



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Greetings parents!

Let the Lenten season begin! Today we celebrated our Ash Wednesday liturgy as a school community. As we journey together in hope, this Lenten journey over the next six weeks is an opportunity for us to pray together that our hearts and minds can be open in a special way to God's presence in each of our lives. I hope this is a special time for your family as well and the NDA community joins you in the spirit of sacrifice and gratitude that defines this season. Lent is indeed a journey of hope as we anticipate the joy of Easter.

Today, our Peer Ministry Team shared with our students and faculty ways in which they can offer prayer, alms and thanksgiving during this Lenten season. The Lenten collection will be for the Rice Bowl Project. Students will be bringing home containers for donations to support this global cause to alleviate hunger. Please see the Campus Ministry page [HERE](#) for Lenten reflections and resources.

Our NDA Science Research students, Szofia Komaromy-Hiller, and Ellen Kendall did very well in the 2014 Kentucky Junior Science and Humanities Symposium this past weekend. Sophia and Ellen will represent the state of Kentucky at national symposium in Washington DC, April 23-27, 2014. Please see more details below. Congratulations to these dedicated young scientists and to their teacher Sr. Mary Ethel for a job well done!

Congratulations to our Aqua Pandas and their coaches for doing so well in the state championship this past weekend. Our Swim/Dive team placed second in the state! Good luck to our Basketball Pandas in the regional competition this coming weekend.

NDA will hold an Open House on Tuesday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m. Please share this you're your family and friends. All are welcome.

Finally, the calendar for the 2014-15 school year has been established. Please see a list of important dates in the note below. More information will be posted on the website as other dates are confirmed.

May you know God's goodness each day

Dr. Laura Koehl

2014-15 CALENDAR DATES	
First Day	August 18
Labor Day	September 1
Fall Break Day	October 10
Thanksgiving Break	November 26-30
Immaculate Conception	December 8
Exams	December 18-20
Christmas Break	December 22 – January 4
Martin Luther King	January 19
President's Day	February 16
NDA In Service	March 13
Spring Break	April 2-8
Prom	April 24
Graduation	May 22
Memorial Day	May 25
Exams	May 26-28
Cleaning Day	May 29

"Whoever wishes to be my follower must deny his very self, take up his cross each day, and follow in my steps."
- Luke 9:23



TECHNOLOGY UPDATE ◀

After almost a year of planning, with the help of the “Uganda Pandas” group, the SWAT team is finally able to send our pilot iPads to our sister school in Uganda: NDA Academy Uganda.

Recently, Mrs. Grayson asked if there was anything the “Uganda Pandas” could donate money



collected from a “Change to Change” fundraiser to assist with the impending iPad journey. As the school in Uganda runs on a generator, the iPads will need to be charged with an alternative solution. Solar iPad chargers could facilitate these chargers easily; especially with the amount of sun they get year round. We received word that \$337.27 was raised for this purpose. The chargers are roughly \$50 each, so this amount will supply us with at least six solar powered iPad chargers! Now we are ready to deploy them with chargers across the globe.



CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS ◀

Lent begins today. The Season of Lent is a reflective time set aside to prepare ourselves for Holy Week and more importantly for Easter morning. The three most common themes during lent are Pray, Fast and Give Alms. Campus Ministry will offer a variety of ways for our students to incorporate these three themes into their everyday lives. These activities will were presented at our all school Mass today.

Prayer opportunities: morning prayers encouraging students to “Take Up Your Cross,” Stations of the Cross, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Daily Decade of the Rosary before school, Holy Week Prayer Service.

Fast opportunities: Students will be asked to share one thing they are planning to ‘fast from’ or work on during lent - these anonymous notes will be displayed throughout the school as a reminder, students will be challenged to “give up” something and give to the rice bowl throughout Lent.

Give Alms Opportunities: This year we will again take part in the Operation Rice Bowl Project. Students will receive a rice bowl at Mass next week, be encouraged to collect monies in it throughout the Lenten season and then return the Rice Bowl contents at our Holy Week Prayer Service.

Reconciliation will be offered at the following times during March in the Chapel:

Monday, March 10 - 3rd, 4th (last lunch), 5th periods

Thursday, March 13 - 4th (first lunch) and 5th periods

Tuesday, March 18 - during the Mission Retreat at the Heights (10-11:30 a.m.)

Thursday, April 10 - 3rd, 4th, 5th periods

Friday, April 11 - 3rd, 4th, 5th periods

Every Monday during lunch mods (in Mrs. Price’s office)

This year we will also be offering an **Evening of Reflection** on Thursday, April 17 from 5-11:30 p.m. The evening will include a shared meal, reflection, discussion, Mass and end by “Praying the Steps” in Mt. Adams. We will need Virtus Trained chaperones to help with this event. This event is open to students of NDA (and their parents are welcome to join us as well). Registration is required, there is no cost for this event. More information will be sent in March.



A NIGHT OF HOPE! ◀

A special thank you to everyone who baked for the *Homeless to Hopeful* fundraiser last Friday evening and a special thank you to our 22 girls and Mr. Martin who helped with the event. It was very successful ...the final number is not in yet but they believe they made around \$16,000. That’s \$4,000 more then last year!

STUDENT LIFE

STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

This week, Maria Chal (NDA Alum) will travel to our sister school in Buseesa, Uganda. Maria will take with her several items from NDA's UgaNDA PaNDA Club including a student created video showcasing NDA in Park Hills, a yearbook displaying a photo of each UgaNDA PaNDA member and bookmarks created especially for the students at our sister school. What the students in Uganda will not see are the many prayers being said on their behalf here in Kentucky.

The purpose of the UgaNDA PaNDA club is to strengthen the bond between our school in Park Hills and Notre Dame Academy in Uganda. One member, Sophomore Katie Stratman says that "even though Kentucky and Uganda are far away from each other, the people living in each place are not very different from each other." Membership in the club has given Katie this perspective.

Sophomore Christa Saelinger has learned that "the young African women of Notre Dame Academy like us, the young American women of Notre Dame Academy, value the importance of hard work, education, and faith. Most importantly, [she has] learned that although our cultures may differ and our schools are miles apart, we are much the same in that we are women aspiring to make a positive, lasting difference in our world."

A huge thank you to Maria for taking the items with her to Uganda, and the club has already begun their next project, which is an extension of the November Shoe Collection in support of the Uganda Water Project.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT NEWS ◀

NDA Science Research Students Advance to National Junior Science & Humanities Symposium

Ellen Kendall, Szofia Komaromy-Hiller, and Cassidy Ryan had the opportunity to attend the Kentucky Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (KJSHS) along with 29 other competitors within the state from DuPont Manuel High School and Ballard High School. Szofia Komaromy-Hiller and Ellen Kendall placed in the top 5 as finalists and were awarded the honor of attending the national symposium in Washington DC April 23-27, 2014. After the top 5 finalists presented a second time for the judges, Szofia Komaromy-Hiller was awarded first place over all and will now attend the national symposium as a speaker. Ellen Kendall was awarded fourth place overall and will attend the national symposium as a poster presenter.



LESSON IN NEUROSCIENCE ◀

Ms. Proudfit's Anatomy classes welcomed Nisia Thornton, a Certified Neuroscience nurse from the University of Cincinnati, into their class this week to talk about Traumatic Brain Injury.

NEWS FROM THE MATH DEPARTMENT ◀

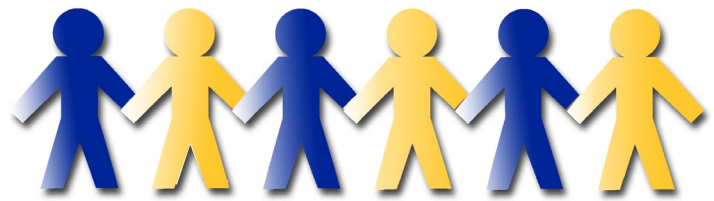
CONGRATULATIONS to the following students for their very high scores on the third Math Fax test:

Geometry - Kelsey Sucher and Bridget Neltner

Algebra II - Paige Montfort

Thank you to all of the students that took it!

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



Spring 2014 College Fair for High School Students

The 33rd Annual Covington Latin College Fair will be held at Covington Latin School at 7:00 pm, Wednesday April 23, 2014. This is a free event and everyone is welcome! It's a great chance for students and college admission counselor to have more personalized contact as opposed to the larger, national fairs. They plan to have 25-30 representatives in attendance. For some tips on how on making the most of a college fair you can go to our website at <http://www.ndapandas.org/academics/counseling-and-student-services.aspx>.

Looking for student summer opportunities?

Please visit our NDA website to link to many different opportunities this summer. It is being updated as materials arrive at school. Some things include a Commonwealth Academy at Murray State for juniors interested in getting some free college credits, a Xavier Jump Start Program, and many other activities. [Click here for the website link.](#)

DELICIOSO NOTICIAS DEL CLUB ESPAÑOL ◀



NDA's Spanish Club recently welcomed Chef Hector Esteve to Notre Dame to teach the students how to prepare a traditional Spanish meal. Chef Esteve explained how to make paella, a very popular rice dish from Spain. He also shared stories about his life with the girls and told them how he came from Puerto Rico to be a chef in the United States. The students found Chef Esteve very entertaining and his food to be "delicioso!"

NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ◀

The Aqua Pandas splashed their way to the best team finish in ten years Saturday evening at the University of Louisville, capturing the State Runner-up trophy. The young swimmers and divers were up against a strong Sacred Heart team, yet, outpaced the next finisher by over 50 points.

Top finishers for the Pandas were freshman Amanda Smith, third in the 200-yard freestyle and fourth in the 100 backstroke, and sophomore Madeleine Vonderhaar, third in the 100 breaststroke and fourth in the 200 individual medley. On the spring board, three divers advanced to the final round placing in the top 14; Karly Crail (3rd), Emily Jackson (10th) and Francie Case (14th).

The basketball pandas defeated Boone County by 18 points in the first round of the 9th Region Tournament Monday night. The 2013 regional defending champions advance to the semi-final game against Highlands Saturday, March 8, at 6:00 p.m. at NKU's Bank of Kentucky arena. The regional finals are scheduled for Sunday, March 9, at 6 p.m. Pre-sale tickets are available in the athletic office for Saturday's regional semi-final game. Tickets are \$6.00 pre-sale and will be available until noon on Friday.

An NDA Athletic Hall of Fame Induction will be held on Friday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m. in the theater. Among the inductees this year are three devoted fans - Sr. Mary Paul Ann Hanneken, Sr. Mary Ethel Parrott and Sr. Mary Rachel Nerone! All are welcome to this special evening of celebration.





ARE YOU INTERESTED IN TRAVELING TO ITALY? ◀

Travel with us to Italy! The Religion Department will be hosting a trip to Rome, Florence, Assisi, and Venice during the summer of 2015. We will be traveling with Proximo Travel and will be seeing many amazing religious and cultural sites throughout the country. We will also be attending a Wednesday Audience with Pope Francis! For more information you can check out the itinerary for our trip at http://www.proximotravel.com/trip-store/?action=view_trip&triptemplateid=1. There will be a meeting for interested students on Thursday, March 13 and a meeting for parents of interested students on Wednesday, April 2 at 7:00 p.m.

2014 NDA YEARBOOK ORDER INFORMATION ◀

The Notre Dame Academy Publications class is now accepting orders for the 2014 yearbook. Capture high school memories by purchasing your yearbook today! Tapestry, the formal name of the yearbook, will be distributed in October 2014. Graduating seniors receive their books during the Thanksgiving Eve class reunion. The yearbook is \$60. Don't delay. Price increases April 15. Please refer to the following link for order information: [NDA Website Yearbook Information](#). Order forms are also available in the office. If you have any questions, please notify Mrs. Gronotte at gronottek@ndapandas.org.



AFTER PROM ◀

Great Advertising Opportunity!

The After Prom committee is looking for corporate and individual t-shirt sponsors. Every girl who attends After Prom receives a t-shirt. For more sponsorship information contact kirnl@ndapandas.org.

Please consider donating it to this year's After Prom. The After Prom committee is collecting items for the April 25, 2014 After Prom. Gift cards, gift items for themed baskets, electronic items, and accessories would all make great gift ideas for After Prom. Please send in your donations (marked "After Prom") to the school office.



SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES ◀

Summer Art Studio Classes

If you are interested in the Junior High or High School Summer Studio Art classes you can find all of the information you need as well as registration forms [HERE](#). All forms and payment must be returned to Notre Dame Academy by **Friday, May 30, 2014**.

Learn A Band Instrument This Summer

All students in grades 6-12 are welcome to join the NDA/CCH Vacation Band School this summer to learn a band instrument for **FREE!** No prior experience needed! The band will reshearse for 1 hour each Tuesday and Thursday throughout the summer. For more information on the band or if you would like to inquire about Summer Guitar Class, contact the NDA/CCH Band Director, Mr. Greg Cerimele, at cerimeleg@ndapandas.org. If you already play a band or string instrument be sure to contact Mr. Cerimele so that you will receive updates regarding Summer Rehearsals.

WE NEED YOUR HELP ◀

Parents, we would LOVE to have you join us in the cafeteria - even for just one day!

Volunteers are needed in the cafeteria on the following dates: March 6, 10, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 25, 26, 27, and 31. Shifts are from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. You can sign up to volunteer at [Volunteer Spot](#). Thank you to all of the parents who are already volunteering. We truly appreciate your help!



WHAT'S FOR LUNCH? ◀

Did you know that the lunch menu is on website? You can find it by going to [Quicklinks](#) or directly to the [Cafeteria page](#) (Students>>Policies and Procedures>>Cafeteria).

FUN WAY TO HELP ◀

Be Concerned is seeking school organizations and/or young people interested in joining our team for the Hunger Walk on Memorial Day. The Walk is a 5K that starts at 9:00 a.m. at Sawyer Point Park on the Cincinnati riverfront and takes about an hour to complete. Walkers will raise money for Be Concerned with a \$15-\$20 entry fee and/or by securing sponsors from among their friends and family. The event is a great opportunity to have fun with your friends and help Be Concerned serve the 800+ families currently relying on us to put food on the table. For more information, contact: Paul Gottbrath at beconcernedinc@yahoo.com (859) 291-1340 or Andy Brunsman at (859) 291-6789 or beconcernedandy@yahoo.com.

▶ Important Dates

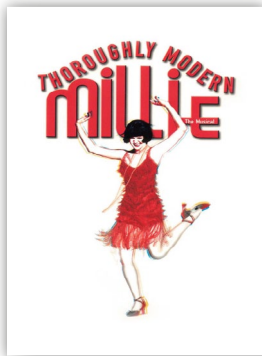
March 5	Ash Wednesday Mass
March 5-6	KYSTE
March 11	6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Spring Open House
March 12	End of 3rd Quarter
March 18	ACT for Juniors (During school day)
March 19	Chastity Speaker
March 21	SNOW MAKE-UP DAY
March 24	NO SCHOOL
March 26	Winter Sports Awards
March 27	Jesuit College Fair
March 28	NDA Athletic Hall of Fame Induction

FROM THE ADVANCEMENT OFFICE ◀

2014 GALA

We are revamping the Autumn Gala! Would you like to be part of planning a new, fun event that benefits NDA? To join the committee, contact NDA Advancement Director Anna Hehman at hehmana@ndapandas.org or 859-292-1851.

ALUMNAE NEWS ◀



Alumnae Dinner Theatre

The presentation of Thoroughly Modern Millie and the Alumnae Dinner Theatre will be held on Thursday April 3, 2014. Dinner will be at 5:30 in Alumnae Hall and the performance will start at 7 p.m. For more information, or to make reservations contact Emily Berling at 859-292-1852 or berlinge@ndapandas.org. Tickets are \$25. There is a registration form on the last page of the Notre Damian for this as well.

Alumnae Spiritwear!

If your an NDA alumna who would like to show your Panda pride, NDA Alumna sweatshirts are now available though the Alumnae Office. Full zip and quarter-zip sweatshirts are available in navy blue or gray. For more in-

Part time Dietary Aide

Sisters of Notre Dame are currently seeking a **student** to work part time in the Provincial House as a dietary aide. This aide would be responsible for serving the sisters in Lourdes Hall their evening meal and preparing the kitchen and dining rooms for the next meal. The student would work 4:30pm to 7:30 p.m. -2 days one week and 3 days the next week. The student would be required to work every third weekend. The starting pay for this position is \$7.50 per hour. This position is through the work study program and all students are eligible. If interested in working in this loving home environment please contact the HR Department: Sisters of Notre Dame, 1601 Dixie Highway, Covington, KY 41011, 859-291-2040, humanresources@sndky.org.

Part time dish room

The Sisters of Notre Dame are currently seeking a NDA parent to work part time as a dishwasher operator on Monday, Tuesday and every other Friday from 12:30 p.m. to approximately 2:30 p.m. in their Provincial House located in Park Hills, Kentucky. Although this position is run through the work study program, all families are eligible. Experience is not necessary. If interested in working in this loving, home environment please email us at humanresources@sndky.org, or call 859-291-2040.

Family in Need

Thanks to all of the families that have sent donations and purchased coffee to support the Harkins family. NDA families have already donated nearly \$500.

The husband of cross country coach Jenny Harkins was injured in a 60 foot fall in November, and is currently in a wheelchair learning to walk again. Jenny and her husband, Rhett, work with BLOC ministries in Lower Price Hill as inner city missionaries, reaching out to the poor in that neighborhood. As such, they have very little financial reserve for medical bills, especially with Rhett Harkins being unable to work.

This week is the last week to mail donations if you are able to help. Sorry, no more coffee is available. The money will help with the expenses while the family is living out of town for rehab. If you wish to contribute, please mail donations to Debbi Borchers, 139 Louise Dr., Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017. Checks should be made out to Justin Carabello, who is coordinating support for the family. Please email Debbi at dborchers@gmail.com if you have questions.

Thanks to everyone for their prayers and generosity!



St. Agnes Fish Fry:

Be sure to "Catch" the St. Agnes Fish Fry this Lent. We will be hosting three Fish Fries, Friday, March 7, 21 and 28 from 5-11p.m. (Food service stops at 9 p.m) in the church undercroft. Come for a night of fellowship, fun and FISH! All proceeds from the Fish Fry will go to the Faith for Generations Fund. Fish dinners, beer/soft drinks and baked goods will be available. Carry-out will also be available. See you at the St. Agnes Fish Fry!

ST AGNES BIG BLUE BASH: Mark your calendars and join us for an exciting night at the Marquise Banquet Center in Wilder on Saturday, March 29th. We know it will be a great night for all of us to support St. Agnes! The Cash! Cash! Cash! Raffle has a grand prize of \$5,000! If you would like to receive a reservation card, please email Janna Collins at janna.collins@twc.com and she will mail one right away. The deadline for RSVPs for this event is March 21st and there won't be tickets sold at the door so don't delay! We hope you can join us!

Want to be a Model?

Don't miss your chance to model in the 2015 Pure Fashion Show at Receptions! Join the lucky group of young women from Northern Kentucky who will discover their own dignity, style, and beauty. For more information about our model training program, go to www.purefashion.com. Deadline is June 6th, don't miss out! Models must be 14-18, grades 9-12 of the 2014/2015 school year. Space is limited to 30 models. Apply on line today!

Streetsmartz

Streetsmartz, sponsored by KOI Auto Parts and Crux Roadboardz, is a comprehensive vehicle familiarization program that is held in Hebron, KY every Monday night from 7-9 p.m. If you have a new driver in the family or, you simply want to know more about your car and safe driving tips, you need this class!! The class covers what do do in emergency situations, how to properly change a tire, check tire pressure, what's under the hood, proper brake and tire wear, how to change your oil, and much much more. Get a group together and come on out!! The cost of the class is \$25/student and it's a one time class. It is real hands on training on a 2001 Toyota Camry designed specifically for this program. Please contact Dan Bosch at bosch@zoomtown.com or (859.240.4045) for further information or to schedule a class.