



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

In our Advent Journey we are reminded of the significance of prayer and community in our lives. While time seems to pass even more quickly than usual throughout the holidays, it is important for us to take time out during this busy season to pause and remember the blessings of people and community.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is typically celebrated on December 8 however, since the feast falls on the second Sunday of Advent this year, it will be celebrated on Monday, December 9. On this day we celebrate that Mary, "full of grace" through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception. By giving Mary this grace from the first moment of her conception, God showed us an image of our own destiny. Due to the Holy Day, school will be closed on Monday, December 9 which makes it a four-day weekend with school also being closed on Friday, December 6. If you remember, Bishop Foys gave us that day off in celebration of our 2019 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence award.

It is difficult to believe that we only have two more weeks of classes before our Christmas break. Exams will be held December 20-22 this year. Students are dismissed for the day at the end of their last exam on each of those days. Please make sure your daughter gets plenty of rest and has a good breakfast for each exam day as it can be difficult to manage the stress of exams this time of year. You can find our exam schedule [HERE](#). If you have any questions regarding exams at NDA, you can find our exam policy under the Academic Policy category in our handbook [HERE](#).

I spoke to our students on Monday about our updated fire plan at NDA. As you may have heard, traditional fire drill procedures are changing in order to fully ensure the safety of students. In compliance with the Park Hills Fire Department, we have updated our fire plan at NDA to a controlled and orderly evacuation. We will hold a drill this Thursday to ensure that students understand the new plan.

I suggest that you encourage your daughter to take some time during this season of Advent for joyful preparation and peaceful reflection of the importance of prayer and community in our lives and the coming of our Lord on Christmas day. As you begin your Advent journey this week, may God's blessing come upon you and your family!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



# STUDENT LIFE

## UPDATED FIRE PLAN: CONTROLLED AND ORDERLY EVACUATION ◀

The traditional procedure of fire drills is changing in order to fully ensure the safety of students. In compliance with the Park Hills Fire Department, we have updated our fire plan at NDA to a controlled and orderly evacuation. Mr. VonHandorf spoke to students on Monday about our updated fire plan and we will hold a drill this Thursday -- weather permitting.



## 2019 SILVER BELLS ◀

### Winter Wonderland: Silver and White

Silver Bells is on Saturday, December 14, 2019. Doors will open at 8:00 p.m., and all students must arrive by 9:00 p.m. The dance ends at 11:00 p.m. Registration has opened and is due next Thursday, December 12. Tickets are \$12 per person and is open to sophomores through seniors and their guests (if applicable).



## FRESHMAN WINTER WONDERLAND DANCE ◀

All Tickets and Forms must be submitted by 3:00 p.m on Wednesday December 3. Attendees must register in advance; no walk-ins. Students are expected to arrive by 8:30 p.m., and to stay until at least 10:45 p.m. Written documentation must be provided by a parent in advance if a student needs to arrive late or leave early. [COMPLETE REGISTRATION FORM HERE.](#)

## ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

## REMINDER: COUPON BOOK MONEY AND UPLOADED SPREADSHEET DUE DECEMBER 10! ◀

Please have your coupon book spreadsheet filled out and uploaded prior to turning in your money on December 10. You can access the spreadsheet and the upload here:

[Coupon Book Tally Spreadsheet](#)

[Coupon Book Tally Spreadsheet Upload](#)

Money should be turned in in an envelope with your name and homeroom on it. Please turn in the envelope during Panda PrimeTime if you are not requested by a teacher or after school in the gym on December 10. If you have already completed coupon book sales you can fill out and upload your spreadsheet at any time and turn your envelope with money into the front office prior to December 10.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

THERE WILL BE NO SCHOOL ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 (Thank you Bishop Foys!) OR MONDAY, DECEMBER 9 (Feast of the Immaculate Conception).

## ART STUDENTS EXHIBIT AT THOMAS MORE UNIVERSITY ◀

Congratulations to NDA Art teacher Matt Eckerle and his students: Jenna Shriver, Maya Batshoun, Zoe Moellering, Grace Eckerle, Chloe Collins and Caroline Stegman for having their artwork selected to exhibit in the Thomas More University Annual Juried High School Exhibition.

Special congratulations to Chloe Collins for earning a Faculty Award, Grace Eckerle for earning a Director's Award, and Caroline Stegman for earning an Alumni Award!



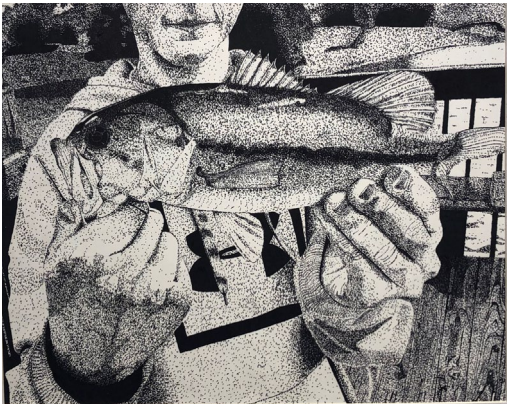
Grace Eckerle



Chloe Collins



Caroline Stegman



Jenna Shriver



Zoe Moellering



Maya Batshoun



## CONGRATULATIONS ◀

Congratulations to senior Chloe Esmeier on being named a semi-finalist in the Coca-Cola Scholars Program.

## NHS SERVANT LEADERS ◀

On Thursday, November 21, a group from our National Honors Society went to the Freestore Foodbank to help pack power packs. These power packs provide food for children who depend on the meals they receive at school. They are given out to provide food for the weekend. While at the Freestore Foodbank, the NHS group was able to put together 1,375 power packs. The Freestore Foodbank greatly appreciated the work our NHS students completed as the power packs made will provide for a weekend's worth of power packs. A special thanks to the adult volunteers, Jane Kleier, Bob Zeis and Patty Mueller, that allowed our NHS group to attend. In the end, this was a fun and rewarding experience!



## PANDAS LEARN BUSINESS DINING ETIQUETTE ◀

Once again, the Personal Finance class has completed their study of Business Dining Etiquette with a practical application. The class enjoyed a delightful lunch and good conversation at the Oriental Wok last Friday accompanied by teacher, Pat Brennan, and chaperone, Mr. Bob Zeis. It was a memorable event and the students passed their "test" with flying colors. Thanks again to the Oriental Wok for their gracious hospitality.





## PLEASE VOTE ◀

NDA's Honor Choir submitted 'Carol of the Bells' to the Q102 Christmas Choir Competition. Online voting begins Monday, December 9, starting at 7 a.m. and runs through Wednesday, December 11, ending at 9 p.m. You are allowed to vote once per day, per device. The finalists are based on number of votes! They will announce winners on Friday, December 13. You can vote [HERE](#).

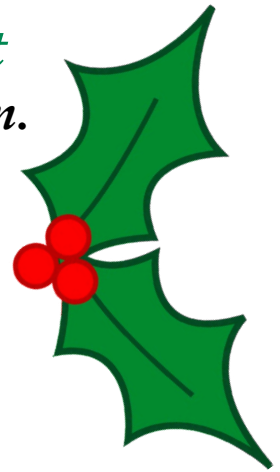
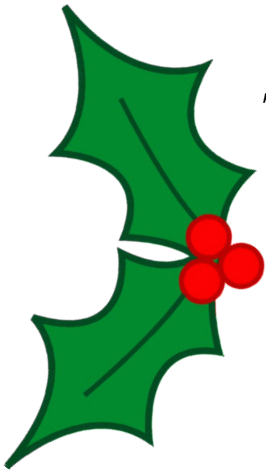


*Please join us for the following holiday events at*

## NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

*Christmas Choral Concert*  
*Tuesday December 10 at 6:30 p.m.*  
*in the NDA Theatre*

*Christmas Band Concert*  
*featuring*  
*The NDA/CCH Band*  
*Sunday, December 15 at 4:00 p.m.*  
*in the NDA Theatre*



## BAMBOOTIQUE HOLIDAY SHOPPING HOURS ◀

Don't forget to stop by our Bambootique Spiritwear Shop to shop for your favorite Pandas! You can find our holiday shopping hours [HERE](#).

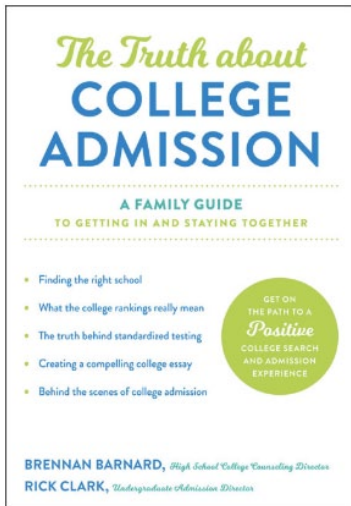
## COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



### EXAM SCHEDULE ◀

Exams will be December 20 - 22. Please see the [NDA Handbook](#) for the exam policy which is under the Academic Policy category. Please see the exam schedule below that has been also shared with the students.

[Exam schedule](#)



### THE TRUTH ABOUT COLLEGE ADMISSION ◀

The Truth About College Admission is a new book written by a High School Counselor and a College Admission Director. Ms. Burgei read an interview with the authors and wanted to share some helpful parts of that interview. Interview: [The Truth About College Admission](#)

### REGIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP ◀

The NKY Chamber Foundation offers a competitive program for students. Regional Youth Leadership is a leadership development program for high school juniors representing public, private and home schools in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky. Using the community as our classroom, we collaborate with local business and civic leaders as well as individual schools to enhance the educational experience and complement academic classroom learning. RYL is a series of sessions held monthly during the school day from August through March.

Sophomores would be submitting the applications for the program next year. There are two options for submitting applications.

Option 1 - Paper application, typed in MS Word. Click [HERE](#) to download the application.

Option 2 - Online with a printed signature addendum. [Click here](#) for the online application and [HERE](#) for the signature addendum page.



Chamber  
Foundation



## GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS ◀

GSA: There will be a GSA 101 Info Session Webinar December 10 at 6:00 p.m. EST. Register by following [this link](#) or visit their Facebook page. For additional information regarding info sessions, call the GSA Help Line at (502) 566-5192 or visit the [GSA website](#).



## DRUG FREE CLUB ◀

All 473 members of the Notre Dame Academy Chapter of Drug Free Clubs of America (83% of the student body) have been drug tested for their Initial Round of testing; some students have also been tested for Random Round #1. Students Photo ID's are being sent to members' home mailboxes, along with a key fob for use at area establishments - like Skyline! Next week at lunches, students will receive a beautiful key chain gift from Drug Free Club, where they can keep their reward fob as well as their keys!



## HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT OUR NDA PARENT TOOLBOX? ◀

Check out the NDA [Parent Toolbox](#). Timely topics include lying, emotional storms, stress, and so much more!



## MESSAGE FROM THE CAFETERIA MANAGER ◀

Parents, please check lunch your daughter's account balance and take care of any low or negative balances as soon as possible. Contact Karen Brungs at [brungsk@ndapandas.org](mailto:brungsk@ndapandas.org) with any questions.



## COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- GO Pantry-Christmas GO Box food drive: Please sign up



**Heritage**  
BANK

**Anytime, anywhere business banking from Heritage Bank**

Mobile Business Banking from Heritage Bank is a suite of powerful cash management services with features that go way beyond just the basics. Advancements in technology and intuitive services make Mobile Business Banking the perfect choice for faster and more effective management of your business finances. The right features to get the job done.

- View account balances
- Review transaction history
- View check images
- Transfer money
- Originate payments and make approvals (Wire, ACH, Positive Pay, Transfers, Loans, Bill Payments)
- Remotely deposit checks - Coming Soon!
- Duplicate ACH transfer detection
- Real-time alerts
- Multi-factor authentication and secure login
- Supports built-in smartphone identity technologies such as fingerprint and facial recognition...and much, much more!

For more information visit our website: [www.heritagebank-ky.com](http://www.heritagebank-ky.com) Or ask any Heritage banker!

## ► Important dates

December	4	Sophomore Retreat
	5	Alumnae Wreath and Wine Night
	6	No School: Thank You Bishop Foys! Freshmen Semi Formal Dance
	9	No School: Immaculate Conception
	10	Christmas Choral Concert Textiles quilt show
	13	In School Band and Choral Concert
	14	ACT and HSPT at NDA Silver Bells Dance
	15	Band Concert
	17	Advent Prayer Service
	18-20	Exams
	21	Christmas break begins
January	6	Students return to school after Christmas break HSPT meeting for 8th graders
	13	Panda Parent Club Meeting: Social Media and Your Digital Tattoo