



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Greetings parents!

I hope your Christmas preparations are moving along and you are looking forward to the coming holidays with eager anticipation. Our students and faculty are one day closer to our Christmas break and the completion of the semester exams. This will be the last Panda Press newsletter in 2013 and they will resume on January 8th. Please note some of the important dates on the calendar early in the new year in the list below.

When we return from our break the girls will be getting ready for the annual Silver Bells Winter Dance on January 10 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$12 and sales will continue when we return from the break. Students who bring a date must complete the guest permission form found on our website (<http://www.ndapandas.org/student-life/student-council.aspx>). This dance is planned by our sophomore class and is open to students in grades 10,11 and 12.

When we return in January we will begin the scheduling process for the 2014-15 school year. Parent information meetings will be held in January, please see the dates below. These meetings provide information about the process and the core requirements and elective courses available to students.

Please note that the school office will be closed during the break. We will close Friday (12/20) at 11:30 a.m. for our annual Faculty/Staff Christmas Party and reopen on January 6th.

On behalf of the faculty and staff of NDA, I wish you and your family a very blessed and joyous Christmas. May the season bring you abundant joy, time to relax with family and friends and renewed hope.

May you know God's goodness each day,

Dr. Laura Koehl



Let us Journey Together in Hope



TECHNOLOGY UPDATE ◀

NDA SPREADS iPad TECHNOLOGY TO UGANDA by Kelsey Michael

In 2010, Notre Dame Academy started a pilot class with the use of iPads in the classroom. The school purchased 25 of iPad 1's using Title II grant funds but they were soon outgrown. These iPads were unusable at NDA so Molly Mullee came up with the idea of spreading technology around the world. The SWAT team is now preparing ten iPads to send to our sister school in Buseesa, Uganda.

The students in Uganda have little experience with the use of technology. As a school dedicated to education with the help of technology, we found it our duty to spread our knowledge. SWAT students have taken up the challenge to find apps that will be useful to the girls in Uganda and that will also be compatible with the software. SWAT girls are also in the process of making tutorials to help the girls understand the benefits of the iPads.

These iPads will be delivered by two Sisters of Notre Dame that are making the journey to Uganda soon. NDA's SWAT team hopes that by receiving these iPads, the students of Uganda will be inspired to learn about the world of technology.



STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

Tickets are now on sale for the annual Silver Bells dance. All sophomores through seniors are invited to join us on Friday, January 10, 2014 for the semi formal dance. Tickets are \$12 a person and available for purchase before and after school in NDA's foyer. All students planning to attend must purchase a ticket, and students bringing guests need to complete a completed [permission form](#).

DVD's ON SALE NOW ◀

Orders for the "The Only Christmas Pageant In Town" DVD will be accepted until January 10. DVDs are \$20.00 a copy; please make checks payable to NDA and send to Nancy Stratman at Notre Dame Academy.



▶ Important Dates

December 20	End of 2nd Quarter
December 21 - January 5	Christmas Break
January 6	Return from Christmas break, beginning of 3rd quarter
January 7	7:00 p.m. - New Parent Meeting: HSPT results
January 8	7:00 p.m. - Class of 2015 Scheduling Information (Parents)
January 10	8:00 p.m. - Silver Bells Winter Dance
January 14	7:00 p.m. PTO Meeting
January 15	7:00 p.m. - Class of 2016 Scheduling Information (Parents)
January 20	No School (Martin Luther King)
January 22-23	March for Life (Washington D.C.)
January 23	7:00 p.m. - Class of 2017 Scheduling Information (Parents)
January 24	Father Daughter Dance

FREE PREVIEW DINNER ◀

The following letter is from the executive director of Mishpachah, a music/drama group that will be offering a free preview dinner of "Dead Serious...About Life" which will take place at NDA on Saturday, January 11, 2014.

DEAD Serious About LIFE



Every 38 seconds, in this country, a teenager will attempt suicide! Now, I'm sure you have heard all the statistics, and you've heard all the excuses. If you work with youth, you know the daily pressures and issues that they face are enormous. Where do you begin? How do you reach them? Well, there is a group in the Cincinnati, Ohio area who have something that can reach out to hundreds of junior high and high school kids. We want to share it with you! On **Saturday, January 11th**, we are hosting a **"free preview dinner"** in the Park Hills, Kentucky area and we want to invite you to attend to learn more about this "life changing" event.

The group is a high-school age community music/drama group known as Mishpachah, Inc. Mishpachah is a Hebrew word that means "family". This group of 36 energetic teenagers come from 18 different high schools and 22 different churches. This is an auditioned group. If you would like more information about our group, please visit our web page at: www.mish-inc.com.

On Saturday, January 11th, we will be hosting the "Dead Serious...About Life" Promotional Dinner at **Notre Dame Academy** located at: 1699 Hilton Dr., Park Hills, Kentucky. The event will be held in the Auditorium. They have graciously permitted us to use their building for this promotional preview event. This is a session designed specifically for those people who want to know how this type of program can reach teenagers and their friends. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a complimentary dinner served to you by the members of the group. Then we will show clips of scenes from the performance where you will be introduced to the cast of the production. We want to show you how this musical could affect your group and turn them on fire for Jesus Christ. The event will conclude around 8:30 p.m.

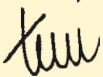
The actual performance of the musical will be on **Saturday & Sunday, February 8 & 9**. The performances will be at Notre Dame Academy. Saturday's performance will be at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday's performance will be at 3:00 p.m.

Just last year alone, we performed this musical to over 10,000 kids and counseled over 500 teens following our concerts. "Dead Serious...About Life" has drastically affected our teens and we want to share it with you and your group. If you are looking for an event that will energize your young people, I can assure you that this is it. Come see for yourself at the promotional dinner!

Please call our office 800/459-7268 by Tuesday, January 7th, or go to our website and register for the event on-line: www.mish-inc.com. We will send you a confirmation letter if you are going to attend the dinner. If you are not able to attend the dinner, call us and we will send you additional information about the performances.

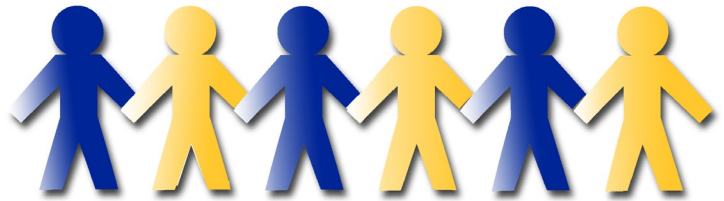
Feel free to call me if you have questions regarding the musical at 800/459-7268. I look forward to meeting you at the promotional dinner!

Sincerely,



Terri L. Hopton
Executive Director

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



FABRIC DRIVE

The Teen Leadership Club is doing a Fabric Drive to benefit the Diocesan Catholic Children's Home. If you have any unused fabric leftover from holiday projects please hang on to it and bring it to NDA January 13 - 17. TLC will be using the fabric to make pillowcases for DCCH.

Updates on two Governor's School Programs:

Applications for the Governor's School for the Arts (GSA) are DUE December 31, 2013.

GSA strongly encourages students to apply online, though your method of application will in no way impact acceptance into GSA. Click here to download an application, if you prefer to fill out a paper copy. If you have not already reviewed Audition Guidelines for the art form(s) for which you are applying, please do so before completing this application.

Please review the entire application before starting. You will not be able to save the application or edit it once it has been submitted - be prepared to complete the application in one sitting. It is suggested that you use an external program such as Microsoft Word to write answers to the two open-ended questions so you can save your answers and then copy and paste your responses in the provided fields. There is a \$10.00 application fee for one art form and a \$ 15.00 fee for two art forms. Free and reduced lunch applicants have the opportunity to opt out of the application fee. Payment options are located at the end of the form.

Direct link to the application - <http://applications.kentuckygsa.org/program/application.aspx> and to the website - <http://www.kentuckygsa.org>

Applications are now being accepted for the 2014 Governor's School for Entrepreneurs (GSE)! The last day to submit an application is January 31, 2014.

The [Application Portal](#) for the 2014 Governor's School for Entrepreneurs is now open on the website at gse.kstc.com. The deadline is January 31, 2014. No applications will be accepted after that date. If you have questions that are not answered on the website, please send an email to us at gse@kstc.com.



AFTER PROM ◀

After Prom will begin collecting items for the April 25, 2014 After Prom. If you are bargain hunting at the after Christmas sales, please consider purchasing something for this year's After Prom. Gift cards, gift items for themed baskets, electronic items, and accessories would all make great gift ideas for After Prom. Please send in your donations (marked "After Prom") to the front office after January 1, 2014. Thank you!

PARENTS - WE NEED YOUR HELP ◀

Volunteers are needed daily to help in the dish room in NDA's cafeteria. Shifts are from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. You can sign up to volunteer at [Volunteer Spot](#).



WHAT'S FOR LUNCH? ◀

Did you know that the lunch menu is on website? You can find it by going to [Quicklinks](#) or directly to the [Cafeteria page](#) (Students>>Policies and Procedures>>Cafeteria).

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

Blessed Sacrament School is hosting a Sleigh Wash just in time for Christmas!

Sunday, December 22, drive your "sleigh" to the new state-of-the art car wash at the brand new Mercedes-Benz of Ft. Mitchell. For only \$20 per car you will receive a vacuumed interior, a washed exterior, and holiday treats while you wait. To purchase a "Sleigh Wash" pass, please call Sheila Hemmer at 859.424.5559 or the Blessed Sacrament School office at 859.331.3062. If there is inclement weather, please call 513.956.0890 for reschedule instructions.

Streetsmartz Program

Streetsmartz is a comprehensive vehicle familiarization class held at 2962 Ariens Drive, Hebron, KY every Monday and Wednesday evening from 7-9 p.m. beginning January 13, 2014. Streetsmartz, sponsored by KOI Auto Parts, and designed by Dan Bosch (CCH 1985 grad), is a must for the new and veteran driver. The class cost is \$30/student and includes learning how to properly change a tire, change engine oil, preventive maintenance tips, and much, much, more. The class covers a car in it's entirety in a clean, climate controlled shop with the simple goal of creating informed motorists. This opportunity to learn from Dan Bosch's 30 plus years of automotive experience should not be missed. Please contact Dan by email at Learn@StreetSmartz.net or call him at 859-581-0767 with any questions.

Part time dish room

The Sisters of Notre Dame are currently seeking a NDA parent to work part time as a dishwasher operator on Monday, Tuesday and every other Friday from 12:30 p.m. to approximately 2:30 p.m. in their Provincial House located in Park Hills, Kentucky. Although this position is run through the work study program, all families are eligible. Experience is not necessary. If interested in working in this loving, home environment please email us at humanresources@sndky.org, or call 859-291-2040.

Piano Lessons - Winter/Spring 2014 Classes - January 7 - April 22, 2014

Adult Group Piano I

Have you always wanted to learn how to play piano? This weekly class will cover the basics of piano: proper technique, note reading, rhythm, articulation, chords, and more. At the end of the course, students will enjoy a night of good friends, food, and musical fun. Class size is limited; register early to reserve your seat!

Day/Time: Tuesdays 5:15-6:15pm

Cost: \$230 (book included; \$30 due at registration)

Adult Group Piano II

This class is for adults who can already read music and understand basic rhythms, but would like to expand their musical horizon. Students will cover more advanced technique, various key signatures/chords, playing from lead sheets, 12-bar blues, and some improvising. As with the first section, this course will conclude with an evening of friends, food, and musical fun! Due to the nature of this course, it is strongly recommended that students discuss placement with the instructor before registering. Class size is limited; contact the instructor early to reserve your seat!

Day/Time: Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

Cost: \$200 (students having taken Piano I @ NDA) | \$230 (all other students) (\$30 due at registration for all students)

For more information and to register contact Nell Schaffer (see above)

Registration Deadline: December 31, 2013

Winter/Spring 2014 Classes
January 7th - April 22nd, 2014

