



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Dear Parents,

We are just three weeks away from our first day of school for the 2020-21 school year and as the principal of Notre Dame Academy, that makes me very happy. While we have been on campus all summer working hard to develop a plan to safely welcome our students back this fall, NDA really just isn't the same without the energy and enthusiasm of our students.

On Friday, we had a glimpse of what it will look like as our students return to NDA in August - COVID-19 style. We invited our Class of 2020 back for a special Graduation Celebration to give them a well-deserved opportunity to return to campus and celebrate their many accomplishments as NDA graduates. It was without a doubt the best day of my summer! We were very careful to follow all COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions including capacity levels, symptom and temperature checks, social distancing and masks but those new protocols did not affect the spirit of our 2020 Pandas in the least. It was a great reminder to our faculty, staff and administration that our students are very adaptable and open to change. Seeing how well our recent graduates adjusted to all of the changes on campus to ensure COVID-19 Return to School guidelines are strictly followed, gives me the confidence to know that our current students will easily acclimate to these changes as well. Although it may not be what we are comfortable with or used to, it will be our NDA community coming together again and celebrating the sisterhood of Notre Dame Academy. That might just be what we all need right now.

Our 2020-21 School Planning Team, along with several subcommittee members, have worked very hard to develop a "Pandas Return to Campus" plan ensuring that necessary health and safety measures are in place to mitigate the spread of coronavirus when school begins on August 12. Dr. Koehl and I will present this plan to you through pre-recorded video. A link to that video will be emailed to you at the end of this week. There will also be a written version on our website for reference throughout the upcoming months. Although we have put together three plans for the upcoming school year, we are currently planning to return to school with Plan 1 - Full return to school with safety precautions in place.

Our Back to School nights for parents will also be communicated to you through a prerecorded video rather than in person events. There will be one presentation for all grade levels and that will be included in our next Panda Press Weekly on August 5.

We appreciate the cooperation of our entire NDA community throughout these challenging times. As we move forward, please know that our goal is to protect the health and wellbeing of our students, faculty and staff while continuing to meet our responsibility to educate our students.

Please remind your daughters that we are continuing to *Cultivate Hope and Happiness, Strengthened by God's Love* this summer. We are doing that in part by doing all that we can to mitigate the spread of COVID-19! I look forward to seeing our students back at NDA in August and I wish you and your family a healthy and blessed rest of the summer.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

*Cultivating hope and happiness,
Strengthened by God's love.*



I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:13

STUDENT LIFE

PROM PRINCESS AND DUCHESS ◀

Congratulations to Lainey Renaker (Class of 2020) who was voted as this year's Prom Princess and Syndey McMMain (Class of 2021) who was voted as this year's Prom Duchess.

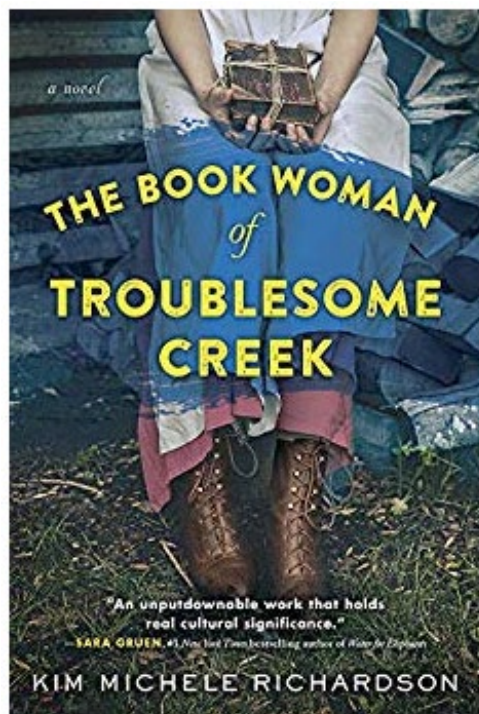
JOIN NDA'S COLOR GUARD ◀

What is Color Guard? [CLICK HERE](#) for an exciting preview of NDA Color Guard. Email Ms. Ericson ericsonj@ndapandas.org for more information on July practice dates and times. We will teach you everything you need to know, no experience necessary! This is the perfect social distancing extra-curricular club to be involved in at NDA!

The following must be completed prior to practice:

- COVID-19 Daily Symptom Check - [CLICK HERE](#) to fill out the COVID-19 Symptom Check (To be completed each time on campus)
- COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire (in FinalForms):

NOTE: If you do not have a FinalForms account, please create an account at: <https://notredameacademy-ky.finalforms.com> and follow the prompts to create the parent account, begin your daughter's account and sign your forms. Your daughter's NDA gmail should be used when setting up her account. If you have any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Amber Grayson at graysona@ndapandas.org.



SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS ◀

Over the summer, NDA's faculty, staff and students will read our annual Common Reader Book. This year's book is *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson which focuses on the historical blue people of Kentucky and the fierce and brave Kentucky Packhorse librarians. The book touches on issues of miscegenation, bigotry, poverty, the Depression, Roosevelt's WPA program, domestic abuse and the self-empowerment of women in the early 20th century, and we look forward to celebrating this book and its many themes in the fall!

In addition to the Common Reader information, summer reading assignments are posted on NDA's website [HERE](#).

“And somehow, after everything, she still bloomed in the way she was meant to.”

Morgan Harper Nichols, NDA Class of 2020 Wall Signing

CLASS OF 2020

CLASS OF 2020 GRADUATION CELEBRATION FRIDAY, JULY 17 ◀

On Friday, July 17, the Class of 2020 was invited back onto campus for a long awaited in-person Graduation Celebration. Since we were permitted to gather up to 50 people at a time per state guidelines at that time, graduates were able to take part in some of the traditional graduation experiences.

The celebration began in the theatre where graduates were recognized in their caps and gowns. After the recognition session, graduates visited their classrooms, saw their teachers and experienced the halls of Notre Dame Academy COVID-19 style. Lastly, the graduates signed the senior wall leaving their mark for other Pandas to enjoy!





NEW NDA CHAPLAIN ◀

Greetings all!

I am pleased to announce that Fr. Conor Kunath has been named the chaplain for NDA for the 2020-21 school year. He was ordained in 2019 and has been (and will continue to be) the Associate Pastor at St. Pius X in Edgewood. Dr. Koehl, Mr. VonHandorf and I were able to meet with him last week on campus and we are very much looking forward to working with him this year. He is excited to begin ministering to our students and offering the sacraments whenever possible on our campus.

Bridget Price
NDA Campus Minister

**HELP
WANTED**

HELP WANTED ◀

Notre Dame Academy (NDA) is searching for a flexible Part-Time Custodian to assist with facility cleaning, trash removal, sanitizing common spaces and other routine housekeeping and maintenance tasks. Normal hours will be from 10AM to 2PM, Monday through Friday, with possible additional hours based on weekly work demand.

This position requires the physical ability to walk and stand for long periods of time, as well as, the ability to lift and move equipment and supplies. Custodial experience is preferred. A High School diploma or GED equivalent, a valid driver's license and Virtus training is required.

Please submit letter of interest, resume, and salary requirements to ndahr@ndapandas.org.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

NDA GOLF OUTING ◀

Our annual NDA Golf Outing is once again a sold out event! This annual NDA athletic event will be held on Friday, July 31 at Summit Hills Country Club. We are following all COVID-19 guidelines to provide our golfers with a safe and fun event!

A special thank you to our title sponsor Ortho Cincy as well as all of our other corporate sponsors for supporting NDA Athletics. Thanks also to our parents! Many of our Panda parents (past and present) are serving on our Golf Outing committee, sponsoring the event and participating in the outing.

Even if you are not playing in this year's NDA Golf Outing, you still have a chance to join in the fun and support NDA Athletics. Be on the lookout for a link to Greater Giving to take part in the Golf Outing raffles and special purchases!





SAVE THE DATE! ◀

Save the date for the 2020 Autumn Gala, scheduled for Saturday, October 17, 2020. This year's Gala is being transformed into a live/virtual event. Now more than ever, it is critical for us to plan a successful 2020 Autumn Gala as this event provides much-needed resources for NDA. All details regarding the Gala will soon be forthcoming, but be sure to make your calendar for Saturday, October 17.

In light of Governor Beshear's newest executive order in regard to mass gatherings, we have regretfully decided to cancel all in person gift gathering parties. Information regarding an updated way in which you can support the NDA Gala will be in the next Panda Press Weekly on August 5.

If you are interested in helping, or know anyone who would like to get involved, please contact Nancy Goeke, Director of Major Gifts and Events, at 859.292.1851 or goeken@ndapandas.org or Taffy Hebbeler at taffheb@fuse.net.



COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- Help Wanted: School Cafeteria Managers and School Cafeteria Staff

▶ Important dates

July 20-23	Leadership Summit
July 20-31	FR iPad set up
July 31	Golf Outing
August 3-5	Bridge Program
August 5	Parent Night presentation sent to parents via PPW
August 10	Freshman/New Student Orientation
August 12	First Day of School
August 14	No School: Feast of the Assumption
September 7	No School: Labor Day
September 30	Informational Coffee for Prospective Parents