



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

*We must have courage in the century we live in. Great souls
are needed, souls having the interest of God at heart.*

St. Julie Billiart

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

In the Catholic tradition, the month of November is a time to remember our loved ones who have passed. Friday at NDA, we celebrated our Remembrance Mass as a community. This was a rich and beautiful celebration of our faith and commemoration of the souls who have gone before us. Now we prepare for Thanksgiving with grateful hearts for all that we have been blessed with at Notre Dame Academy and in our lives. Next Tuesday, we will come together once again at our annual Thanksgiving Prayer Service to give thanks.

I am truly grateful for the way our students are *Embracing Dignity in Self, Others and Community* this school year. These are challenging times for us as Catholics and as a nation. Our students are a source of optimism and inspiration as they live the mission of NDA serving others and making a difference in the world. You can see much evidence of this in the stories below:

- Our Pandas are once again collecting thousands of canned goods to feed the hungry this winter. They have decided to “Can WITH the Colonels” although there is still some friendly competition amongst the homerooms and grade levels in this canned food drive.
- LIFE Club members once again reached out to help St. Elizabeth Hospice with their annual dove project.
- Club leaders are focusing not only on leadership skills but also on developing important character traits.
- Drug Free members are participating in Ft. Wright’s “Neighborhood Blitz” to fight the local opiate/heroin epidemic.
- Students are volunteering their time and energy doing service at over 50 local agencies throughout the school year.

I thank you for your support in our students’ charitable efforts. I ask for your help in reiterating to them the importance of *Embracing Dignity in Self, Others and Community* at all times. It is critically important in this technologically advanced age that they realize the significance of embracing dignity not only in face-to-face conversations but also online in their social media communications. As leaders of educational technology, it is an essential lesson that we must teach. I thank you for your support in this as well.

Our mission clearly spells out our core goal: to educate young women to make a difference in the world. Along with that, we strive to help your daughters become great souls. As St. Julie says, “Great souls are needed.” We teach our students that it is paramount that they not only care for their own souls but also the souls of others. It is clear that they understand their responsibility to the souls of others by their strong engagement in service to the community. The great joy they experience in serving others is further evidence of the light of Christ and His goodness in the world.

I am thankful for the good that exists in our world today and grateful to our students for highlighting it for all to see! I am also grateful for your continued support of Catholic education. Have a healthy and happy Thanksgiving!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

We Pray...

May we honor one another by keeping an open mind.

May we voice our truth and listen with an open heart.

May we discern your will to unite an outcome worthy of your Grace.

STUDENT LIFE

STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

ALICE Training

The A.L.I.C.E. program is one component of our school's comprehensive crisis plan and is the protocol Notre Dame has adopted in the event of an active shooter situation. This Friday during long homeroom, all freshmen and transfer students will attend the introductory A.L.I.C.E. training session and will be introduced to this comprehensive lockdown procedure. During Friday's session, the students will revisit the importance of preparing for lockdown situations and learn the solutions and options available as identified by the A.L.I.C.E. program.



Can Madness

Last Monday, Notre Dame began to "Can with the Colonels to Clean Up Homelessness," and just over a week in and the Pandas have shown tremendous support for both Be Concerned and St. Vincent de Paul -- the two agencies to whom the canned food items and hygiene products will be donated.

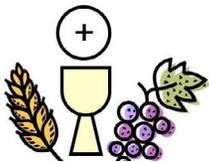
According to Jay Mullaguru School Co-President, "the third round of Can with the Colonels went so well!! Freshman are in first place of the grade level competition with 1,759 points, seniors in second with 1,184 points, sophomores in third with 1,137 and juniors with 842 points!! The winning homerooms are 202, 310, 212, and 112!! The Final Four round of the competition will take place tomorrow and Thursday and will determine our final two homerooms for the "CAN" pionship round!! Let's clean up hunger!!" Keep up the great work, Pandas!

More Can Madness...

As we are around half way through this year's canned good and hygiene drive we thought it might be good to send out a little reminder about who we are doing all of this for. Yes, we are competitive. Yes, we are having fun. But, more importantly we are doing a lot of good for our community! Check out this video for a little mid-way inspiration! [CAN MADNESS VIDEO](#)

Club Leader Meeting

Last week, NDA Club Leaders attended the second quarter Leadership Meeting where they explored the many traits associated with character development. The meeting started with an exploration of what the leaders view as their strongest character traits. The leaders shown here identified "temperance" as their strongest character trait.



JOIN US FOR MASS ◀

This Friday, November 18, we will celebrate Mass at 7:20 a.m. in our chapel. Please join us in the celebration of the Eucharist. We welcome all students, parents, faculty and staff!

NDA JOINS GLOBAL DAY OF GIVING ◀

Save the date! Giving Tuesday is just 2 weeks away!

This November 29, Notre Dame Academy will join more than 10,000 organizations worldwide in a day dedicated to giving back - Giving Tuesday. Please plan to be part of this global day of giving by making a donation to our Annual Appeal during this special event.

The Annual Appeal supports our mission by helping to keep tuition at an affordable level and allowing us to continue to work with any young woman who could benefit from an NDA education.

Every gift, no matter the size, will make a real difference for current and future NDA students!

Please join us on this global day of giving and [#MakeADifference@NDA!](#)

11.29.2016



Save the date...

#GIVING TUESDAY

[#MakeADifference@NDA](#)



PANDAS PARTNER WITH HOSPICE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE ◀

For over 20 years, St. Elizabeth Hospice volunteers have been delivering a special holiday remembrance, a white china dove, to caregivers who have lost a loved one in the past year. Notre Dame Academy has partnered with Hospice in their Dove project for several years. NDA students help out by packaging the doves and getting them ready for delivery. This year the students prepared 1,280 doves ready for delivery.

St. Elizabeth Hospice volunteer Julie Schuler sent a thank you note to NDA saying...

A very sincere thank you to you and your absolutely awesome Notre Dame Academy students for all their help with our St. Elizabeth Hospice Dove project. It truly is because of the girl's help that we could get our project totally completed before the holidays.

It was such a wonderful site looking at all the girls working so hard and putting their heartfelt love into this project!!! The girls labeled 1280 dove boxes/repacked them back into the storage boxes. The doves are now ready to be sent out to our Hospice families. I have included picture attachments capturing the love that your students put into this program. The pictures are priceless, it looks like Santa's workshop!!!

The girls were given a tour to view one of our Hospice Unit patient rooms with a brief explanation of what St. Elizabeth Hospice provides for our patients. As we were walking outside the girls passed several patient's rooms. One of our Hospice patients was looking outside and saw the girls. The patient was waving at the girls and blowing kisses at them, in return the girls waved at her and threw kisses back to her. We could see from where we were how this made our precious patient feel in addition to how your students felt when they saw this. This moment truly was priceless!!!

Again, you students are absolutely the best. Thank you so much for sharing them with our St. Elizabeth Hospice Program. God Bless you all!!!! Thank you so much for sharing in the success of this wonderful program!!

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be NO Panda Press Weekly next week due to the holiday.

Happy Thanksgiving
from NDA!



NDA SPEAKER SERIES CELEBRATES ALUMNA LT. COL. AMY McGRATH HENDERSON, A Woman Truly Making a Difference in the World ◀

Monday evening Notre Dame Academy, along with the NKY Tribune, welcomed the local community to attend its fall Speaker Series event: a reception in celebration of NDA graduate and newly Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame inductee Lt. Col. Amy McGrath Henderson. Amy was one of four individuals with outstanding careers in aviation and aerospace who was inducted into the KY Aviation Hall of Fame on Saturday, November 12. NDA President Dr. Laura Koehl attended the induction ceremony in Lexington.

NDA's celebration event for Amy on Monday was attended by many including NDA students, parents, alumnae and members of the local community. Some of the more notable attendees were Marty Schadler of the Aviation Museum of Kentucky and WWII hero-flighter pilot John Klette.

After a prayer and a touching introduction by Sr. Mary Ethel Parrott SND, Amy spoke to the audience about the her NDA memories, the Marines and the importance of mentors. Amy told the audience that getting used to the Naval Academy was not as difficult for her as an NDA graduate because at Notre Dame Academy, she learned discipline and the value of a good work ethic. She also told several incredible stories from the days of her deployment as a Marine fighter pilot. Those who attended the event were moved by her stories and touched by her humility.

Amy ended her speech with an important message about mentors. She said, **“Role models really matter. They really matter. Leaders matter. What they say, how they act, what they do matters. Character matters. We can’t underestimate how much it matters. I’m here tonight because I’ve had some incredible role models in my life who have encouraged me to foster these traits and follow my dreams. I am here tonight to thank the Sisters of Notre Dame and the teachers I had at NDA who were role models for me.”** Her inspirational words were met with a standing ovation from the audience.





MOTHER DAUGHTER 2016 ◀

Thank you to Francis Dinn, Jojo Santos and the Mother/Daughter committee for organizing a wonderful evening for our NDA mothers and daughters!

Want a night off from cooking? Mark your calendar for December 1! Skyline will donate 20% of their sales that day from 3:00 - 9:00 p.m. if you have [THIS COUPON](#).

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀

BEST Awards

Congratulations to our students who were nominated for the BEST Awards last quarter. The faculty nominates those students that have worked very hard in class and have been an example to other students. The following students were the winners from each grade level:



Freshman: Sarah Huffman Sophomore: Isabel Coomes Junior: Emma Slagle Senior: Angela Huston

Ft. Wright Neighborhood Blitz to Fight Opiate/Heroin Epidemic

Volunteers will distribute door hangers educating folks about the Heroin Helpline and prescription pill disposal on Sunday, November 20. We will meet at the Fort Wright City Building at 12:30 p.m. – 409 Kyles Lane, Ft. Wright, KY 41011 – to begin distribution of door hangers to approximately 2,800 homes in the City that afternoon. Maps, coffee, and hot chocolate will be provided. We welcome more volunteers to more easily finish the effort! Contact Scott Gunning (scott.gunning@kentoncounty.org) or Sara Mize Sgantas (sara.sgantas@kentoncounty.org) if you are willing to help!

KENTUCKY GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR ENTREPRENEURS

Kentucky Governor's School for Entrepreneurs (GSE) is a three-week residential summer program where 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students, working in teams, take an idea for a product or service and utilize science, technology, engineering, art, math and business skills to design a product and develop a business model for it. GSE 2017 will be held at Transylvania University from June 25-July 15. Application deadline is January 4, 2017. Applications are NOW OPEN! [KY GSE Website](#).

NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ◀

NDA HALL OF FAME

NDA is pleased to announce that the next Hall of Fame Induction will be March 9, 2017. If you know any former NDA athletes, coaches or supporters please take a moment to nominate them here: [NDA Athletic Hall of Fame Nomination Form](#)
Nominations are due December 10, 2016. Questions? Contact NDA AD, Myanna Webster at websterm@ndapandas.org.

IMPORANT FRUIT SALE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS!

Sign up to work your shift of the fruit sale here: <https://www.timetosignup.com/ndapandas/folder/4298> New Thursday after school work option available! **Reminder all athletes and one parent must work a shift.**



ALSO:

In homeroom today your daughter received the verification packet of her fruit sold. Please make sure that the amounts and money on the sheets are correct. This needs to be back to Mrs. Schmidt on Friday morning. Adjusting the fruit order needs to be done on Monday. Thank you for your attention to this.

If your daughter did not receive any paper work and she is going to play a sport, then she did not sell fruit. This means that she will be responsible to pay the \$20 a box for the twelve boxes not sold, a total of \$240.

Thank you and have a very Happy Thanksgiving.

► Important dates

November 16	Freshman Retreat #2
November 18	Mid-quarter Mass in Chapel 7:20 a.m. All are welcome! Out of Uniform Day for Detergent Donation Women in Technology Conference Panda Funfest for Prospective Pandas!
November 21	Last Day of Canned Food/Hygiene Collection
November 22	Thanksgiving Prayer Service
November 23-25	No School: Happy Thanksgiving
November 29	HSPT Prep Workshop
December 2	Fruit Sale Drop Off Today Showcase Opens Today
December 6	HSPT Prep Workshop
December 8	No School: Immaculate Conception
December 9	Christmas Choral Concert
December 10	HSPT - High School Placement Test ACT Test
December 11	Band Concert
December 16	Advent Prayer Service
December 19-21	Exams
December 21	2nd Quarter Ends

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

Check out the **Community News** section of NDA's website for news about...

- Part-time job opportunity for moms and students
- National League of Junior Cottillions

For a complete list of community news, [CLICK HERE](#).

