



Upcoming events:

Wednesday, April 6: K-8 Parent Teacher Conferences. (Please check with your child's classroom teacher for individual schedules)

Monday, April 18: School Closed in observance of Patriots Day

Tuesday, April 19-22: Limited Childcare Week

May 9-13: Arts Week

Thursday, May 12: 7:00 K-8 Musical Concert

Don't forget: If any of your emergency phone numbers have recently changed, such as a cell phone, work phone or relatives phone number, please be sure you have adjusted your child's information. Stop by the office and let us know. Thanks!

Did You Know... Exercise is actually a calming activity? Behavior specialist will suggest activities such as crawling, riding a tricycle, chasing a ball, dancing, running and tumbling to assist a "spirited child" to settle their bodies and focus. The next time you need your child to be on their best behavior, perhaps a visit to the playground or a little extra outside play will do just the trick.

- **Infants & Toddlers:** The infant and toddler room will be studying bugs! They will be exploring the life cycles of insects and bugs. The dramatic play area will be transformed into an entomology lab. Keep an eye out for their butterfly habitat too!
- **Toddler/Preschool:** Their theme for April will be "April Showers Bring May Flowers". The dramatic play will be a Garden Center. The projects will focus on learning about rain, umbrellas, clouds, rainbows, kites, and flowers. Projects we will include planting seeds and watching them grow, rain drop number match game, flower magnet color matching game, making cloud dough, stain glass rain drops, and making our own kites. In our science area they will be exploring all different shapes and sizes of seeds.
- **Preschool Deb:** The theme for April is spring. They will be growing flowers, as well as making flowers using coffee filters and muffin holders. They will also enjoy digging for "bugs" in the dirt. Be sure to look for the transformation of Dramatic Play into a garden center.
- **Preschool Andrea:** Spring has sprung in preschool! The class will explore the variety of animals, events, and activities that take place during spring. They will also enjoy making puppets as a creative project. They will utilize raindrops and rabbits to work on simple math activities and counting.
- **Pre-K Julie:** The children will be exploring Weather and Climate! They will conduct weather experiments, make windsocks, and read *Cloudy With A Chance of Meatballs*. They will be completing the letter Z in the Handwriting Without Tears program. Be sure to ask them about the letter book and special certificate they will receive!
- **Pre-K/K:** The class will explore a mini-unit on spring! It will last until April Vacation. They are going to see if black eyed peas will sprout in their weather window. They will be replacing the rainforest in dramatic play, with a spring meadow. They are also working weekly on various word families and sight words. For math, they will work on simple addition (0 to 10) and number sentences using different spring related counters (such as frogs and baseballs)!
- **Grade 1-2:** Over the next few weeks, the students in Grades 1 and 2 will be doing research on wild animals that live in Massachusetts and then creating their own picture books about the animal they have chosen. With Patriot's Day coming up, they will also be learning about the history of Massachusetts in the 1700's.
- **Grade 3-4:** The students will be exploring the Great Lakes. They are working in cooperative research groups. Upon completion of the research, each group will create a poem about their Great Lake.
- **Grade 5-6:** The class will be studying the time period just before the Civil War. They will also be planning a special field trip to the Lowell Mills in April. They will take time to explore the textile mill and a boardinghouse.
- **Grade 7-8:** In conjunction with their new science theme Cells and Heredity, the group made models of plant cells using jello and assorted fruits and vegetables. Hopefully, now they will never forget what the cytoplasm is! Next week in social studies the group will compete in the final National Current Events League meet. Several students in the group are vying for the top award!

Last call! If you would like to place an order for Odyssey Day School sweatshirts or T-shirts please fill out an order form and return with payment to the office no later than Friday, April 1st. The order will be placed by Monday. Thank you!



From the desk of Margaret and Erica...

Date: 03/30/11

Contact Information:

Margaret Douglas
Interim Head of School
Margaretd@odysseydayschool.org

Erica Lenner
Early Childhood Director
Erical@odysseydayschool.org

Kimm Sovie
Assistant Head of School
Kimms@odysseydayschool.org

Odyssey Day School
11 Paul Ave
Wakefield, Ma 01880

781-245-6050
Fax: 781-245-9760

Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time. We are always happy to assist you in any way possible.

Sincerely,

The Administration Team at
Odyssey Day School

Science Week: During the science week, the 6th through 8th grade girls enjoyed participating in the Women In Science and Engineering Program at Salem State University. It included a variety of lectures, workshops, and presentations by current women in scientific fields. During this time, the elementary boys 6 through 8, as well as the 5th grade students, assisted the early childhood students in a science exploration program that took place in the gym. All of the students K through 8 also enjoyed a visit from New Hampshire meteorologist Kevin Skarupa from WMUR-TV. A big thank you goes out to Helen Webb, Andrea Durham, Tyna Hope, Michael Boudreau, and Roy Liard for participating as judges in the science fair. Thank you also, to Jennifer Paolini, a local teacher and preschool parent, for contributing to a biology activity for the elementary students.

St Patrick's Day Bake Sale: Thank you so much to all room parents and teachers that donated baked goods for the bake sale. Thank you also to all families that purchased baked goods from the bake sale. We were able to raise close to \$200! With your help, we were able to order musical instrument kits for every early childhood classroom at ODS! Thank you!!!

Teacher Appreciation Breakfast: Thank you so much to the Infant and Toddler parents! They organized a teacher appreciation breakfast on Wednesday, March 23rd. The teachers were treated to yogurt parfaits, fresh fruit, coffee, bagels and so much more. I know the teachers greatly appreciated this special treat. It was so delicious!

Schedule forms for early childhood families for the 2011/2012 school year are now past due. Preference will be given to current students and their siblings that have passed their forms in on time. We want to accommodate everyone. However, new students have already been accepted as of February 1, 2011. As a result we may not be able to guarantee your current schedule. If you have not turned in your schedule form you must do so immediately in order to guarantee your preferred schedule for the 2011-12 school year. Please see the office if you need an additional copy. All students in our Elementary Classes are considered on-going. By now you should have received a contract for the 2011-12 year. Contracts must be returned by March 31, 2011. In order to prepare your family's tuition contract you were required to return the schedule change form by the end of January. If you did not return the form we will prepare your contract to reflect your current schedule. If you would like to make adjustments to your schedule and require an additional copy of the schedule change form, please see the office. Thank you.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher with any questions you may have about your child's classroom. You may always call the school at 781-245-6050 or by e-mail. For a complete list of e-mail addresses, please visit our website at www.odysseydayschool.org