



January 5, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful winter break. We are ready and excited to welcome your children back into the school tomorrow, Thursday, January 6th.

As we all know, during the winter break, the Omicron variant has been increasing substantially in Brevard and throughout the nation. If its pattern is anything like what we have seen in South Africa, it appears that it will peak in January and come down substantially by February. Fortunately, it is being reported that it is a milder virus than the Delta, but unfortunately, more transmissible. We ask for your support as we face yet another variant and look forward to returning to normalcy sometime soon.

All Odyssey schools will continue with mitigating strategies, including additional cleaning and disinfecting efforts. We will also social distance as much as possible. Masks will continue to be optional but are encouraged on buses and in crowded areas.

We will be following, to a large degree, the most current CDC recommendations for quarantining during this variant.

- Students or staff that are positive with COVID-19 should isolate for 5 days, followed by 5 days of wearing a mask (recommended) when around others to minimize the risk of infecting people they encounter.
- Students or staff who are exposed and are unvaccinated or are more than six months out from their second vaccination and are not yet boosted, the CDC now recommends quarantining for 5 days followed by mask use (recommended) for an additional 5 days.
- Students or staff who are exposed but are fully vaccinated and boosted and are showing no symptoms, the CDC is recommending the wearing of masks for 10 days (recommended).
- For all exposed, best practice would also include a test for SARS-CoV-2 at day 5 after exposure. If symptoms occur, individuals should immediately quarantine until a negative test confirms symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19.

If your child needs to quarantine, please reach out to your child's teacher(s) and/or your school's Covid Contact for access to CANVAS, our online learning platform, where assignments and lessons are posted for use during any student absence. If you have any additional Covid questions or concerns, please email or call your school's Covid Contact for support: Mr. James Monds, AP, Odyssey Eldron (321) 733-0442; Mr. Mike Guevara, AP, Jr/Sr High (321) 345-4117; Mr. Mike Davis, AP, OPA (321) 345-4117.

If your child is ill, please do not bring them to school for any reason. As a healthy school, we will continue to focus on strengthening our immunity by talking to students and staff about eating healthy, taking part in moderate levels of exercise each week, getting sunshine, drinking lots of water, receiving a great night's sleep, and remaining calm, courageous, and compassionate toward one another.

We are looking forward to a great spring working in partnership with you to support your child(ren) in reaching his/her/their full potential. Thank you for sharing your greatest gifts, your children, with us. We remain honored to serve. All the best.

Sincerely,
Your Green Apple and School Leadership Team