



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

It's been a very exciting week at Notre Dame Academy! Last Thursday we received word from the U.S. Department of Education that Notre Dame Academy is being recognized as a 2019 Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. This is the third time in the school's history that NDA has received this distinctive recognition. Notre Dame Academy previously received the National Blue Ribbon acknowledgement in 1996 and 2012 and is the **first high school within the Diocese of Covington to receive this honor three times**. Notre Dame Academy is the only high school in Kentucky and one of only 50 private schools in the country to receive this national recognition in 2019.



In making the announcement, U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos said, *"We recognize and honor your important work in preparing students for successful careers and meaningful lives. As a National Blue Ribbon School, your school demonstrates what is possible when committed educators hold all students and staff to high standards and create vibrant, innovative cultures of teaching and learning."*

Shortly after the announcement was made by the U.S. Department of Education, Dr. Koehl and I gathered students, faculty and staff for a mini-celebration to share the good news and distribute National Blue Ribbon candy bars to everyone. We will have a formal celebration on November 18 after we return from the 2019 Blue Ribbon Ceremony in Washington D.C.

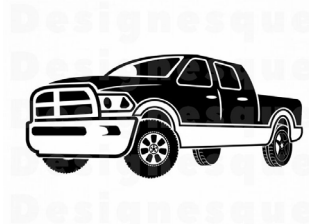
Each day we strive for excellence at Notre Dame Academy. It is an incredible honor it is to be recognized as an "Exemplary High Performing School". Our Blue Ribbon recognition is a testament to the ongoing dedication of our faculty and students and their commitment to excellence in education at Notre Dame Academy. This repeated recognition also attests to the dedication of our NDA parents and their ongoing commitment to our mission.

Congratulations and thank you for allowing us to partner with you in your daughter's Catholic education at Notre Dame Academy!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

STUDENT LIFE



PLEASE NOTE!
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STUDENT COUNCIL FRESHMEN ELECTIONS ◀

Good luck to all the freshmen running for Student Council Homeroom Representative. Elections are Monday during homeroom.

SUPER FRIDAY SCHEDULE ◀

As you will see on our calendar, we have a great deal happening this Friday, October 4 - Super Day! **School will start at 9:00 a.m. on this day and students should pack a lunch.** The schedule has been shared with all students.

COMMON READER DAY ◀

On Wednesday, October 9 we will celebrate our Common Reader, *I Choose to Be Happy* by Missy Jenkins Smith. Missy Jenkins Smith will be joining us that morning to address the student body. We will also have break out sessions throughout the day for students to discuss and take part in activities around the many themes in the book. **We are asking all students to pack their lunches on that day.** Students should also be in uniform. We will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 3:01 p.m.

LOOKING FOR A NEW OR GENTLY USED TRUCK ◀

NDA is in need of a new or gently used truck that will be used to plow snow and keep our campus safe this winter. We already have a plow in good condition. The truck would need to be 3/4 ton, 4 wheel drive, auto transmission, regular cab with an 8 foot bed. If you could help us replace our truck at a reasonable price or know someone interested in donating a truck, please contact Tim Moeller at moellert@ndapandas.org.

PANDA PARENT CLUB MEETING ◀

Mark your calendar for the next Panda Parent Club meeting on October 14 at 7:00 p.m. The topic is **Parenting Strategies that Work** with Thom Cox/ from Tri-D Center and Dr. Charles Roberts from Compass Point Counseling.

EMAIL ISSUES ◀

We are aware that some of our parents who have Cincinnati Bell email addresses are not receiving NDA emails. Please know that we are aware of the problem and we are working hard to remedy the situation.

STUDENTS - if your parents are not receiving the Panda Press Weekly, please let them know that they can access it online [HERE](#).



CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS ◀

Freshmen Service Day/Retreat: On October 16 we will hold the first Freshmen Retreat/Service Day. Half the Freshmen (Mrs. Johnson's gray, peach and yellow classes) will take part in their retreat day here on campus from 9:00-2:15 p.m. More information will be shared with them about what to bring, wear etc. the week before.

The other half of the Freshmen (Mrs. Van Auken's religion classes and Mrs. Johnson's Blue Class) will be taking part in their Day of Service. They are to be in the chapel by 8:45 a.m. They will return to NDA and be dismissed at 12:00 noon. Please be sure to arrange a ride at that time. They will receive their service placements about one week before their service day.

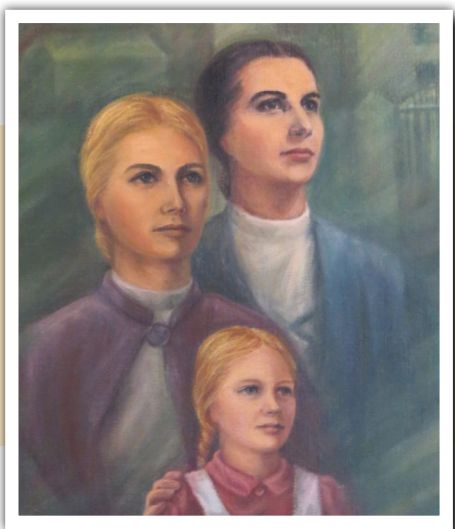
If you have any questions - please email Mrs. Price at priceb@ndapandas.org.

Freshmen Service Days: All Freshmen Parents and students need to log into Final Forms and give permission for Freshmen to attend their Service Day. We have 2 service days: October 16 and November 13. Your daughter has been assigned to one of those dates. Both dates appear on the permission form in Final Forms - but they will only be leaving Campus on one of those days. Please log into final forms and sign off on the Freshmen Service Day under the Activity Permission Tab by Wednesday, October 9. Thank you for your assistance.

Junior Retreat will be held on Thursday, October 10 from 2:00-8:00 p.m. Juniors do not report to school until 1:45 p.m. that day and are allowed to dress down following the guidelines in the handbook. This retreat is held here on NDA's Campus. This is a required event for Juniors.

Service Opportunities: There are many service opportunities coming up. Students have access to descriptions and sign ups through Unified Classroom - Service Information.

- Oct. 5 - Bean Bash
- Oct. 12 - Milestones Inc.
- Oct. 19 - City of Erlanger Halloween Movie night
- Oct. 20 - City of Edgewood Spooky Sunday



CELEBRATING SND FOUNDATION DAY! ◀

Yesterday, October 1, was SND Foundation Day. It was a special day for the Sisters of Notre Dame and our school so we held a prayer service commemorating the day our founders Hilligonde Wolbring and Elisabeth Kuhlring began their religious life in Coesfeld, Germany. Hilligonde. You can read more about how we celebrated SND Foundation Day at NDA and see pictures [HERE](#).



CONGRATULATIONS NAVIGO SCHOLARS ◀

Congratulations to the following NDA students that were selected to participate in Navigo Scholar Programs:

- Jordan Brown for Early Childhood Education Program
- Gracie Dorning, Hayley Jansen and Sydney McMMain for St. Elizabeth Program
- Mackenzie Eberhart for Duke Energy Program
- Kirsten Spillman and Emma Meyer for Legal Scholars Program
- Sommer Shields for Business Entrepreneur
- Sarah Witt for CVG Scholars

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

BASS FISHING PANDAS REPRESENT! ◀

In June, the Bass Fishing Pandas were invited by Crestliner Boats to travel to Bemidji, Minnesota to be part of Crestliner's photo and video shoot for their 2020 boat models, to be used in their catalog, website, and social media. You can check them out [HERE](#) on Crestliner's website.



\$AVE WITH NDA COUPON BOOKS! ◀

Do you realize how much money you can save with your NDA coupon book? Take a look at a day in the life of the NDA coupon book [HERE](#).

**PLAY LIKE
A CHAMPION
TODAY**

PLAY LIKE A CHAMPION TODAY ◀

NDA will be hosting a Play Like a Champion Today Parent Training on October 3 at 6:00 p.m. in the Theater for freshman student-athlete parents/guardians. PLACT will last approximately 1 hour in length and is a research based program through the University of Notre Dame which will focus on the overall culture of high school sports.

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



KEEP
CALM
NDA COUNSELORS
CAN
HELP

RECENT COUNSELING EVENTS ◀

Time Management and Study Strategies Presentation

All freshmen gathered during homeroom on Monday to learn about time management and study strategies from Mrs. Monohan, Ms. Ericson and several sophomore students who shared their knowledge on the topic.

Divorce Groups

Last week saw the start of Sophomore, Junior and Senior divorce groups. The freshman divorce group will start this Thursday October 3. Divorce groups are for students with non-traditional families, they are optional to attend, and there are 5 sessions per semester for each grade level. The goals of our group are to clarify confusing issues, to enhance communication skills, to decrease loneliness, to improve understanding, and to develop coping strategies. Mrs. Hildreth leads the Freshman and Sophomore groups and Mrs. Maggard leads the Junior and Senior groups.

Suicide Prevention

Seniors will receive the suicide prevention presentation this Friday October 4.

Upstander Training

All Freshmen will attend an upstander presentation this Friday October 4. The presentation will focus on ways students can be supportive of one another and report any bullying behavior.

DRUG FREE CLUB INFORMATION ◀

The Initial Round of drug testing has begun! Almost 450 of our student members completed an online survey, had their pictures taken for their Member ID Card, completed drug testing, and received goody bags! It is not too late if your daughter has not been signed up yet. Applications will be accepted through October 31 and can be completed online or through a paper copy available in the school office or in the Quad.



College
Rep
Visits

2019-20 College Rep Visits ◀

Throughout the school year many college representatives visit NDA to speak with students during lunch periods. You can find a list of upcoming visits [HERE](#).

2019
Commonwealth
Honors Academy

JUNE 6 - JUNE 27, 2020

COMMONWEALTH HONORS ACADEMY ◀

The Commonwealth Honors Academy is an exciting, challenging summer academic enrichment program for outstanding high school students who have completed their junior year. It is held on the campus Murray State University, and college credit is available. Applications will be available November 1. Click [HERE](#) for more information.



CERT TESTING FOR FRESHMEN AND SOPHOMORES ◀

Friday, October 4 we will be starting a little later at 9 a.m. and testing freshmen, sophomores and juniors. The freshmen and sophomores will be taking the CERT Test. This is the College Equipped Readiness Test and is similar to an ACT test. The students will be taking this test two times a year electronically for standardized testing preparation. We do not offer accommodations for this practice test. The students will need ipads for this test. For more information about this test please visit here:

<https://certforschools.com/about>



PRACTICE ACT TEST FOR JUNIORS ◀

Friday, October 4 we will be starting a little later at 9 a.m. and testing freshmen, sophomores and juniors. The juniors will be taking a full length practice ACT Test. The Torchprep test prep company sponsors this free test. For information about Torchprep and upcoming sessions for ACT prep visit here:

<https://www.torchprep.com/>



PSAT TESTING FOR SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS ◀

On Wednesday, October 16, sophomores and juniors will be taking the PSAT (Preliminary SAT Test). This is the same format as the SAT and is associated with the National Merit State Qualifying Test for those juniors that take it. Students have already been given practice booklets to review before taking the test and some classes will also be reinforcing this practice. We will start at the regular 9am start time that day, but ask that students arrive a little early to be ready to begin promptly at 9 a.m. For more information visit:

<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10>



GSE, GSA & GSP ◀

Governor's School for Entrepreneurs

NDA is hosting an Informational Meeting for GSE On Thursday October 10 after school in Alumnae Hall. A representative from GSE will be there to answer questions and provide direction for applications, as well as several of our NDA students who attended last summer! Applications for GSE open on October 10, also. Contact Mrs. Hildreth with questions.



Governor's School for the Arts

Applications for GSA and Sign-ups for GSA Prep Workshops launch on October 4. NDA will host an Information Session for Governor's School for the Arts after school on October 24, with several 2019 GSA Artists from NDA there to answer questions and share their experience.



Governor's Scholars Program

Applications are open now! Submissions are due to Mrs. Hildreth by November 20.



DON'T MISS OUT - REGISTER TO ATTEND THE AUTUMN GALA TODAY! ◀

Have you purchased your tickets for NDA's largest fundraiser of the year? Don't miss this fun evening filled with NDA camaraderie! To make a reservation or for more information or to see all of the wonderful items up for bid, click [HERE](#).

The following is just a sampling of some of the items that will be offered in the Live and Silent Auctions:

- Pappy Van Winkle- 23 Year!!
- Scottsdale Spa and Resort
- 2020 Macy's Day Parade Grandstand Tickets for 4 and \$1500 Visa Card
- Charleston Condo for a Week
- Pedal Wagon Experience with the Principal AND Sisters Mary Paul Ann and Rachel
- Disney Park Hopper Passes
- Hilton Head Getaway
- Emperor's Dinner for 12 at the Oriental Wok
- Senior Graduation Package
- Thurby Experience to Churchill Downs
- Fighting Irish Football Tickets
- Xavier, University of Dayton, and Bellarmine University Tuition Grants
- Party at the Gardens
- Bonefish Restaurant Excursion for 10
- Smoky Mountain Getaway
- And much much more!



Take a look at our adorable Gala puppy!



ALUMNAE NEWS ◀

Alumnae Mass

All are welcome to join us at our monthly Alumnae and Friends Masses in our new *Mary, Mother of the World* Chapel at 11:30 a.m. on the last Wednesday of the month. Masses are scheduled for the following dates: October 30, November 20 (one week earlier due to Thanksgiving).

COMMUNITY NEWS



COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

You can find a complete list of community news [HERE](#).

- Work Study Positions Available
- Youth Rosary Day
- Rosary Coast To Coast, Immaculate Heart of Mary
- Living Your Strengths: Taking Your Life to the Next Level
- Yoga Sol Classes
- SWORKIT Youth Initiative
- Special Tumbling Offer for NDA Students



DBL Law is a full service law firm providing premier legal services and business advice in a collaborative manner with integrity, professionalism and respect. DBL Law attorneys provide a high level of valuable legal services

to individuals, institutions and companies in many areas of law, including: Administrative Law & Zoning, Adoption, Alternative Dispute Resolution, Banking and Commercial, Bankruptcy, Business Organizations & Taxation, Civil Litigation, Collections, Construction, Employment & Labor, Estate & Succession Planning, Health Care, Intellectual Property, Immigration, Medical Malpractice, Nonprofit & Tax-Exempt Organizations, Personal Injury & Wrongful Death, Probate, Professional Liability, Real Estate & Title, Technology/Cybersecurity, Trade Secrets, White Collar Criminal Defense, and Workers' Compensation. For more information, go to <https://www.dblaw.com/crestview-hills-ky/>

► Important dates

October

2	Informational Coffee for Prospective Parents
3	Student/Parent Teacher Conferences
4	Super Day (Delayed start at 9:00 a.m.) FR/SO CERT Testing JR ACT Testing SR College Planning Day Grandparents' Day Mass
6	Golden Girls Celebration Mass and Brunch
9	Common Reader Day
10	Junior Retreat
11	No School: Faculty Professional Development
12	Autumn Gala
14	NON-FEEDER SHADOW DAY
16	Super Day: SO/JR PSAT Freshman Retreat #1
18	End of 1st Quarter
18-20	Fall Play
21	Red Ribbon Week begins
21-24	Senior Retreat #2
30	Alumnae Mass