**Odyssey of the Mind** is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the local, state, and World level. Thousands of teams from throughout the U.S. and from about 25 other countries participate in the program.

Due to the dedication of our coaches, many of our teams have gone on to compete at the State level, and for the last two years, one of our teams has advanced to compete in the **OM Worlds Competition**.

**Odyssey of the Mind is a great way to encourage kids to think differently; allowing them build creative solutions to unique problems.**

**In Odyssey of the Mind:**
Students develop team-building skills by working in groups of as many as seven students per team. Students learn to examine problems and to identify the real challenge without limiting the possible solutions and their potential success. The creative-thinking process is nurtured and developed as a problem-solving tool.

**Age Divisions:**
Teams are formed by division and compete against teams in the same division and problem. Grade level determines the division for teams. In competition, each school membership may enter one team per problem for each division it covers. ([https://www.odysseyofthemind.com/division_table_new.php](https://www.odysseyofthemind.com/division_table_new.php))

**Division I** - Grades 1-5: Less than 12 years of age on May 1, 2018
**Division II** - Grades 6-8: Less than 15 years of age on May 1, 2018
**Primary** – Grades K-2: For younger children who want the Odyssey experience but do not want to compete

If your child is interested in participating in **Odyssey of the Mind**, please complete this by October 6, 2017.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at thayes@icsnewyork.com

Thank you!
Travis Hayes

**We need coaches!** In order for us to have teams, we need parents to help mentor and coach teams! The role of the coach is to simply provide supervision, mentorship and handle logistics for the team. This is a fantastic way to spend time with your kids while encouraging them to think creatively! **For new coaches, there will be a training meeting to help you, as well as the support of other experienced coaches**.