



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings parents!

As you well know, Notre Dame Academy helps develop each student in an environment that fosters growth of the whole person. Our goal is to produce young women who have a fundamental desire to seek excellence and make a difference in the world. We strive to form women with passion and purpose who recognize that true success is rooted in service. NDA's success in this mission was more than evident at last week's *Women Making A Difference* luncheon. Each honoree was a tremendous example of a person living the mission of Notre Dame Academy. Thank you to everyone in the NDA community who attended the event, especially our students who helped out with the presentation of the awards.

Drug Free Clubs of America representatives were on our campus this week doing random drug testing of our members. I would like to personally thank you, our parents, for supporting this very important club. I am proud of all of our Drug Free Club members for making good choices and being drug free!

As the third quarter begins to wrap up, we are busier than ever at NDA. Congratulations to all of our students who have recently won awards. Several are highlighted below as well as all of the many interesting things happening around our campus. Congratulations also to our Aqua Pandas State Runners-Up. You can read all about the NDA Swimming and Diving team and how they did at the State Meet below.

I ask you to keep the community of Madison Jr./Sr. High School in Butler County in your thoughts and prayers. Any type of school violence can be unnerving for all of us, especially when it occurs so close to home. In light of these recent issues, I would like to update you about steps we have recently taken to ensure an even greater measure of safety on our campus. Within the last few months, we have installed a new camera system at NDA. There are now a total of 68 cameras throughout our campus doubling the original amount. While that is a great number of cameras providing much increased coverage of our campus, please understand that they were placed with privacy and feasibility in mind. In addition to the increased number of cameras, this system can be more easily monitored as it provides remote viewing capabilities for our administration.

As you know, two years ago NDA adopted the A.L.I.C.E. Program as one component of our school's comprehensive crisis plan. Violent shooter situations like the one that occurred at Madison Jr. High School this week, remind us that school preparation is essential in maintaining a safe environment. Safety and survival in these situations depend on our awareness of the response options available. The A.L.I.C.E. Program defines these response options and prepares our school community to respond in ways that will increase chances of survival in violent shooter situations.

The A.L.I.C.E. Program, consistent with guidelines recommended by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as well as the Department of Education, looks beyond the traditional lock down procedure that consists of locking classroom doors, maintaining silence and hiding from the intruder until an "all clear" has been determined by law enforcement officials. A.L.I.C.E. is an acronym for Alert, Lock down, Inform, Counter and Evacuate. The philosophy behind the A.L.I.C.E. Program is that technology and information can help staff and students make informed decisions in a crisis, remove as many people as possible from the danger zone and provide realistic training, so the chances of surviving violent shooter situations increases. There is an annual review of the A.L.I.C.E. Program at NDA along with annual training.

Thank you for your continued support of NDA; please be assured that our priority is always the safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

STUDENT LIFE

STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

Charity Volleyball Game

This past Tuesday, Student Council members from both NDA and CCH presented checks to the Northern Kentucky Emergency Shelter. As a result of the charity volleyball game held during Catholic Schools Week, the students were able to donate \$2350 to the

shelter. The money will certainly go a long way these days, so a huge thank you to all who coordinated, participated and attended the event.



Student Council Applications

The Student Council election process for the 2016-2017 school year begins next Wednesday, March 9 with an information session. Any student planning to run for School Officer, Grade Level Officer or Homeroom Representative must attend the information session starting at 8:30 a.m.



CAMPUS MINISTRY UPDATE ◀

7 Church Walk - A Pilgrimage Walk to the Holy Doors (in Covington). All students (and their parents and other siblings grade 7 or higher) are invited to join us for this holy walk on March 12. We will begin at 7:00 a.m. at Blessed Sacrament and walk to 6 other churches - the last one being the Cathedral Basilica to walk through the Jubilee Doors. This event is free. We should arrive at the cathedral around 1:00 p.m. for our final prayer together and then bus back to Blessed Sacrament. Please RSVP to Mrs. Price by 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 4. For more information or to sign up - please email Mrs. Price at priceb@ndapandas.org.

GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENTS ◀

The Herff Jones Graduate Service will be at NDA on March 10, 2016, during your daughter's lunch period to deliver her graduation announcements .

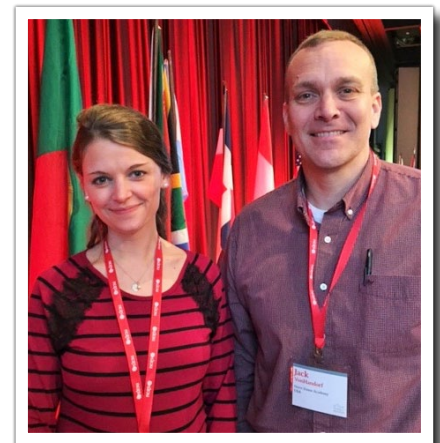


HELPING STUDENTS TO "MAKE GOOD CHOICES!" ◀

Drug Testing was conducted on February 29 by a representative from Drug Free Clubs of America, on randomly selected members of NDA's Drug Free Club. Congratulations all the members of Notre Dame Academy's Drug Free Club who were tested today, and received a reward at the time of testing. More rewards for being drug-free will occur later this week for other NDA Drug Free Club members! We are very proud of all our Drug Free Club members for being drug free!! Keep making good choices!

EMPOWERING YOUNG WOMEN ◀

Dr. Koehl, Mr. VonHandorf and NDA Spanish teacher Stacey Bill recently attended a conference sponsored by the National Coalition of Girls' Schools. They were among over 900 participants from 22 countries. Ms. Bill presented an INSPIRE Session on the "Empowerment of Young Women" across Relationships, Self-Concept, Cultural Awareness and Service Learning.



CAFETERIA NEWS ◀

Please Check Your Balances

Please check PayPams for your daughter's cafeteria account balance as many currently have insufficient funds.

Dish Room Volunteers Needed - Here is an easy way to sign up

Volunteers are needed daily to help in the dish room in the NDA cafeteria. Shifts are from 11:00 to 12:30. Click [here](#) to see available times and to sign up. All volunteers must be Virtus trained. We're using VolunteerSpot to organize this activity.



IMPORTANT FINANCIAL INFORMATION ◀

FACTS Payment Plan Re-enrollment and Financial Aid Applications:

Re-enrollment in the FACTS Payment Plan is easy. You are automatically re-enrolled to the same plan you have for this school year UNLESS you want to change it. If you want to change your payment plan. An example of this would be if you paid monthly this year and want to do lump sum next year, just contact Laura Hehman in the finance office hehmanl@ndapandas.org or 859-292-1844.

Also the financial aid applications are now open and will remain open until April 15th. This is separate from your payment plan. If you are in need of financial assistance OR are looking to do work study the application with FACTS must be completed before anything else. Financial assistance requests increase each year we cannot stress enough the importance of getting your application in early. Late applications run the risk of financial aid funding being exhausted.

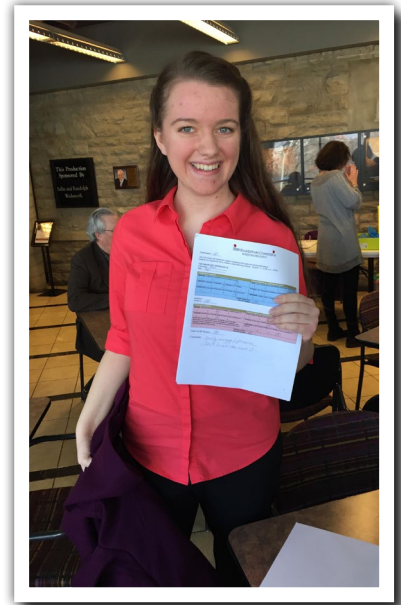
CONGRATULATIONS ◀

Congratulations to **Emma Deurstock** (pictured) who won the first round at the ESU Shakespeare competition. She'll go to semi-finals next weekend! Good luck Emma!

Catherine Meadows is one of the winners for the 2016 National Society of Colonial Dames of America (www.nscda.org) sponsored Congressional Seminar Essay winner. She will be attending the Congressional Seminar in DC from June 18-24, all expenses paid.

The 2016 Essay Topic: "2016 Marks the 240th Anniversary of the Virginia Declaration of Rights Penned by George Mason of Gunston Hall; Why Does This Historic Document Remain Relevant Today?"

Catherine will head back to DC in the fall along with **Kylie Moellering** for their collaboration on the Teens Dream video contest that won the global category.



ONCE UPON A PUBLICATIONS CLASS... ◀

Paul Daugherty of The Enquirer and Cincinnati.com visited Mr. Glynn's Publications class on February 24. Daugherty, an Associated Press Sports Editors national columnist of the year and author of the acclaimed "An Uncomplicated Life: A Father's Memoir of His Exceptional Daughter," spoke to the class about good storytelling. Afterward, he answered questions -- "Really good questions," he said -- from the Panda publications students.

ACCOUNTING STUDENTS WELCOME SPEAKERS ◀

Last week, Wendell Bell, Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, of Enerfab Inc., (grandfather of Shylah Markesbery '15), came and talked with the Accounting I and II students about accounting careers and the usefulness of accounting as a foundation for management careers. He is a delightful speaker and has invited the class to visit his corporate headquarters in April.

This Friday, March 4, Jennifer Mearns, owner of JPM Consulting is coming to the accounting classes to discuss her business and career as a corporate recruiter and how a recruiter works.



FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ◀

Swimming

Congratulations on another great season for the NDA Aqua Pandas. Records fell as the Swim and Diving Team finished in second place at the State Swim Meet. For the 18th consecutive year the Swimming and Diving team brought home a regional championship. Coach Courtney Sorrell was also named Regional Coach of the Year. The following is a list of top ten finishers at the State Swim Meet.

Francie Case	6th in diving
Sophie Middendorf	7th in diving
Sophie Skinner	2nd in 200 free
Amanda Smith	5th in 200 free
Sophie Skinner	1st in 100 free
Madeleine Vonderhaar	3rd in 200 im
Sam Glass	5th in 200 im
Madeleine Vonderhaar	2nd in 100 breast. New NDA Record!
Carlee Jones	8th in 100 Breast
Amanda Smith	2nd in 100 back
Allie Piccirillo	5th in 500 free
Sam Glass	5th in 100 fly
Allie Piccirillo	8th in 100 fly



Smith, Vonderhaar, Glass and Skinner break NDA record by 3 seconds and take 2nd in state!

Olivia Hagen won the Above and Beyond Award at the State meet. The award is based on five attributes: Citizenship, Leadership, Athletics, Sportsmanship and Scholarship.

VOTE FOR NDA! Please take a minute to vote for NDA's Sophie Skinner, Madeleine Vonderhaar & Amanda Smith for Cincinnati.com's Players of the Week! This trio's points helped secure a state runner-up team title for the Pandas. Skinner took home an individual state title in the 100 freestyle, while Vonderhaar, a Virginia recruit, and Smith each had an individual runner-up finish. All three were part of a second-place relay that set a school record. [VOTE HERE!](#)

WINTER SPORTS PROGRAM

NDA's Winter Sports Program will be held March 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the theater.

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



Winter Dance

NDA Freshmen and Sophomores are invited to attend this year's Winter Dance scheduled for Saturday, March 12. The semi-formal event will be held at St. Pius, and any NDA or CCH freshman or sophomore is welcome to attend. Guests from other schools are also welcome to accompany an NDA or CCH student. NDA proceeds will benefit our Drug Free Club. Tickets are \$10 per person; sales will begin next week!



Covington Latin College Fair

Covington Latin will be hosting their annual College Fair on Wednesday April 20 from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. the CLS Forum (cafeteria/auditorium). There will be approximately 25-30 representatives in attendance.

Junior ACT and Sophomore CERT Testing

On March 15, the juniors will be taking the ACT during the school day. This is a real ACT and the scores can be sent to colleges. Students will register for this test during the next two Friday long homerooms. The fee can be paid to the school office and is \$39.50. If anyone needs assistance with this fee, please contact Mrs. Monohan. The sophomores will be taking the College Equipped Readiness Test (CERT) on the same day. This will be a practice test for the ACT and will be done online. Click [here](#) for more info about CERT testing. Both sophomores and juniors will have college and career presentations following the tests that day.

CAREER EXPLORATION

What are you interested in? (+) Show all

- Building and fixing things (+) Show
- Computers (+) Show
- Food (+) Show
- Healthcare (+) Show
- Helping your community (+) Show

Wondering what to do for a Career or College Major?

We have a page devoted to Career Exploration on NDA's website. You will find links to Online Resources such as: Career Videos, Online Interest Assessments, Skills Assessments, and much more! *This is for all grade levels! Link: [NDA Career Exploration Page](#)

COLLEGE REP VISITS ◀

3/7/16 Northern Kentucky University
University of Tennessee

4/12/16 University of Kentucky



PPC NEWS ◀

After Prom Fundraiser

Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for a fundraiser to support NDA's After Prom. Come in to the Skyline at 1730 Dixie Highway in Ft. Wright on Wednesday, March 16 between 3:00 and 9:00 p.m. Bring in the flyer [HERE](#), show it on your smartphone or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 20% of the proceeds will be donated to Notre Dame Academy.

PPC Meetings

Please note, Panda Parent Club meetings are always the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the faculty conference room. **The next meeting will be on March 8 at 7:00 p.m.** See you there!

DO YOU KNOW A FUTURE PANDA? ◀

NDA Panda Preview Night for 6th, 7th and 8th Graders will be held on Tuesday, March 22 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. This is a great chance for future Pandas to learn about the NDA life and how to get ready for high school all in one evening. Questions? Call Katie Caccavari, NDA Admissions, 859-292-1829.

THANK YOU FROM DR. MARTIN ◀

I recently defended my doctoral dissertation in Theology at the University of Dayton. I could not have completed this task without the support of the NDA community and the Sisters of Notre Dame. My laptop died in August when facing a key deadline, but thankfully my use of the cloud as informed by NDA training allowed me to keep writing and meet my deadline. Molly Mullee was kind enough to allow me to use the computer lab at NDA during this time. Also, the Sisters of Notre Dame let me join them for two days at St. Joseph Heights as I was at a key phase of my writing and editing. Between the material help and all of the well wishes of the NDA community, completing this project became much more manageable. I am deeply thankful for my co-workers and friends at NDA.

Thanks,
Dan

IMPORTANT DATES:

March 5	8th Grade Conferences
March 7	Body Peace Week begins
March 9	Student Council Elections Information Session
March 11	Third Quarter Ends
March 12	Freshman/Sophomore Winter Dance Church Walk
March 15	Senior Mission Retreat JR ACT/SO CERT Test/FR at Play
March 19	8th Grade Conferences
March 23	Holy Week Prayer Service
March 24 - 30	Spring Break (No School)

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- Work Study Positions Available with the Sisters of Notre Dame
- Part-time Job Opportunities for Students and Moms
- NDA Alumna Returns to Teach Masterclass
- School Health Alert

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

