



"Committed to academic excellence and the education of the whole child"

OUR MISSION FOR EVERY CHILD

The mission of Oasis Preparatory Academy is to work in partnership with the family and community, with the aim of helping each child reach their full potential in all areas of life. We seek to educate the whole child with the understanding that each person must achieve a balance of intellectual, emotional, physical, spiritual and social skills as a foundation for life.

Dates to Remember

- July 20th – Parent Orientation / Oasis Student Registration
- July 30th – Family & Community Summer BBQ / Oasis Student Registration
- August 12th – Teacher Meet and Greet
- August 15th – Students first day of school
- August 17th – Early Release
- August 24th – Early Release
- August 25th – OCS, Inc. Board Meeting
- August 31st – Early Release
- September 5th – Labor Day No School

Greetings from Mr. Essex – Oasis Site Administrator

Greetings Oasis community! I have the honor and privilege of leading Oasis Preparatory Academy to new heights as your new site administrator. I arrive to Oasis as an 18+ year veteran via the Chicago Public Schools (CPS). My roles with CPS ranged from teacher, disciplinarian, assistant principal to district administrator. I have a double Masters in Special Education and School Leadership, additionally one of the many highlights of my career include the turnaround of a high school (Wendell Phillips H.S.) that ranked next to last in state testing and academic standing. As a result of our efforts, Wendell Phillips is currently considered to be in excellent standing with Illinois and the City of Chicago. The school received an award from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) for highest academic gains for 2011. In addition, the Phillips football team was able to secure the class 4A state football title. No Chicago Public School has ever won a state title- ever! When we started the turnaround, we were hard pressed to field 16 guys on the practice field, as many of the top players transferred to other schools. We were unwavering in our commitment to overall excellence and it paid off in a big way! I plan to bring that same commitment to Oasis as it will become a place that the Pine Hills community and Orlando will be proud of for many years to come. It is an exciting time to be a part of the historical changes that will take place here at Oasis during the upcoming school year! We assure you that all changes are for the better, and not just for the sake of change. There are many wonderful systems that are already in place within the Oasis school community- we're all excited for the chance to take what currently exists to unimaginable levels. Our three (3) main foci for the upcoming school year will be school culture and climate, literacy and student support systems. We will go more into depth with explaining our planned goals and daily operations during our upcoming parent orientation event scheduled for July 20, 2016, from 8:30 to 10:00 and again at 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Reminder notices will be sent to parents prior to the aforementioned date. Light refreshments will be served. I look forward to seeing you all at Oasis for our get together.

Oasis School Hours have CHANGED

For the 2016-2017 school year, Oasis Preparatory Academy students will begin the day at 8:00 a.m.; the school day will end at 3:15 p.m. Our early release dismissals will now be every Wednesday at 2:15 p.m. Please keep in mind, due to supervision restrictions and Florida state law, students should not arrive on campus before 7:35 and must be picked up no later than 3:40, unless enrolled in Mills Child Development Before/Aftercare program. Students not picked up by 3:40 p.m. will be signed into Mills Child Development Before/Aftercare program and will be subject to enrichment fees.

Oasis Summer Family BBQ

I am excited to speak to everyone about the new look and feel of Oasis at our upcoming meet and greet barbecue scheduled for Saturday July 30, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. In conjunction with Mt. Sinai Church, the event will be held on the Oasis campus in the parking lots adjacent to the church and school. The event is open to the church community, students and teaching staff as well as community stakeholders. I am excited to show off the upgrades with the physical plant and the overall school environment, as well as share firsthand, all of the exciting visions we have in store for the upcoming school year and years to come. It also gives parents, teachers and students an opportunity to meet up and enjoy some great food before we kick off the school year! Ultimately, it's a time for us to get together as a family to share our hopes and visions for the future and most importantly, have some fun! We'll look forward to seeing everyone there! 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Avoiding the “Summer Slide”

As you relax with your child, visit family and enjoy this extended vacation time, it is important to remember that just like your child’s muscles and body need exercise your child’s brain needs it too! Here are some simple ideas for avoiding the “Summer Slide”---

1. Play memory games while driving to grandma’s house in Tallahassee. Remember the game, “On the way to grandma’s house...” Or the “Alphabet Game”? Check out PBS Kids for more ideas and fun for your long road trips <http://www.pbs.org/parents/summer/road-trip-games-for-kids/>
2. Create “Screen Free” times. These are the times when you “drop everything and read”---grab a magazine, book or newspaper and hit the couch! Just don’t turn on the TV! Check out ScreenFree.ORG for more ideas <http://www.screenfree.org/screen-free-activities/>.
3. Head out in nature! Orange County is home to various outdoor activities that are FREE or nearly free. It is important to get out and enjoy the outdoors, notice the beautiful surroundings and breathe in the fresh air. Check out this website <http://orlandoonthecheap.com/free-kids-activities-in-orlando>

Hopefully, these ideas help you maximize your summer time fun and provide a springboard for your vacation! See you in August. – Mr. Essex

Summer Registration



Required for ALL Oasis Preparatory Academy Families:

July 20, 2016: 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. OR 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, July 30, 2016: – Family BBQ Community Event – 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
In the Café at our Campus

Please be prepared to complete the following for your student(s):

- New Student Registration Forms
- OCPS Student Registration form
- Student Contact form
- Emergency Student Information form (Health Card)
- Public Notice of Parent Rights/Student Records form
- Student Residency Questionnaire
- Authorization for Release of Information
- Consent for Release of Confidential Information/Educational Records
- OCPS Authorization for Medications (if applicable)
- OCPS Model Release Form
- OCPS Code of Conduct
 - Page 10 – Internet Policy
 - Page 12 – Abuse of Electronic & Internet/Communication Devices
 - Page 15 – Cell Phone Policy for Students
- Oasis Preparatory Academy Oasis Policies Acknowledgement
 - o Oasis School Policies
 - o Wise Nutrition and Healthy Lifestyles Agreement
 - o Birthday Policy
 - o Student/Parent/Teacher Contract
 - o Oasis Code of Student Conduct Contract
 - o Oasis Medication Policy
 - Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application
 - Before and After-Care Registration

The following documents must be provided in order to successfully complete the registration process for the 2016-2017 school year beginning August 15, 2016:

- Birth certificate (Kindergarten & all new students)
- Current Immunization form (Kindergarten & all new students)
- Current Physical Exam (Kindergarten & all new students)
- IEPs, EPs, Behavioral Plans, 504 Plans (All new students - as applicable)

Oasis has been named as a recipient of the Kitchen grant

DID YOU KNOW – Oasis’ kitchen makes 80% of the food served to your child from scratch. The kitchen at Oasis is a full service café which serves healthy, fresh meals daily, including fresh fruit and vegetable options on a regular basis.

We are excited to share with you the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Food, Nutrition and Wellness has named Oasis as one of the recipients of the 2016 national School Lunch Program Equipment grant. The funding will allow us to expand our breakfast and lunch program by providing Ms. Polly and her café staff with the ability to expand current fresh fruit and vegetable options students may not otherwise have the opportunity to experience, fresh baked 10-grain bread and muffins will be made available in the regular lunch menu and will provide the opportunity for students to try new recipes, such as our Food Service Director and Chef’s award-winning Turkey Chili or our Three Sisters Harvest Stew.

Remember parents and siblings are always welcome to sign into the front office and join their student for lunch.

Additional information on Oasis’ Wellness Policy can be found using the link below.
<http://www.odysseycharterschool.com/Wellness-Policy.pdf>

School Supply Lists

School Supply Lists are available for Kindergarten thru 5th grade students at the front office and can also be found on the web, at www.oasisprep.com, located under the “Parents” tab.



2016-2017 Oasis SCHOOL UNIFORMS HAVE CHANGED - UPDATE

All Oasis Preparatory Academy students are required to wear a school uniform. Our uniforms can be purchased through our NEW uniform provider:

Hendra’s Uniform • 7226 W Colonial Drive • Orlando, FL 32818
www.hendrasuniforms.com • (407) 668-0067

Kindergarten – 1st grades: Light blue polo shirts & khaki pants only

2nd – 3rd grades: Navy blue polo shirts and khaki pants only

4th – 5th grades: Royal blue polo shirts and khaki pants only

All Students, Fridays ONLY: Gold or royal blue Oasis t-shirt & khaki pants

* Discount coupons will be available during Summer Registration at the campus

- Uniforms eliminate pressure to wear brand name clothing
- Uniforms help school officials recognize intruders who come to the school

Volunteering

A part of Oasis Preparatory Academy's mission is based on the sustained partnerships made with the families and within the communities served. Because of this, our Oasis Families are required to volunteer a certain amount of hours each school year. The annual requirement is 18 volunteer hours for one student, and 25 volunteer hours for two or more students.

Orange County Public Schools conducts criminal history background checks on all volunteers. All potential Oasis volunteers are required to complete an Orange County Public Schools Volunteer Application. To complete the online volunteer application, please click the link below: <https://www.ocps.net/es/cr/resources/pages/volunteeronlineapplication.aspx>

Before and After-School Enrichment Programs

Provided by Mills Child Development Center

Before-Care:

Do you have to be at work before school starts? Does your boss get grumpy when you show up late for that 7:45 a.m. meeting? Good News! We at Oasis are partnering with Mills Child Development Center where Before-Care is available every morning beginning at 6:30 a.m. During this time, students participate in art projects, a variety of team-based games, and social fun. Students also have time to get their last-minute homework completed and to study their spelling words! Every student enjoys a healthy breakfast in the café before the school day commences at 8:00 a.m.

You may find registration forms in the front office of Oasis Preparatory Academy. There is a one-time registration fee of \$25.00 per family. The weekly rate for Before-Care is \$20.00 per week.

After-Care:

Unable to arrive for dismissal by 3:40 p.m.? Running late at work or family already have a full agenda after school to watch the kids? No Worries!!! We at Oasis are partnering with Mills Child Development Center where After-Care is available every afternoon until 6:00 p.m., which includes a healthy snack to tide them over until dinner. Students are grouped by grade and activities include: physical activity exercises, art projects, and homework support with a Certified Teacher.

You may find registration forms at the front office of Oasis Preparatory Academy. There is a one-time registration fee of \$25.00 per family. Did we mention that our rates for After-Care (\$40.00 per week) and the daily drop-in rate (\$10.00 per day) are amongst the most affordable in the area?

The rate to participate in both Before & After-Care programs is \$60.00. Please be sure to sign up for After-Care during on-site registration!

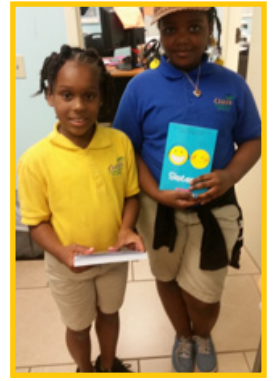
Before and After-Care payments are due every Monday (via check or money order payable to Mills Child Development Center) and can be dropped off directly at the Mills payment drop mailbox located outside of their front office in the Mills Center. Payments should be placed inside the blue envelope, located on the wall, and deposited into the house office drop box.

For more information about Before and After-Care Enrichment at Mills Child Development Center, please contact: Ms. Diane Johnson-Talbert, 407.522.0898, dsjohnson1114@yahoo.com.

Coming to Oasis ~ Fall 2016:

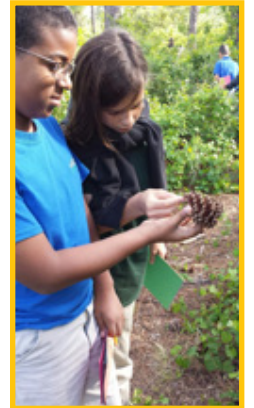
Level Library and Book Room

Thanks to our dedicated staff and support team, Oasis students will have a brand-new leveled library for the 2016-2017 school year. Purchased with a large federal grant, our leveled library will house individual titles as well as a leveled book room for guided reading. Your child will now have access to over 6,000 titles and will visit the Leveled Library weekly with their class!



Oasis is Science STEM Education READY

Oasis students will have opportunity to experience **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)** lessons. Students will be able to explore the connections between and among STEM subjects and the relationships these have with the world around us. Teachers will have regular time in the gardens where Nutrition Education learning can be extended into outdoor learning labs.



Oasis Received a \$5,000 Lowes Garden Grant

In the spring of 2016, Oasis was awarded \$5,000 from Lowes towards building outdoor gardens on our campus. The students will help build the garden beds during the first month of school. Each grade level will receive garden beds for planting and we will have fully functioning outdoor science instruction! We will keep you posted on the "growth" of our new project and bounty!



Grievance Procedures

- Step 1: Request Teacher conference to clarify issue
- Step 2: Contact the Site Administrator if unresolved with the teacher
- Step 3: **Contact Board Designated Parent Representative
- Step 4: Contact the President of the Governing Board
- Step 5: Present issue at the next monthly Board Meeting if unresolved
- Step 6: Seek mediation with the Sponsor

**Ms. Sonja White has been designated by the OCS Board of Directors as the Representative to Facilitate Parental Involvement, provide access to information, assist parents and others with questions and concerns, and resolve disputes according to charter requirements. Ms. White can be reached at whi04849@gmail.com or 407-538-2158.