

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

MILES K.

Miles works non-stop to ensure everyone has what they need. Currently he has been balancing multiple big projects around campus while still completing little jobs. It feels like there is more than just him in his department because of how well he continues to handle everything. Thank you for being an essential member of our team!

December

Jena
Shannon
Shawn
Skylar
Andrew



January

Marissa
Yareli
Millie
Grayson
Anya



Shoutouts

- Welcome our newest staff members; **Jacob** in 4B, **Anya** in 4A, and **Tiffany** in 3A!
- A special shout out to these 3 staff who are always willing to be flexible with coverage! **Andrew, Kristina and Sarah**, thank you for always being a team player!--Velma
- **Anthony** has been very helpful supporting other classrooms when we have teachers/staff out. Thank you for working together as a team!
- Thank you to Santa and Mrs. Claus for coming to the school and spreading holiday cheer! The students and staff are always excited for visits!
- Thank you to all of our Odyssey Staff for making 2024 a wonderful year. Looking forward to what the future holds.



EVENTS

DECEMBER

12/17 Santa visit



12/19 Graduation



Ugly
Sweater
DAY



12/20 Ugly/Holiday Sweater I

12/23-1/3 WINTER BREAK



JANUARY

1/6 Back to school!

1/17 Inservice

**In-Service
Training**

1/20 Martin Luther King Day
(No School)



1/31 Crazy Hair/Hat Day



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Openings Available in Transportation!

Why join transportation?

- Great way to build relationships with other students around campus
- Less gas and mileage on your personal vehicle
- Up to 8 hours a day
- \$1 more per hour!!



Applications due by 1/10/2025 If interested you must:

- Possess a valid CA driver license
 - Provide a DMV driving record printout
 - Submit a letter of intent to Velma Salcido hand delivered or emailed to Vsalcido@odysseylearningcenter.org
- Contact the Transportation Coordinator at ext. # 235 with any questions

BEHAVIOR



Hello team!

As we approach the holidays, we want to encourage everyone to refresh themselves on their student's early escalation behaviors (Part IV in the BIP). When you observe those behaviors, it is an indication that a behavior is likely to happen and you have entered the green triangle of opportunity (from ProACT). Every time you observe early escalation behaviors, you should follow the guidance in the box to the right (staff response to early escalation) to teach your student a replacement skill (e.g., asking for a break, help, to go outside, sensory input). Remember, the earlier you intervene, the less likely the behavior is to occur.

Thank you all and happy holidays!

O.T.

Tactile Activity with oobleck

Oobleck is homemade slime that is great to play with as it has unusual properties. It's a cross between a liquid and a solid substance.

Supplies:

- 1 cup cornstarch
- ½ cup water
- Large mixing bowl



Directions: In a large mixing bowl, mix together cornstarch and water until you have a slime consistency. If you punch the slime, it instantly turns solid, but when you scoop some up and hold it, it will turn back into a liquid.

*If your consistency is too wet, add small amount of cornstarch, if its too dry, add small amount of water.

TRANSPORTATION

Reminders:

- Students can overheat if they have lots of layers and the heater is blasting
- If a student wears a harness, make sure that you put it on UNDER their jacket that way it its not too tight, and they can easily take off their jacket if they want
- Remember winter road conditions mean driving slower, so allow yourself more time

WINTER DRIVING TIPS



DRIVE SLOWLY WITH CRUISE CONTROL TURNED OFF.



INCREASE YOUR FOLLOWING DISTANCE TO ALLOW PLENTY OF TIME TO STOP FOR THE VEHICLE AHEAD.



ACCELERATE AND BRAKE GENTLY. APPROACH TURNS SLOWLY.



USE EXTRA CAUTION ON BRIDGES, RAMPS AND OVERPASSES.



BUCKLE UP EVERY RIDER. EVERY SINGLE TIME.



MAKE SURE HEADLIGHTS ARE ON SO YOU ARE VISIBLE TO OTHER DRIVERS.

first



work

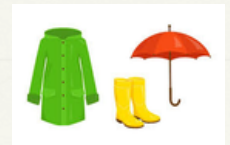
then



play

TRAINING

• With the winter weather upon us remember to teach your students about how to dress for the season.



• If the playground is too wet, ask your teacher about alternative gross motor ideas like yoga, dancing, heavy work, etc.



• Another great winter activity is cooking! Did you know we have a full size kitchen in the barn for students to build life skills? Remember to clean up after each use! Students can cook things for the break room, office, their peers, as well as their own classroom.

