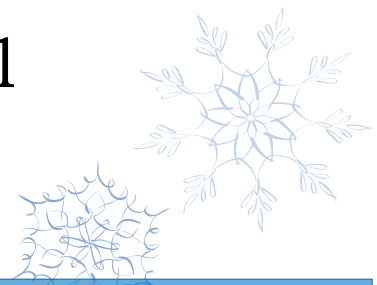




# Odyssey Charter School PTO Newsletter

*Every Parent Makes a Difference!*

December, 2011



Hello Families,

We hope all of our families enjoyed their time off in November and are looking forward to the winter break in another week.

We would like to thank all of our parent volunteers for the Box Tops/Campbell's Labels, Scholastic Book Fair and the OCS Open House. None of these things would have been possible without your support. Thank you!

We would additionally like to thank all of our dedicated Pizza Friday and PBS Cart volunteers. Your ongoing efforts are not unnoticed. The kids, parents, teachers and staff appreciate all you are doing to keep these programs going.

We would love to see some new faces volunteer for the many programs and events that are sponsored by PTO. Please contact an officer for more information or visit the school website [www.odysseycharterschool.org](http://www.odysseycharterschool.org).

Enjoy your holidays and have a healthy and happy New Year!

Thank you,  
Lisa, Leslie, Christina and Shelly

## Important Dates

### December

Dec. 22 - Dec. 30th - School Closed

### January

Tuesday, Jan. 3rd-School Reopens

Wednesday, Jan. 11th-PTO Meeting @7:00pm,

Uniform Sale @6:30pm

Upper School Library

Monday, Jan. 16th-MLK, Jr. Day, School Closed

### February

Wednesday, Feb. 1st-PTO Meeting @6:30pm,

Uniform Sale @6:00pm

Upper School Library

Monday, Feb. 6th-In Service, School Closed

Monday, Feb. 20th-President's Day, School Closed

Friday, Feb. 24th-Spring Fling Basket Raffle

Donations Due



### Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair was held from December 5 thru December 9. The children at both the Upper and Lower Schools enjoyed viewing the books available and then coming back on Thursday and Friday to make their purchases.

Thank you to all the parents who purchased books for the teachers from their wish lists. I know the teachers appreciate the wonderful gifts to their classroom libraries.

Lastly, thank you to Trevor Saunders and Shelly Towler for chairing this year's Scholastic Book Fairs. It was another successful and fun book fair for all.

We look forward to sharing the Scholastic dollars profit information when it is available.

### OCS Library Volunteers Needed

The library is ready to begin operations but it cannot be done without the help and the commitment of our OCS parents. Please contact Lisa Kerrigan at [lkerrigan@msn.com](mailto:lkerrigan@msn.com) if you are interested in volunteering.

### The Box Tops and Campbell's Labels competition is over and

the winners at each school have been determined. At the Lower School the classroom winner for most labels collected is... **Ms. Miller's** class with **3,961** labels and at the Upper School the winner is... **Ms. Yiantzos** with **2,700** labels. For their collection efforts, both classes will be treated to an ice cream party when we return from the holiday break.

Great job to all the families who participated in the competition, the school will benefit from all your clipping and collecting!



Thank you Katina Demetriou and her team of volunteers for putting this contest together and making it fun for the kids to participate in.

Over 100 retailers give eBoxTops to your school when you shop online at the Marketplace. Plus, you become an Online Power Earner and can earn Bonus Box Tops!



### Milk Program Information The

attached flyer regarding the milk program for the second half of the year will be sent home via backpacks on Monday, December 12th.



## ~ Save the Date ~



What: 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Spring Fling Silent Auction and Basket Raffle  
When: 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm on March 31, 2012  
Where: The Upper School Gymnasium



### BUY EARLY:

~ Tickets will be on sale from March 1, 2012 thru March 12, 2012 for **\$10.00/each.** ~  
~ March 13<sup>th</sup>, the ticket price goes up to **\$15.00/each.** ~

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** Parents, for the event to be a success, we need your help. Any of the jobs you work will be worked in rotating, one hour shifts. Shifts will run from 5:30 – 10:30 the night of the event. We need: table monitors, food servers, raffle ticket sales, and room break down.

**BASKET RAFFLE** Once again, we will be having basket raffles in addition to our silent auction. Last year's classroom basket raffles were a lot of fun and helped raise a great deal of money for our school. In order for this year's Spring Fling to be just as successful, we are asking you to assist in filling your child's classroom basket by donating cash, gift cards, or items which are appropriate for that basket. If you are able to donate, please have your child bring donations to his/her teacher no later than February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012. *If you would like to help us with this event, please contact Shelly Huber, [rachele\\_huber@yahoo.com](mailto:rachele_huber@yahoo.com)*

### **Classroom Baskets**

K - entertainment/family fun/games  
1st grade- sports/games  
2nd grade- food/beverage/restaurant  
3rd grade - home/garden/outdoor  
4th grade- education  
5th grade- beauty/health/fitness

### **PTO Suggestion Box**

We had two entries from our November 2, 2011 meeting.

1. A member requested we put the committee chairpersons contact information on the OCS website. This has been done.
2. A member requested a meeting agenda and a financial report be handed out at each PTO meeting. The agenda will be handed out at each meeting and our treasurer is working on creating a balance sheet to hand out at the remaining PTO meetings.

Please keep the suggestions coming. If you ever wish to contact a PTO officer, please visit the OCS website for our contact information.

### **WHO IS THE PTO? YOU ARE!!**

The OCS PTO is an organization made up of parents who wish to be involved in their children's education, and in developing positive and open communication with teachers and school administrators. It is advisory in nature and works with the school administration, staff, and parents of Odyssey Charter School to enrich the learning experiences of our students by sponsoring educational and social programs that compliment their classroom curriculum. Membership is free, please visit: <http://odysseycharterschooldel.org/uploads/OCSPTOMembershipForm.pdf>

### **2011-2012 PTO Officers**

*Lisa Kerrigan, President*

[lkerrigan@msn.com](mailto:lkerrigan@msn.com)

*Leslie Donohue, Vice President*

[lesliewally@yahoo.com](mailto:lesliewally@yahoo.com)

*Christina Koninis, Treasurer*

[cjkoninis@verizon.net](mailto:cjkoninis@verizon.net)

*Shelly Towler, Secretary*

[detowlers@msn.com](mailto:detowlers@msn.com)

### **Please visit us:**

[www.odysseycharterschooldel.org/](http://www.odysseycharterschooldel.org/)

[PTO.html](#)

or

“Like” us on Facebook: [Odyssey Charter School PTO](#)

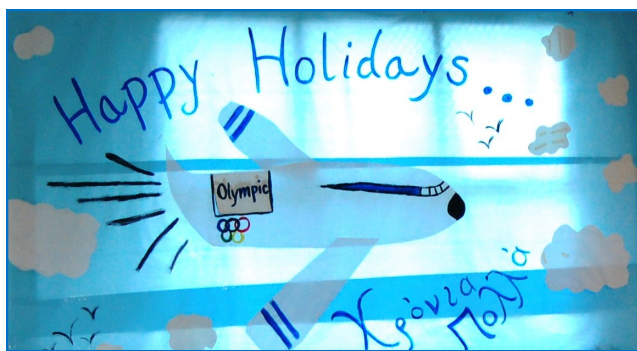


## Holiday Concert

We hope you were all able to attend the holiday concerts held on December 16<sup>th</sup>. The children did a fantastic job performing traditional holiday songs and Greek songs. What a great way to get into the holiday spirit.

It was clear that all the teachers worked so hard putting these performances together. From the beautiful artwork and scenery by Hrysoula Davis and Mrs. Ciriaco to the songs and dances by Ms. Dries (music) and the Greek and Homeroom teachers.

We hope they enjoyed working with our kids as much as we enjoyed watching them. It was also a special treat to hear that the performance was being Skyped to a town in Greece where the children there were able to enjoy the show as well.



## Healthy families...Healthy Kids!

The average child spends more time watching TV, and less time running and playing. It's important to find creative ways to exercise and play every day, which can be fun and beneficial to your health. Quiet time for reading and homework is fine, but you should limit time spent watching TV, playing video games or surfing the web so you have more time to play!

If you're going to watch TV or play computer games, break it up! Pause the game. Make commercial breaks *Let's Move!* breaks. Here are some active and fun ideas:

- ~ Jumping jacks ~ Dancing ~ Racing up & down the ~ Sit-ups ~ Stretching ~ Jog in place ~
- ~ Push Ups ~ Chores ~

Come up with your own activities and share them with friends and family! Visit: <http://www.letsmove.gov/do-jumping-jacks-break-tv-time>



## Got news?

If you have ideas or an article to submit for the next issue of the PTO Newsletter, please send email to Danielle Wenzel at [wenzeldn@udel.edu](mailto:wenzeldn@udel.edu).