



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

Last week, I had the privilege of welcoming students to Notre Dame Academy, some for the first time and others returning for another year as a Panda. The energy and enthusiasm they brought to our campus was incredible. Over these first days of the school year, it is clear to our community that these young women are ready to excel. They are ready to learn and achieve, to work hard and to serve others. They are ready for a year of *Embracing Dignity in Self, Others and Community* and prepared become women making a difference in the world.

I would like to thank our Campus Minister, Mrs. Bridget Price, and our Peer Ministry Team for planning an inspiring opening school mass last week. Our celebrant, Fr. Michael Hennigen, talked to our students about how powerful words can be and encouraged them to be the best version of themselves this school year. It was wonderful celebration of our faith. The Catholic culture of our school is so clearly prevalent and alive to me, and I hope you, as parents, are aware of the exceptional environment in which your daughters are learning.

One of our goals at NDA is to be life-long learners. In pursuit of that goal, we are again setting aside a special day for everyone in the NDA community to come together and share their thoughts and ideas regarding our common reader, *A Pearl in the Storm: How I Found My Heart in the Middle of the Ocean* by Tori Murden McClure. Our Common Reader Day is next Wednesday, August 24. There are many fascinating topics within the book and I encourage you to engage in a discussion about some of these topics over the course of this next week. Also, please note the important information in the Student Life section below regarding our Common Reader Day.

I hope your daughter has made a smooth transition from summer back to the routine of school. 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 another wonderful and productive school year.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



Attendance/Tardy Policy

Notre Dame Academy recognizes that student absences are sometimes necessary and tardies sometimes unavoidable. Our attendance policy allows a student to miss 18 class periods for a full credit course and 9 class periods for a half credit course before credit is lost due to missed class time. **If a student exceeds the allotted number of days, she will lose credit in that course.** Ex-

tenuating circumstances, such as health issues, chronic illness, or surgery, may prevent a student from regularly attending class and cause her to miss more school than the policy permits. If this is the case, an "Excused Absence Form" must be completed and returned to the school office. Furthermore, arriving to school on time is an important habit for all students, and repeated tardies do result in detention after school.

The attendance and tardy policies are derived from NDA's mission to provide a quality education for each student, and regular class attendance and punctuality will help each student benefit fully from her experience at Notre Dame Academy. Contact Mrs. Grayson for any questions regarding this school policy.

Common Reader Day, August 24th

- Special thank you to our Student Services and Athletic Departments and other members of our Common Reader Committee for organizing the day's events.
- Students will report to their small group assignments at 9:00 a.m.
- Students should pack a lunch for this day.
- We are excited to welcome two special guests on this day: Tori Murden McClure author of *A Pearl in the Storm* and WLWT's meteorologist Randi Rico.

CALLING ALL THEATRE PANDAS! ◀

August 23-24 from 3:30 p.m.- 5:30 p.m., AUDITIONS for NDA/CCH's production of *The Crucible*! Actors should prepare a dramatic monologue (preferably written by Arthur Miller, but any monologue will do) approx. 1-2 minutes in length. Auditions are on a first come, first served basis. Please meet in Alumnae Hall and prepare to audition in the Theatre. Contact Miss Stine with any questions at stinec@ndapandas.org.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEND A HELPING HAND? ◀

The NDA cafeteria has long prided itself on serving hot lunches on real plates to your daughters every day. Keeping our high standards requires more work and more help!

Do you have just one day a month to volunteer for two hours in the NDA cafeteria? Helping out is neither difficult nor time-consuming and our current volunteers have fun visiting the school and seeing their daughters, granddaughters and friends. Volunteers are also welcome to stick around after their two-hour shift for lunch with "the crew". Grandparents in particular seem to love this job, so please consider asking your daughter's grandparents if they would like to help out.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Karen Brungs at 859.292.1856 or brungsk@ndapandas.org. The schedule is online and you can sign up [HERE](#).

NDA STUDENT CHOSEN AS SEMIFINALISTS IN NAT'L STUDENT POETS PROGRAM ◀

Congratulations to Kendall Crawford who was chosen as one of 35 semifinalists chosen from the pool of Scholastic Gold & Silver Medalists in the National Student Poets Program. She was asked to submit at least two more poems in addition to her Scholastic winner and send a few videos of herself explaining her work & inspirations. The program will choose five poets to serve as literary ambassadors, representing different geographic regions of the country. The ambassadors are invited to a pinning ceremony hosted by Michelle Obama, take poetry workshops, and promote writing in their own selected poetry-based service project.

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



Health Career Exploration Program:

Health Career Exploring is a program for high school students who want to learn more about specific health careers and observe the workplace of various healthcare professionals. Students will meet one evening a month October through March in cooperating local hospitals. Students will tour various hospital areas, talk with healthcare providers, learn about salary levels, job outlook and educational preparation for a variety of health professions. They will also be able to do hands-on activities in some areas. The program runs from 5:30-7:45 each meeting night.

The registration for the 2016-17 St Elizabeth/North Central AHEC Explorers Program is now open. Registration is limited. Students in grades 9-11 can register for this program on the website: <http://www.northcentralkyahec.org/explorers.html>.

NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ◀

FRESHMAN ATHLETE PARENT ORIENTATION

Freshman Athlete Parent Orientation for parents of freshmen and new students is August 31 at 6:30 p.m. in the Theater and Alumnae Hall. It is recommended that at least one parent attend.



**PANDA
PARENT
CLUB**

DON'T FORGET ◀

There are many ways to get involved at Notre Dame Academy and parent volunteers are very much appreciated. Our Panda Parent Club (PPC) goal is to create safe, fun social activities for students and parents and show appreciation for students and faculty. [CLICK HERE](#) to volunteer for various events/committees this school year including our upcoming Autumn Gala.



Please send in your reservations for this year's Autumn Gala as soon as possible. An Early Bird Drawing will be held on Parent Mini-Night for those who have sent in their reservations by September 13. The winner will receive \$100 in Gala credit to spend during the evening.

The 2016 Autumn Gala will be held on **Saturday, September 24** at Notre Dame Academy. It will feature cocktails, a gourmet sit-down dinner, specialty raffles, a Bourbon Tasting Bar, Keepsake Photos, Signature Cocktail, and enhanced Live and Silent Auction items. An open bar will be available throughout the evening.

Even if you cannot make it to the event, you can still support the effort in many ways. You can purchase a "First Choice" raffle ticket for a chance to be able to take your pick of any Live Auction item before the first item goes up to bid. The cost is \$50 per ticket and the winner will be chosen immediately before the Live Auction begins. You do not have to be present to win, you just need to let us know which Live Auction item you would like to pick if you are not going to be there. If you are interested in our "First Choice" drawing, contact Sr. Paul Ann or Sr. Rachel at 859.292.7736.

We are confident that the 2016 Autumn Gala will again provide an exciting evening of friendship and fellowship for the parents, alumnae, and supporters of Notre Dame Academy. We're hoping we can count on your attendance and support this year. Questions regarding the Gala can be directed to Nancy Goeke 859. 292.1851 goeken@ndapandas.org or Taffy Hebbeler 859.250.5020 taffheb@fuse.net.



2016-17 College Rep Visits at NDA

Throughout the school year many college representatives visit NDA to speak with students during lunch mods (M/T/Th/F 10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. - Wednesdays 11:12 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.) Below is a list of upcoming visits.

SEPTEMBER

- 8 Hanover College 
- University of Kentucky 
- 13 Washington University St Louis 
- 20 University of Alabama Tuscaloosa 

SEPTEMBER CONT.

- 22 Bellarmine University 
- 29 Mount St Joseph University 

OCTOBER

- 13 Vanderbilt University 

► Important dates

- August 23-24 Fall Play Auditions 3:30 p.m.
- August 24 Common Reader Day
- August 26 Fall Mixer 8:00 - 11:00 p.m.
- August 30 Parent Theatre Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- August 31 Freshman Athlete Parent Orientation 6:30 p.m.
- September 2 Picture Day
- September 5 No School: Labor Day
- September 6 Diocesan Senior Mass
- September 7 Future PaNDA Fun Night - Grade School Soccer Night | games at 5 & 6:30 p.m.
- September 9 Mid-Quarter
- Club Orientation

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- Life's a Ball - Faces of Pro-Life Awards - August 20

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

