



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

A measurable snowfall on the first full day of spring is not what most of us would hope for but perhaps it is a gentle reminder that our Lenten journey is not yet over. During Lent, we focus our hearts on the cross and resurrection of Christ. We spend time in prayer and reflection and surrender ourselves to God our Father. Today we sacrifice a beautiful spring day for another cold, dark day of what seems like winter. Rather than concentrating on the weather however, we must focus on the gifts God gives us during Lent - repentance and grace.

Last evening we hosted our annual spring admissions event at NDA - the Panda Preview Night. I am happy to report that we had a large number of potential Pandas and their parents in attendance to learn about Notre Dame Academy and the many advantages of single-gender education for young women. It was very reassuring for me as principal of NDA to see our dedicated faculty members speak about an NDA education. It was also very encouraging to hear our student ambassadors express what it means for them to be students at NDA. I certainly don't want to leave out the impact our band members had in creating a welcoming and lively atmosphere for our guests as they entered the program.

Advancing the mission of Notre Dame Academy is an important job and I am thankful that we have such an incredible team contributing to our efforts. It is wonderful to be part of a community so committed to the cause. Dr. Koehl and I truly appreciate the work of our students, parents, faculty and staff in spreading the word of our tradition of excellence in education at NDA and helping us to continue our mission of educating young women to make a difference in the world.

Please know that you are in my prayers throughout this last week of our Lenten journey.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

Sophomore Ring Ceremony

The Sophomore Ring Ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25 at 7:00 p.m. in the theatre. This is an opportunity for the sophomore class to come together and celebrate their class unity through the blessing and reception of their class rings.

Parents are invited to celebrate this event with their daughter. If you ordered your ring through a company other than Herff Jones or are using an heirloom ring - please have this ring sent to the school office no later than Monday, April 23, so it can be included in the blessing and distribution. If your daughter did not order a ring - she is still welcome and encouraged to join us in this celebration. A reception will follow the ceremony in Alumnae Hall. An invitation with an RSVP will be sent to your daughters, so we can receive an accurate count. If you have any questions - please contact Ms. Molly Proudfit at proudfitm@ndapandas.org.

School Safety Measures

Last Monday, our school reviewed school safety measures and emphasized our shared responsibility in keeping our building safe. Students were reminded of what they can do to help keep our building safe:

- Wear lanyards daily
- Report undocumented visitors to the front office
- Practice diligence and employ Green Dot behaviors when seeing unusual activity (direct, delegate and distract)
- Avoid propping doors open
- Be aware of one's surroundings

Prom and After Prom

The Junior and Senior Prom will take place on Friday, April 27 at Music Hall in Cincinnati. After Prom will follow at NDA. Students can register [HERE](#) and must do so by April 11 (shortly after we return from Easter break). Click [HERE](#) for additional Prom information.

Please help the Panda Parent Club plan for After Prom. See the information below.



Dear Students and Parents,

This year's Prom will be held on Friday, April 27th at the Music Hall Box Office Ballroom in Cincinnati. Immediately following is our very own After Prom right here at NDA! This event will last from 11:30pm-3:30am. All Juniors and Seniors are invited to attend After Prom regardless of whether or not they have attended Prom. We have a fun evening planned for your daughters and dates, including Cincinnati food favorites, prizes, inflatables, a photo booth, a tattoo artist, a caricature artist, and our very own hypnotist!

RESERVATIONS

Starting on Friday March 16th and ending on Wednesday April 11th, you can click on this link, https://www.cognitoforms.com/NotreDameAcademy1/_2018NDAProm, to make reservations for Prom and After Prom.



There are a few things to remember when making your reservations for Prom and After Prom:

- If attending Prom, please make sure to select 1 or 2 guests and completely fill out all information requested online
- If attending After Prom, please make sure to select 1 or 2 guests and fill out all information requested
 - Your gift will be an After Prom t-shirt so make sure you select a size for YOURSELF
 - You may also purchase an additional t-shirt for your date but the cost for this will be \$10
 - Reservations must be made by April 11th in order to receive a t-shirt – NO EXCEPTIONS
- Make your payment for both Prom and After Prom online
- If for any reason you have to leave Prom or After Prom early you must have a note from your parent.



PRIZES

Parents we are asking for your help by donating gift cards or cash to buy gift cards to make the evening more fun and exciting for the girls. Some ideas would be Starbucks, Chick-fil-A, Movie Theaters, Sephora, Lush, Bath & Body, Panera, Chipotle, Spotify, iTunes, etc. All donations can be dropped off at the school office, attention Kristy Seither or Jojo Santos.

For the students, anyone who brings in a donation will be awarded a Panda Buck (valid for a FREE ice cream), compliments of Mr. VonHandorf!

VOLUNTEERS & FOOD DONATIONS

Parents we need many volunteers to make After Prom a success! Please consider signing up to give a couple of hours of your time and/or to donate food. We are using SignUp.com to organize our sign-ups. Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:



1. Click this link to go to our After Prom invitation page SignUp.com: <http://signup.com/go/vbuSMOH>
2. Enter your email address – you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password.
3. Sign Up! – Choose your spots – SignUp.com will send you an automated confirmation and reminders.

NOTE: SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact Aimee Dickhaus at ddickhaus@yahoo.com and she can sign you up manually.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and support!
The After Prom Committee



GROW CLOSER TO GOD THIS LENT ◀

Lent is a time to prepare ourselves for the gift of the risen Christ on Easter. To help our students deepen their relationship with God this Lenten season, **we will celebrate Mass each Wednesday at 3:15 in room 102.** All are welcome!

Also, **we pray a decade of the rosary to “Notre Dame” Our Lady everyday at NDA at 7:25 a.m. On Mondays and Fridays we pray the decade in the Reflection Room (301) and on Tuesdays and Thursday we pray in Heritage Hall.** We welcome students, faculty and staff. Please make an effort to join us this Lent!

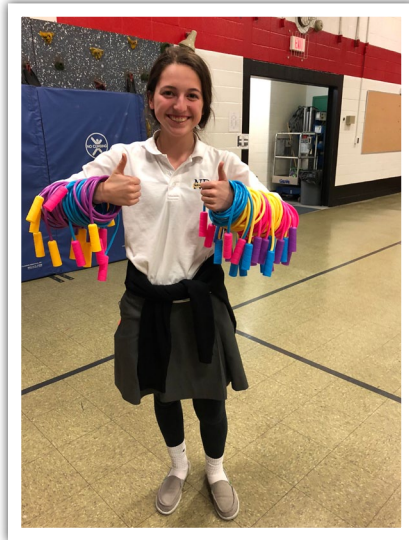


IMPORTANT FINANCIAL INFORMATION ◀

Financial Aid Applications & Academic and Tuition Assistance Scholarships

Financial aid applications are now open and will remain open until April 15th. 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. You can access the Financial Assistance page of the website [HERE](#).

We are currently accepting applications for Academic and Tuition Assistance Scholarships. Applications can be found on the website [HERE](#), and are due in the front office no later than April 15, 2018.



MATH CLUB MAKES A DIFFERENCE! ◀

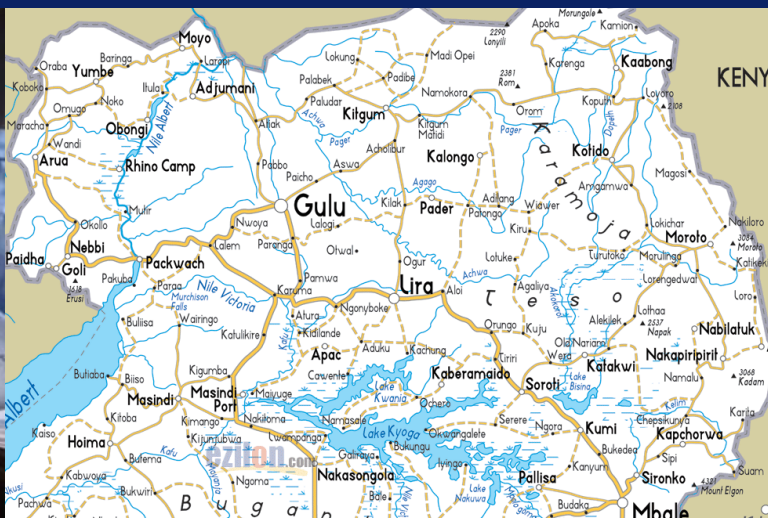
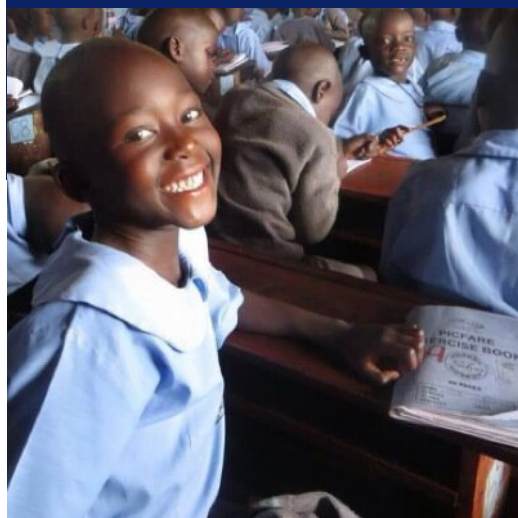
Earlier this year, math club was awarded one of the Dress Down Day Club Grants. The students of math club used this grant money to buy school supplies such as markers, pencils, eraser, math flash cards, and rulers as well as jump ropes and kickballs for the after school “Fit Kids” program at Newport Primary School. They have been doing service there since the beginning of this year with the kids in this program. During their time at Newport Primary School, the students have helped the “Fit Kids” with math homework, math games on their iPads, and other math fact practices. After about 45 minutes of homework time, the kids then go to the gym for some fitness time. This week, math club delivered all of the goodies that they bought with the grant money and then helped with the kid’s workouts. This week’s workout was creating a bar graph using data collected for how many times each person did an exercise. The students of math club were very grateful for this rewarding experience.



REGISTER FOR THE GO 4 GULU 5K! ◀

The Go For Gulu 5k is benefitting four children sponsored through the Unified for Uganda foundation. The mission of the organization is to provide emotional and financial support for war town children in Northern Uganda. These children face various different setbacks preventing them from achieving academic success such as being orphaned, being forced to become head of household, HIV positive, and/or former abductee. Each student when sponsored receives a mentor to encourage academic success and behavioral success. Your donation goes to the priceless gift of education. The U4U family believes that every child should have access to education. Thank you for learning more about what this 5k is all about!

GO 4 GULU 5K



APRIL 21, 2018

Runners begin at 8:00

Walkers begin at 8:20

Onsite registration begins at 7:00

Register online by April 10th to receive a free t-shirt

To register go to: <http://ndaugandapandas5k-com5.webnode.com>

Cost is \$15



HOSTED AT NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

All proceeds go to the education of four students through NDA's chapter of Unified for Uganda. With this sponsorship they receive their uniform, housing, tuition for school, and meals. If you or a company you know of would like to sponsor the race visit our website or contact schumacherj@ndapandas.org or burkec@ndapandas.org

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS ◀

ARCHERY

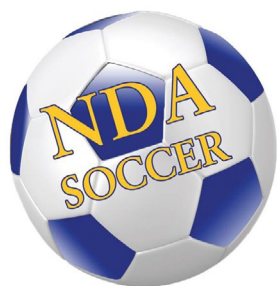
NDA Archery wrapped up the season at the KHSAA Regional Tournament, coming in 3rd place. Madilyn Adamchik was our top shot, coming in 5th place with her personal best score of 283. Evelyn Cook also shot her personal best, coming in 9th place with a 281. Both Madilyn and Evelyn qualified for the KHSAA State Tournament. Mackenzie Burns came in 12th place with her personal best score of 280. Lily Gamel and Gracie Siemer also shot well with a 276 and 272 respectively. Great season, Pandas!



THREE GENERATIONS OF PANDAS!

The Archery Pandas posed with team member Jenna Wigger's grandmother (Mary Fischer Wigger '43) and mother (Kris Appelman Wigger '86) at the KHSAA Tournament this year. It was three generations of Pandas together at the competition! Mary Wigger is still talking about the event saying it "warmed my heart to see the Panda archers acting so ladylike and supporting one another." Mary heard about her granddaughter's team since Jenna started competing two years ago but was genuinely impressed when she saw the well-organized process. The Wigger family is thankful for "another great season and maintaining the learning, competitive environment that promotes success for generations!"

NDA SOCCER PROGRAM SHOWCASES TALENT!



When the 2017 Kentucky State Runner-Up Soccer Pandas get back to the field this summer, college soccer coaches from around the region will be invited to be there to see the tremendous amount of returning talent. The Notre Dame Academy Soccer Program is starting a new tradition this season to provide college coaches an opportunity to evaluate young NDA athletes for possible recruitment to their college teams and to give its players an important chance to be seen.

Over 40 college soccer coaches have been invited to attend an open practice at NDA at the start of the 2018 season where they will be able to watch the State Runner-Up NDA Pandas in action. According to NDA Head Soccer Coach David Gronotte, college coaches who attend one of the offered open practices will have the opportunity to see the team in a series of 11v.11 games and get a biography of each varsity player.

"The Soccer Program at Notre Dame Academy has produced an incredible amount of talent over the years with many of our athletes going on to play in college," said Gronotte. "We think that extending an invitation to college coaches to attend an open practice at NDA is a great way for our athletes to showcase their soccer skills and attract the attention of college coaches." Interested college soccer coaches who have not received an invitation can contact David Gronotte at gronotted@ndapandas.org.

BALL DROP

NDA Student Athletes can start selling ball drop tickets on Monday March 26! Tickets are \$10 for a chance to win \$1000 or second place of \$500 if we sell more than 500 tickets. The ball drop is at the golf outing on July 27. Students, sell your ball drop tickets and turn in with money to the front office or the athletic office by Wednesday March 28 for a chance to win 2 Lawn Seat Tickets to Kesha and Macklemore. We will also have gift card drawings on 4/13, 4/27, and 5/4. Whomever sells the most ball drop tickets will receive a mutually agreed upon prize! See Mrs. Webster for details. Reminder, make sure your name is on the ticket as a seller!

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀

Summer Opportunity:

Miami University Summer Scholars Program

Miami will be hosting two sessions of our Summer Scholars Program this July. The Summer Scholars Program provides an early college experience for academically talented rising high school juniors and seniors. Students will attend an intense, two-week program on Miami's campus exploring a topic of their choice with an acclaimed Miami faculty member. Need-based scholarships are available for the program. More information regarding dates, deadlines, and the application is available at MiamiOH.edu/SummerScholars.



Congratulations to students who were randomly drug-tested for Drug Free Club on Monday March 19! We are very proud of you! Thank you to those who came to watch the movie Wonder in our theatre last Friday - a good time was had by all!



Abundant blessings to the 25 Notre Dame Academy students traveling to Centre College in Danville, KY this weekend for 30 Final Round Auditions & Reviews with the KY Governor's School for the Arts!



NDA SUMMER CLASSES ◀

NDA has all sorts of Summer Enrichment Opportunities. You can find information about our 2018 Summer Art Classes online [HERE](#).

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED ◀

As you may know, Chelsea Esmeier (NDA Graduate, Class of 2010, and current doctoral candidate in the School of Psychology at Xavier University) has been conducting a study for her dissertation that requests the participation from NDA students. To increase participation for those who could not attend before or after school, data collection sessions will be offered during study halls this Thursday (3/22; until 12:30) and next Tuesday (3/27; all day). In order to participate, students just need to bring a signed parental consent form to their study hall on either of these days. The forms were distributed during homeroom but can also be accessed here: <https://tinyurl.com/NDAconsent>. Alternatively, you can email the completed forms to esmeierc@xavier.edu. All students who return a completed parental consent form (even if you are declining their participation) will be entered into a drawing to win one of several \$15 Target gift cards. 2 in every 10 students will win! The students who participate in this study will be asked to respond to a series of questionnaires about their personality and their motivations to control their appearance in photographs. All information collected in the study is confidential, and participation is voluntary. Please note that sharing access to personal Instagram profiles is an optional part of the study, and only the researcher would see them. The results of the study will help inform safe and healthy social media use for teenage girls. Please consider helping out a former Panda by allowing your daughter to participate in this study! Thanks!



DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS ◀

Parents, did you know that NDA's daily announcements are posted each day on our website? You can find them [HERE](#).

CAN YOU LEND A HELPING HAND? ◀

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](#).



SAVE THE DATE ◀

Mark your calendars for this year's NDA Gala! Last year's Gala was a sellout crowd and a full evening of entertainment! Save the date for Saturday, October 13, 2018 for this wonderful event which will once again be held at Summit Hills Country Club. Invitations will be mailed in early September. We hope to see you there!

▶ Important dates

March 21	Mass in Room 102 at 3:15 p.m.
March 23	Student Council School Officer Elections in Theatre
March 28	Holy Week Prayer Service
March 29 - April 6	No School: Easter Break
April 9	School Resumes
	Panda Parent Club Meeting 7:00 p.m.
April 11	Prom registrations due
April 13	Baby Day
April 18	JR to the Play
April 19	Alumnae Dinner Theatre
April 20	Student Council Grade Level Officer Elections
April 20-22	Spring Musical: Pippin
April 21	Go for Gulu 5K

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- St. Agnes Big Blue Bash
- St. E's Orthopedic Information Session
- Scholarship Tax Credit legislation
- School Cafeteria Manager Needed
- Positions Available for Students
- World Meeting of Families

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

