

Cider Mill PTA invites you to A Parent Introduction of:



ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

Odyssey of the Mind is a national program whose purpose is to teach students creative problem-solving methods while having fun in the process. By tapping into creativity, and through encouraging imaginative paths to problem-solving, students learn skills that will provide them with the ability to solve problems -- great and small -- for a lifetime. The Odyssey of the Mind teaches students how to think divergently by providing open-ended problems that appeal to a wide range of interests. Students learn how to identify challenges, how to collaborate and to think creatively to solve those problems.

Teams are groups of 5 to 7 students with a parent coach. Each team picks a problem from a pre-published list of five options. Problems range from building mechanical devices to presenting dramatic interpretations of literary classics. Students meet weekly with their coach from November to March to collaborate on solving their problem. In March teams will present their solutions at the Connecticut State finals.

Parental involvement through coaching is fundamental to the success of Odyssey of the Mind. If you are interested in learning about the program and/or becoming a coach, we hope you will attend an information meeting. For the program's success, we need a number of committed parent volunteers who will be able to coach teams weekly from November until March. Teams work best when all parents are involved and committed to the program – teaching a skill, taking the team on a field trip to Home depot, providing an extra pair of hands to the coaches.

**Please join us on Tuesday September 19,
at 9.15am or 7pm
in the Cider Mill Cafeteria to learn more.**

For more program information please visit

www.odysseyofthemind.com and www.ctom.org

Or contact Nicola Davies nicoladavies@outlook.com

The Small Print - If we have more students interested than spots on teams, priority will be given to students who have participated in the program before and to those parents who attended an information session on September 19th. There is a participation fee of \$140 to take part in this program.