



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

It's difficult to believe that it is already May. This month at NDA, we focus on wrapping up another school year, finals and graduation. More importantly, as a school dedicated to Mary, we focus on our Blessed Mother during the month of May. As a school rooted in the traditions of the Sisters of Notre Dame, I would like to share a reflection on Mary each week with you during the month of May written by one of the Sisters of Notre Dame. I will start off with [Our Lady of Fatima](#) written by Sister Mary Ruth Lubbers, SND. I think you will enjoy this reflection as it ties in very well with our theme this year of *Living the Gospel Empowered by Mary's Witness*.

Please take a minute to sign up for one of our Strategic Plan Feedback sessions below. Our first session is to-night. An important part of the strategic planning process is hearing from you, our parents. In order to get your input, we will be holding feedback sessions for NDA stakeholders both today from 4:30-6:00 p.m. and next Wednesday, May 9 from 8:00-9:30 a.m. I hope to see you at one of these sessions!

In order to give the construction crew as much lead time as possible to get started on all that needs to happen this summer with our *Excellence Without Boundaries* construction, **THE CAFETERIA WILL BE CLOSED AFTER THIS FRIDAY, MAY 4. STUDENTS WILL NEED TO PACK THEIR LUNCHES FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR BEGINNING NEXT MONDAY MAY 7.** Only snacks and drinks will be available for purchase from that time on.

In closing today, I would like to congratulate Sister Mary Ethel Parrott. Sister Mary Ethel was awarded the Judith Clabes Lifetime Achievement Award at yesterday's Outstanding Women of Northern Kentucky Awards Luncheon. Upon accepting the award, Sister Mary Ethel remarked that she believes there are two transformative things in the world: education and love. She added that she has been fortunate to experience, and she hopes share, an abundance of both. We congratulate Sister Mary Ethel and thank her for the abundance of education and love she has shared with our NDA community!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

Important Reminder For Parents

STRATEGIC PLAN FEEDBACK SESSIONS

We are holding feedback sessions for our Strategic Plan on the following dates and times. We hope that you will consider attending one of these sessions. To sign up, please go to [THIS LINK](#).

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|--------------|------------------------------|--|
| May 2 | 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. | NDA Alumnae Hall |
| May 9 | 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. | St. Joseph Heights Meeting Room |

Your input is very valuable to our process. These sessions are open to anyone who wants to advance the mission of NDA – to follow the vision of the Sisters of Notre Dame in educating young women to make a difference on our world.

IMPORTANT CAFETERIA INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS ◀

In order to give the construction crew as much lead time as possible to get started on all that needs to happen this summer with our *Excellence Without Boundaries* construction, **THE CAFETERIA WILL BE CLOSED AFTER THIS FRIDAY, MAY 4. STUDENTS WILL NEED TO PACK THEIR LUNCHES FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR BEGINNING MAY 7.** Only snacks and drinks will be available for purchase from that time on.

ALSO...

SENIOR PARENTS: Please check your daughter's account balance and let Cafeteria Manager Karen Brungs (brungsk@ndapandas.org) know if you would like a refund or transfer your balance. Thank you!

STUDENT LIFE

STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

Orange and White Flag Football Game

Thanks to all who supported this past Sunday's Orange and White Game. St. Ursula may have won the flag football game, but the real winners are those supported by Leukemia research for which the game raised money. The total profits are still pending and we look forward to sending a big check to Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center!

Prom

Congrats to Prom Princess Stephanie Meyer and Prom Duchess Anna Resing!

Student Council

Student Council Homeroom Representative applications are due this Friday. Elections are Friday, May 18.

Club Leader Meetings

A huge thank you to Northern Kentucky Youth Advisory Board members Anna Resing, Julia Hughes, Onali Fernando and Angela Kyntchev for hosting their fourth and final club leader meeting of the year. We are already looking forward to next year's leadership opportunities!



CONGRATULATIONS!

NDA STUDENTS SELECTED FOR KY GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM AND KY GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS ◀

An overwhelming number of NDA students were selected this year to participate in the Kentucky Governor's Schools Programs. A total of 19 NDA students have been accepted to these select summer programs!

The Kentucky Governor's Scholars Program (GSP) recently announced that 10 Notre Dame Academy students have been named Governor's Scholars for 2018. Additionally, The Kentucky Center Governor's School for the Arts (GSA) announced that 9 students from Notre Dame Academy have been accepted into the Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts 2018 program and 6 NDA students were selected as GSA alternates in 7 different art forms.

Notre Dame Academy juniors Emma Donaghy, Kate Williams, Onali Fernando, Megan Bezold, Olivia Marita, Anna Resing, Annie Gronotte, Elly Piatt, Olivia Ossege and Casey Shelton have all been selected to participate in the 2018 Governor's Scholars Program.

Notre Dame Academy's Sam Wichmann, Natalie Gerdes, Sarah Zimmerman, Kenzie Eberhart, Katherine Donaghy, Zoe Moellering, Jillian Seither, Carena Bhola, Gabrielle Weber have been selected to participate in the 2018 Governor's School for the Arts program. Lauren Schutte, Kirsten Carle, Olivia Ossege, Casey Shelton, Sara Mathew, Ellie O'Hara have all been selected as alternates.



Pictured - Back Row: Emma Donaghy, Kate Williams, Onali Fernando, Megan Bezold, Elly Piatt, Samantha Wichmann, Natalie Gerdes, Lauren Schutte, Sarah Zimmerman, Kenzie Eberhart, Katherine Donaghy, Kirsten Carle, Gabby Weber, Zoe Moellering

Front Row: Annie Gronotte, Olivia Marita, Anna Resing, Olivia Ossege, Casey Shelton, Jillian Seither, Carena Bhola, Sara Mathew, Ellie O'Hara

GOVERNMENT STUDENTS GET FIRST HAND LOOK ◀

Mrs. Stratman's Government class recently had the opportunity to see first hand how our legal system works when they visited the Kenton County Justice Center. They observed arraignments, a bench trial and several misdemeanor and felony hearings. The girls observed the courtrooms of Judge Ann Ruttle (NDA alumna), Judge Douglas Grothaus and Judge Patricia Summe (NDA alumna and Woman Making a Difference honoree). Judge Summe then took the students on a tour of the center, where they visited the grand jury room and the holding pens where the accused await their hearings.



NDA Government class with Judge Summe and attorney Christy Nutter (both NDA alumnae)



Judge Summe answering questions

NDA FRESHMEN VISIT ST. JOSEPH HEIGHTS ◀

More of our freshmen Religion classes visited St. Joseph Heights this week to learn about the Sisters of Notre Dame and the incredible work they are doing all over the world!



HOST FAMILIES NEEDED FOR GERMAN STUDENTS FOR FALL 2018 ◀

NDA is in the process of recruiting international students as part of our Fall 2018 enrollment. We are again working with our sister school in Germany (Liebfrauenschule Vechta). Notre Dame Academy has become such a great experience for the girls from Vechta that we have been asked to increase from 2 to 3 German exchange students for the fall semester. At this time we are seeking families who would consider hosting these students. Please email Mrs. Katie Caccavari at caccavarik@ndapandas.org, if you would be interested in more information about this opportunity. Your reply is not a commitment, but would help us to know which families would consider supporting our international student enrollment by serving as host families.



**PANDA
PARENT
CLUB**

PPC NEWS ◀

Help our Panda Parent Club by eating at Skyline tomorrow - May 3! You can download your coupon [HERE](#).



DON'T FORGET TO VOTE! ◀

Support Lauren Durstock by voting for her as NKY.com's Softball Player of the Week [HERE](#).

YEARBOOK SALES ◀

Buy a yearbook! Buy an ad for your senior to put in it! Yearbooks are still on sale through May 25 by following [this link](#) or visiting jostensyearbooks.com.

Senior parents: You can purchase a recognition ad for your daughter in the 2018 yearbook. They're easy and fun to design, and prices start at just \$45. Use this link to get started! Deadline is June 15.



NDA SUMMER CLASSES ◀

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

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀

BEST Award Students

Congratulations to the most recent BEST Award students. The students are nominated by their teachers for the 100% of effort they put forth in and out of the classroom. The winners were:

- Freshmen - Ava Quigley
- Sophomore - Caroline Hicks
- Junior - Elizabeth Dunaway
- Senior - Sophie Skinner



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS ◀

BALL DROP

Please help the golf outing fundraiser by selling some ball drop tickets! Ball Drop 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 27th. Students turn in your tickets with money to the front office or the athletic office. We will also have gift card drawings on 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!

SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

Registration is now open for the 2018 - Summer Sports Camps Hosted at Notre Dame Academy. NDA is hosting several youth sports camps this summer. You can view more detailed information on the NDA website under the tab for [Athletics / Summer Camps](#).



NDA ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT REPLACES TIME-HONORED FRUIT SALE FUNDRAISER ◀

After 42 years, the Notre Dame Academy Athletic Department is replacing its long-established fundraiser, the annual NDA Fruit Sale. Notre Dame Academy's decision to replace the Fruit Sale was based on parent feedback over the past few years requesting a less labor-intensive and time consuming fundraiser. NDA administrators recognized the increasing demands on students and families and sought a fundraising option that was less demanding for its athletes but equally beneficial to the Athletic Program at NDA. This fall, rather than hauling boxes of fruit to homes around the tri-state, NDA athletes will be reaching out to family and friends selling customized Notre Dame Academy coupon books.

The NDA Fruit Sale began in 1976 by Notre Dame Academy parents Bill Bieger and Al Stoeckle. In 1987 when their first daughter enrolled at NDA, Jan and Ken Schmidt started helping out with the Fruit Sale and took over the operation of the fundraiser in 1989.

Each October for the past four decades, NDA athletes have been supporting the sports they play by selling boxes of fruit. Over the years the number of boxes of fruit sold increased with the expanding athletic department and addition of new teams but one thing remained constant, the cooperation and camaraderie experienced by those involved.

"On the weekend the fruit was delivered, our athletes worked side-by-side with 200 plus parents unloading three to four semi-trailers, assembling and filling the mixed boxes of fruit, stacking the fruit and conveying orders to cars for delivery," said Jan Schmidt. "The sale has been a great example of the school's athletic community and the community at large working together as a team for all of our athletes."

"The Fruit Sale has been a very worthwhile fundraiser for NDA athletes over the years netting well over \$1.5 million dollars," said NDA President Dr. Laura Koehl. "The sale netted around \$77,000 for Notre Dame Academy's athletics at the highest point and the number of boxes of fruit sold grew to around 4,000."

Many alumnae would say that the NDA Fruit Sale is as much as tradition at their alma mater as the Panda. Over the years, the well-established fundraiser has provided countless student athletes the opportunity to follow their passion and participate in athletics at Notre Dame Academy.

"We are most grateful to all of the parents who have worked tirelessly throughout the years helping us with the annual Fruit Sale especially Jan and Ken Schmidt," said Notre Dame Academy Athletic Director Myanna Webster. "For the Schmidts, the NDA Fruit Sale has become a family tradition. Each year Jan, Ken, their children and even their grandchildren, have worked untold hours to ensure the success of the Fruit Sale and provide our athletes the chance to participate in sports at NDA," added Mrs. Webster. "We thank Jan, Ken and the entire Schmidt family for their dedication to this important fundraiser over the past thirty years."

As with many traditions, the NDA Fruit Sale has run its course and will now be replaced with the sale of customized Notre Dame Academy coupon books through Access to the City. Student athletes will receive the books in October but there will be no worries of bad weather affecting fruit crops or perishable items. The coupon books will be effective from the time of sale until the December 31 of the following year.

"Notre Dame Academy is thankful to our families and the community at large for the tremendous support they have shown the NDA Fruit Sale over the years," said Dr. Koehl. "We appreciate our benefactors and hope that they will continue to support our student athletes by embracing our new coupon book fundraiser in years to come."

▶ Important dates

May 4	Mass and May Crowning
	Choral Concert and Dance Team
May 6	Band and Strings Concert
May 7	AP Testing Begins
May 9	Academic Signing
May 11	Spring Sports Pep Rally
May 16	Senior Alumnae Luncheon/Send Off
May 17, 18, 21	Senior Exams
May 17	Academic Awards
May 18	Theatre Exam Shows
May 19	Theatre Banquet
May 21-23	Exams
May 24	4th Quarter Ends
	Cleaning Day
May 25	Graduation at NKYCC
May 28	NDA Marching Band and Dance Team Park Hills Memorial Day Parade

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- A Rosary For World Peace
- FC Youth Night Game
- Travel the World Without Leaving Home This Summer
- School Cafeteria Manager Needed
- Positions Available for Students
- World Meeting of Families

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

