



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT ◀

Greetings Parents,

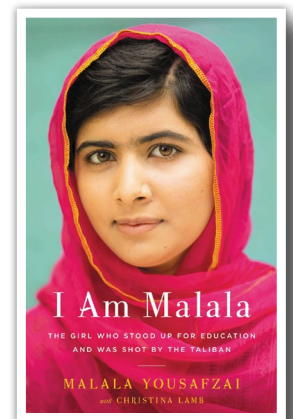
Welcome to the 2014-15 school year at Notre Dame Academy! This year our school theme is *Celebrating Sisterhood* and we look forward to the many challenging and exciting opportunities that lie ahead for us as a Catholic educational community sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame.

Our opening day was full of the sisterhood spirit as our Student Council sponsored a lively and energetic welcome for our new and returning students. We are excited to welcome 578 students, including 157 new students representing 28 different grade schools in our area.

During our first day, students met each of their teachers, inducted our new Student Council leaders and attended grade level meetings. We also came together as a community to reflect on the significance of our theme - *Celebrating Sisterhood*. The theme reminds us of our SND heritage, the legacy of Alumnae who are making a difference in our community and our many young women who learn together every day. We have much to be grateful for and our opening school mass was a great opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for God's love for us.

This Friday we will celebrate our common summer reading experience of *I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai. A committee of 35 faculty, staff and students worked hard this summer to plan this special day. In reading this book, we have all gotten to know a young woman with a very strong ethic of service - who has embraced the cause of girls' education in a very personal way. Our hope is that Malala's story has inspired our readers to have a sense of empathy for young girls in other parts of the world and to empower them to speak up for everyone's right to a good education without fear of persecution and reprisal.

Because Malala's experience is in a part of the world that is experiencing a great deal of violence, persecution and turmoil (as her own story attests) some of the presentations will include some difficult images. As educators we believe it is important to expose our students to these issues in an honest way supported by the safe and constructive environment of our Catholic school. Most importantly our students will be made aware of the challenges many young women face around the world and have an opportunity to reflect on ways in which they might embrace these girls in a sisterhood of global proportion. If you have any questions about our Common Reader Day program, please feel free to contact Mrs. Grayson, Dr. Snodgrass or me at 859-261-4300.



On behalf of our faculty and staff, please accept my gratitude to you as parents for sending your daughters to NDA. We are blessed to have each and every one of them as part of our community and look forward to blessed and productive school year.

May you know God's goodness each day,

Dr. Laura Koehl

"One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world."

Malala Yousafzai

STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

Student Mixer

We anticipate a school year filled with many exciting events for our students. Next Friday, August 29, the Student Council will hold the first mixer of the year. The mixer kicks off at 8:00 p.m. and ends at 11:00 p.m. All students are encouraged to attend and to celebrate the start of the school year. Hawaiian and Luau attire is encouraged! Admission is \$5 per person with the proceeds supporting the Uganda missions and NDA's Student Council.

Student/Parent Handbook

All parents and students are reminded to read the Student/Parent Handbook that is available on the school's website [HERE](#). The policies and procedures as described in the handbook serve as a guide for the whole community and will guide us as we Celebrate Sisterhood this school year.



FROM THE CAMPUS MINISTER ◀

Dear Parents,

This is the afternoon prayer that we pray together at the end of each day! I have emailed it to the freshman class. We encourage all students to pray the prayer along with us at the end of each school day.

As this school day draws to a close, Lord, I reflect with satisfaction on my accomplishments. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to do honorable work. Where I have succeeded in being a true Christian, I am grateful. Where I have failed I beg your forgiveness. I will not dwell on the work left undone, for with your grace, I will be here tomorrow to begin anew.
Amen.

Peace,
Bridget Price

[CLICK HERE](#) to for a special message about...



WORK STUDY POSITION AVAILABLE ◀

Work Study Opportunity Available: NDA is seeking a parent interested in assisting NDA Building and Groundskeeper, Pete Hehman, weekdays. If you are interested, please contact Bridget Lange at nda@ndapandas.org.

SIXTH GRADE SCAVENGER HUNT ◀

Do you know a current 6th grade girl? If so, invite her to NDA's Scavenger Hunt on Friday, September 19. This is an afternoon full of fun, friends, and food! Prospective pandas will put their investigative skills to work as they go on a scavenger hunt throughout NDA's campus. This is also a great opportunity for future Pandas to meet students from other schools in the area who will be attending NDA with them. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).

▶ Important dates: Opening of School Year

August 21	Athletic Orientation for New Students/Parents 7:00-8:30 p.m.
August 22	Malala Day
August 27	JR ACT Practice Test
August 29	Fall Mixer 8:00-11:00 p.m.
September 1	Labor Day - NO SCHOOL
September 2	Theatre Parent Meeting 7:00-8:00 p.m.
September 5	Picture Day
September 9	PTO Meeting 7:00-8:00 p.m.
September 10	Parent Mini-Night 7:00-9:00 p.m.
September 12	Junior Retreat
September 19	6th Grade Scavenger Hunt 3:30-5:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

Reveal Your Dignity
New Beginnings
Pure Fashion
Streetsmartz

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