



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

As we begin week two of the 2015-16 school year, I am even more certain of the relevance of this year's theme, *Living our Story of God's Goodness*. Each and every day I witness God's goodness at NDA. Whether I am in the office, a classroom or in the hallways, I am continually amazed by the kindness and Christianity of the NDA community. I mention this because so often when we are familiar with something, we take it for granted. As a newcomer to NDA, 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.

In our goal to be life-long learners, 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, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot. Our Common Reader Day is this Friday, August 21. I encourage you to discuss not only the book itself, but also the discussions we have throughout that day, with your daughter. I think you will find the depth and insight of our conversations interesting as there are many fascinating topics within the book.

There are many important news items for you below but one in particular that I would like to point out to you is our FREE Self-Defense class next Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. at NDA. I have always been impressed with the passion to empower young women at NDA and I think that giving our young women the skills and strategies they need to keep them safe in the world is critical. This event is the first of a four-part speaker series NDA is hosting to "Empower and Enlighten" women. More information will come on the following three parts of the series but for now, I hope you register your daughter to participate in this important event. (Registration is below.)

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 blessed and productive school year.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

### Afternoon Prayer

As this school day draws to a close, Lord, I reflect with satisfaction on my accomplishments. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to do honorable work. Where I have succeeded in being a true Christian, I am grateful. Where I have failed I beg your forgiveness. I will not dwell on the work left undone, for with your grace, I will be here tomorrow to begin anew.



## STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

All parents and students are reminded to read the Student/Parent Handbook that is available [HERE](#) on the school's website. Don't forget to complete and return to school the pink Parent/Student Agreement form received at the Back to School Night Meetings. Your completion of this form indicates you have read and are familiar with the contents of our Student/Parent Handbook. The forms are due this Friday!

### Reminder:

If your student is not reporting to school or leaving early during the day, please leave a message with the front office or send in a note. Your cooperation is appreciated!

### Club Leader Meeting

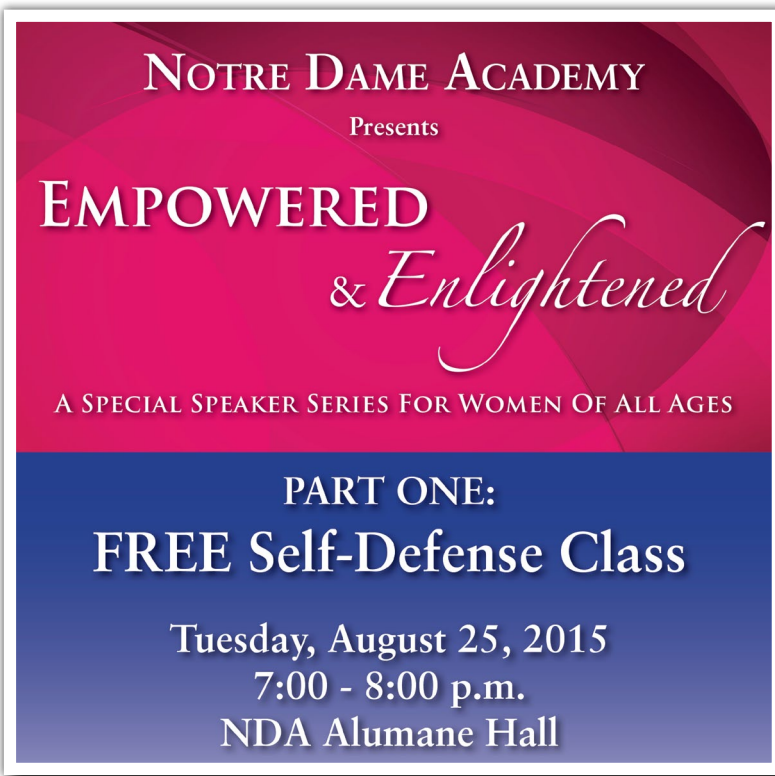
On Wednesday, August 26 at 2:45-3:15, we will be hold a meeting for all student club leaders. At the meeting, we will discuss:

- Club Orientation details
- Club requirements/expectations for the year
- Effective qualities of leadership

For those students who are interested in starting a new club at Notre Dame, you are encouraged to attend the meeting as well!

## COMMON READER DAY FUNDRAISER ◀

As part of our Common Reader Day this Friday, August 21, we will hold a fundraiser for the Henrietta Lacks Scholarship Foundation. This foundation was begun by the author of our common reader to assist with educational and medical expenses of family members of Henrietta Lacks and other disadvantaged youth. Students will be allowed to wear a Red shirt and/or socks with their uniform skirt with a donation of \$1.00 for this foundation. Monies will be collected as students arrive at school on Friday. The Red is to remember Henrietta Lacks who was often described with her perfectly painted bright red nail polish on her fingers and toes.



## NDA PRESENTS 2015-16 SPEAKER SERIES ◀

This school year, Notre Dame Academy is hosting a four-part speaker series focusing on *Empowering & Enlightening Women of All Ages*.

The series will kick-off with a **FREE Self-Defense Class** for women on Tuesday, August 25 at 7:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall.

The class will be taught by martial arts expert, Shawnie Haskell of Northern Kentucky Self Defense. Ms. Haskell teaches practical self defense methods that provide participants with easy to use self defense techniques requiring little to no strength in order to help them get away from an attacker. These techniques give participants the tools necessary to protect themselves in any situation from violent crime to assault of any kind.

The statistics for women are startling: 1 in 4 college women are victims of attempted or completed rape, 1 in 6 women will be a victim of attempted or completed attack. This event is a wonderful opportunity to empower yourself and your daughter(s) and learn prevention strategies and practical

self defense techniques. Please plan to attend this important event with your daughter.

**Participants MUST register to attend. Space is limited so register online for this FREE Self-Defense Class today at:** [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1c5T0kPd5tLITtyZj7zd02FukqyfXpC9H5ytVCrbkGMA/viewform?usp=send\\_form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1c5T0kPd5tLITtyZj7zd02FukqyfXpC9H5ytVCrbkGMA/viewform?usp=send_form)

## EVERYONE IS A PART OF OUR STORY ◀

This school year, our theme is *Living our Story of God's Goodness*. Each and every member of the NDA community is an important part of our story and we would like to showcase that in our foyer display case. Whether you are a student, parent, alumna, administration, faculty or staff member, show us how you are *Living our Story of God's Goodness* in a picture. We will put all of the pictures collected from the NDA community together in the display case. Pictures should be no larger than 8X10 but can be as small as 4X6 and can be dropped off in the office anytime. Thank you in advance for your help in helping us show everyone who enters NDA how we *Live our Story!*

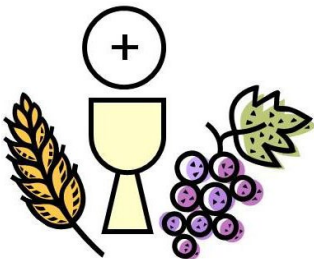


IMPORTANT  
REMINDER!

**All school forms received on Parent Night must be turned in to homeroom teachers on or before TOMORROW, August 20.**

## CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS ◀

This week, Mrs. Price met with all Seniors in their religion classes to discuss the requirements for service and retreats. Retreat registration forms were sent home with all seniors and are due back no later than August 28 at 3:00 p.m. Please make sure that the email address(s) provided are accurate as well as reviewing all weekend dates with your daughter. Mrs. Price will do her best to place every student in their first choice, but that is not always possible as there are only 45 spots on each of the 3 weekends. Retreat lists will be posted to students during the week of August 31.



### JOIN US FOR MASS ◀

Please join us for Mass this Friday morning at 7:15 a.m. in our Chapel. Msgr. Enzweiler will be here to celebrate. This is a wonderful opportunity for our NDA community to celebrate the Mass together. We welcome students, faculty, staff and visitors from our community!

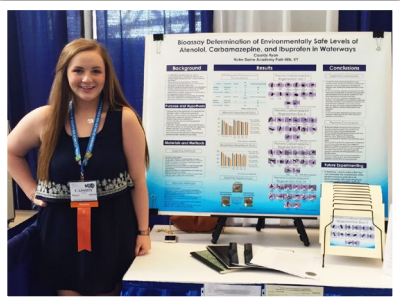
## NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ◀

### Freshman/New Student Athletic Orientation

Athletic orientation for freshmen and new students is September 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Theater and Alumnae Hall.

### Winter & Spring Sports Paperwork Due

All paperwork for students considering participating in winter or springs sports is due by September 10th. This includes the online registration, KHSAA physical and panda athletic fee of \$250. All of this can be taken care of online at <http://www.ndapandas.org/athletics/athletic-information-and-forms.aspx> or the KHSAA physical and payment can be turned into the main office. Please email the athletic director, Myanna Webster at [webstern@ndapandas.org](mailto:webstern@ndapandas.org) with any questions.



## NEWS FROM THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT ◀

Science research panda, Cassidy Ryan (Class of 2015) earned a 2nd place award in Environmental Science at the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) this past May in Pittsburgh, PA. Cassidy was one of over 1700 students from all over the world participating in the event. In addition to a \$1500 cash award, Cassidy will have an asteroid named after her! Cassidy's research studied the effects of unused and excreted pharmaceuticals, specifically atenolol, carbamazepine, and ibuprofen, on aquatic organisms. Cassidy is majoring in Chemical Engineering at Purdue University where she has already secured an undergraduate research position as a freshman.

## COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



### Junior Practice ACT at NDA:

The juniors will be having a practice ACT in the school cafeteria next Wednesday, August 26th, from 7:30-11. The test is free and is scored by Torch Prep, an ACT test prep company. The junior students will not have morning classes this day to allow for the practice test. Due to the time constraints for the test, juniors are asked to arrive early this day (normally a later start day) at 7:30 am. We will start the test at 7:45 am. There will be a parent meeting hosted at NDA by Torch prep to talk about the ACT, practice scores and test prep options on Wednesday, September 23 from 7-8 p.m. in the school Auditorium. This will be a meeting for both NDA and CCH parents interested in test prep for the ACT.

### Health Career Explorers Program:

Attention any sophomore, junior or senior interested in a health care career. The Health Career Explorers Program is accepting registrations now. The program is a joint project with Gateway Community College, St. Elizabeth Healthcare and the North Central Kentucky Area Health Education Center. Students can go to the website [www.northcentralkyahec.org](http://www.northcentralkyahec.org) in order to register for the program this year. Please contact Mrs. Monohan with any questions.

### DIVORCE GROUP

Support groups will be forming for students whose parents are divorced or who have a non-traditional family and would like support. Divorce groups meet once a week for 5 weeks each semester, and are scheduled on a rotating basis so that no one misses a class more than once a semester. They are organized by grade level, and will begin in late September. If you think your daughter would benefit from participation in Divorce Group, please contact Mrs. Kathy Hildreth: [hildrethk@ndapadnas.org](mailto:hildrethk@ndapadnas.org) or 850.292.1825



### DRUG FREE CLUBS OF AMERICA

**FINALLY! A true PREVENTION PLAN for teens to rely on to remain drug free and GET REWARDED for it!**

- Students become DFCA members after passing a simple, confidential drug test.
- Members can rely on testing as an “out” for drug related situations by saying, “I can’t, I might get tested”.
- Although the test is done at school, only the parents and student receive test results.
- Parents are notified of perfect club moments to talk about drugs.
- Members receive a full color photo ID card that unlocks positive reinforcement of their good choices, and show their cards to local merchants for “rewards” to recognize their drug free lifestyle.
- Retesting of random members is determined by a DFCA computer program and continues throughout the school year.
- As long as members remain drug free, the rewards continue and...

**...Saying “I can’t” stops peer pressure in its tracks!**

**If you never start using drugs, you never have to stop!**

**Cost is only \$35/year...**

**but if you join as a Freshman and pay for 3 years, your 4th/Senior year is Free!!**

The Notre Dame Academy Chapter of Drug Free Clubs of America will begin having student officials this year (president, vice-president, etc) to improve the quality and quantity of rewards and increase NDA student membership in Drug Free Club.

Brochures include an application and are available in the NDA school office or online <http://drugfreeclubsofamerica.com> Please contact Mrs. Hildreth or Mrs. Maggard if interested in being a student officer, or if you need more information.





## 2015-16 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.) Parents are welcome to come in to speak with the college reps. Below is a list of upcoming visits.

### September

- 8 University of Dayton
- 15 Washington University St. Louis
- 15 Bellarmine University
- 22 Indiana University Bloomington

25 University of South Carolina

### October

- 7 Mount St. Joseph University
- 30 Denison University



## PPC NEWS ◀

NDA's Panda Parent Club invites you to meet other parents and support NDA at the Gala Gift Gathering Party at 6:00 p.m. on September 9 in Alumnae Hall. The PPC will provide refreshments for this "friendraiser" and make information available to you about our next meeting. There will also be a drawing for 2 FREE Gala tickets to anyone who brings a gift (gift card, bottle wine etc.) to donate to the Gala!

## NDA'S FALL GALA ◀

Mark your calendars - NDA's largest fundraiser, The Autumn Gala, is **Saturday, September 26, 2015**, at NDA. Join friends, family and alumnae for a night of food and fun while supporting the mission of NDA. This year there's a tasty twist! The evening will include live and silent auctions, entertaining games, and A Taste of NDA, a celebration of culinary delights from some of the area's favorite chefs and eateries. Whether your taste buds prefer sweet or savory, you are sure to enjoy this appetizing evening for a great cause.

The event is being chaired by Leanne Kirn, JoAnn Rigney '93, and Erin Yung. These ladies are already hard at work planning a very special evening, and they could use your help. To lend a hand, please contact Leanne Kirn at 859.261-4300, kirnl@ndapandas.org.

We still have a couple of open spots for food vendors. If you are interested in participating, please contact Jan Gilliam at 859.292.1850, gilliamj@ndapandas.org.

Many sponsorship opportunities are available to support NDA and the September 26 event. The Autumn Gala revenue supports NDA's efforts to keep tuition as affordable as possible. Contact Leanne Kirn at 859.261.4300, kirnl@ndapandas.org to find out more about becoming an event sponsor for The Autumn Gala, A Taste of NDA.



## 2016 WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE ◀

Do you know a Notre Dame Academy graduate who has made a difference? The nomination form for the 2016 Women Making A Difference is available online [HERE](#).

The Women Making A Difference Luncheon will be held on Thursday, February 25, 2016, at the Radisson Hotel Cincinnati Riverfront in Covington, Kentucky. Nominations are due November 2, 2015.



## CAFETERIA NEWS ◀

### Positions Available:

There are currently two positions in the NDA Cafeteria that need to be filled for the 2015-16 school year.

**Deli Specialist:** The deli specialist is responsible for preparation of ala Carte side items (fruit, salad, sandwiches, etc.). He/she will also be responsible for other miscellaneous duties.

**Dishwasher:** This person is responsible for the cleaning of pots & pans, and other items used during preparation and service on a daily basis. There could be other miscellaneous duties.

If you are interested or for further information about either of these positions, please contact NDA Cafeteria Manager Karen Brungs at 859.292.1865 or [brungsk@ndapandas.org](mailto:brungsk@ndapandas.org).

## BAMBOOTIQUE WORKERS NEEDED ◀

We are in need of parents to work the Bambootique this year. The shifts would be approximately 1.5-2 hours. Some months we are open every day and others we will be open a few times a week. Please email Aimee Dickhaus at [ddickhaus@yahoo.com](mailto:ddickhaus@yahoo.com) if you are able to help out this school year, whether it be on a monthly basis or as a sub.

### ▶ Important dates:

August 21	Common Reader Day
August 25	7:00 p.m. NDA Empowering Women Speaker Series featuring a <b>FREE Self-Defense Class</b>
August 26	8-11:45 a.m. ACT Practice Test for Juniors
September 1	Theatre Parent Meeting
September 2	Athletic Orientation for New Students/Parents
September 4	Picture Day
September 7	No School - Labor Day
September 9	6 p.m. Gala Gift Gathering Party 7-9 p.m. Parent Mini-Night
September 18	Club Orientation Junior Retreat

## COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- NDEUC Open House
- Bishop Foys to Celebrate LIFE'S 5TH QUARTER Pro-Life Mass
- Chastity Project
- Street Smartz

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

