 2nd Place at the BPS Juried Art Show for her Heron sculpture—an incredible reflection of her talent and dedication.

Other winners at the BPS End of Year Extravaganza:

- Irene Grandison - 3rd Place - 3D, Grades 9-12
- Phoenix Friel - Merit Award - 3D, Grades 9-12
- Ariana Rivera - Merit Award - 3D, Grades 9-12

Student Leadership & Achievement

We are proud to celebrate:

- Isabella Holpfer – Accepted to Ithaca College with over \$95,000 in scholarships
- Maria Ortiz – Leadership across athletics, arts, and academics
- Nicole García – Student entrepreneur recognized by community leaders
- Reyane Elghazali – Robotics captain leading his team toward State competition

Music Excellence

- Sarah-Ann Greer – Superior rating at State Solo & Ensemble
- All-County Honors: Sarah-Ann Greer, Matthew Greer, Willamina Leslie

Athletics

From a Varsity Soccer Championship victory to strong performances across multiple sports, Titan Athletics continues to build a culture defined by effort, teamwork, and pride.

Commercial Art

- All 26 students who took their Adobe Certification Exams in Commercial Art 1 and 2 earned their Professional Certifications, with Enzo Bonarrigo achieving the highest score in Odyssey's history—an outstanding accomplishment.
- Senior, Ariana Rivera, won 2nd Place in the BPS Digital Art Show at Viera High School for her outstanding photo composite.
- BPS End of Year Art Extravaganza Winners:
 - Gracelynn Weber won 1st Place and a Merit Award - Digital Art-Photography for Grades 7-8
 - Ariana Rivera won 3rd Place for her Digital Art/Photography for Grades 9-12



Annual 5K –Community Walk/Run – Saturday, April 18

One of the highlights of our spring season is our Odyssey Community Walk/Run, and we hope you will join us this year on Saturday, April 18.

- Registration begins at 8:00 AM
- Fun Run for our youngest students begins at 8:15 AM
- Group stretching begins at 8:45 AM
- The 5K Walk/Run starts promptly at 9:00 AM

This event is more than just a race—it is a celebration of community. It is a chance to come together, enjoy the Florida sunshine, and support a meaningful cause.

All funds raised will go directly toward supporting our Summer Reading program, helping ensure that more students have access to the books they need.

Walkers are always welcome—I will be bringing up the rear and would love for you to join me.



Thank You

At Odyssey, every success, every program, and every moment of growth reflects our shared commitment to excellence and to the development of each child's unique and beautiful potential.

Thank you for being an essential part of this journey and a partner. It remains truly an honor to serve all of you, our Odyssey community.



