



*An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy*

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

I hope your Advent has been filled with peace, hope, joy and many special blessings of the season. Our students, faculty and staff gathered yesterday for our annual Advent Prayer Service. It was a very nice way for everyone to come together as a community to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ this Christmas.

This can be a stressful time of year for all of us and especially for our students taking exams. At yesterday's prayer service, I asked our students to take time out as they prepare for exams and explained that taking a break or a walk can sometimes be as beneficial to them as another hour of studying.

Students will be dismissed at the end of their last exam today, tomorrow and Friday. Please make sure your daughter gets plenty of rest and has a good breakfast for each exam day. Our exam schedule has been shared with your daughters but you can find it [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](#).

Our students and faculty are ready to begin a well-deserved Christmas break. This will be the last Panda Press Weekly newsletter in 2019. The next issue will be January 8, 2020. The school office close at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, December 20 and normal office hours will begin on our first day back to school after the break - January 6, 2020.

I have encouraged our students to do two things over their Christmas break. I suggested that they take some time throughout the holidays to unplug and have a little bit of quiet time to center themselves away from the chaos of Christmas. I also asked them to use that quiet time to listen to God and think about what He is asking of them. As a school dedicated to the Blessed Mother, we are called to be mindful of what God is asking us to say "yes" to like Mary.

Thank you for your continued support of our community. On behalf of Dr. Laura Koehl, the faculty and staff of NDA, I wish you and your family a very blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

*Prepare the  
Way of  
the Lord*



# STUDENT LIFE

## OUT OF UNIFORM DAY: CLUB GRANTS ◀

Yesterday was the first of two out of uniform days in support of our clubs' service projects. About \$1200 was raised to support the following clubs and their community outreach: NHS, Math Club, JETS, Big Sisters and Girl Up. When we return from Christmas break, the second out of uniform day will be held on January 9th in support of the following clubs and their service projects: Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica, Nuestros Pequenos Hermanos, Teen Leadership Club, Sign Language Club and Uganda Pandas.



## SEEKING JESUS IN OTHERS ◀

There was a very nice article in the Messenger last week highlighting Sr. Maria Francine's career as an educator and her work with the Hispanic community. You can read the article [HERE](#). We are blessed to have her as part of the NDA faculty/staff!



## JOIN US IN AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND THE COOK ISLANDS IN 2021! ◀

Far away on the other side of the globe, Australia and New Zealand boast exotic wildlife, beautiful natural wonders, and some of the world's most fascinating indigenous cultures. Spend time exploring customs and traditions of Australia's Aborigines, New Zealand Maori, and the Cook Island's own indigenous people. Then discover how these cultures continue to thrive and change in a modern world.



In the spirit of the holidays, EF Tours has extended the \$200 discount, that originally expired in October. The discount will expire on December 31, 2019, so make sure to enroll your daughter before the ball drops at midnight on New Year's Eve in order to secure the lowest price!

Remember, this trip departing in early June of 2021, is open to all students of the classes of 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. If you missed the discount the first time around, now is the time to take advantage!



You can enroll at <https://enroll.eftours.com/2282535WW>, or by calling EF Traveler Support at 800-665-5364. Contact Tour Leader, Ms. Hillary Johnson at [johnsonh@ndapandas.org](mailto:johnsonh@ndapandas.org) with any additional questions!

## ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

### COUPON BOOK MONEY IS DUE NOW ◀

Students athletes should have already filled out their coupon book spreadsheets, uploaded them, and turned in their money. If you are a student athlete and have not yet done this, PLEASE DO SO TODAY. 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 after school in the gym.



### PANDA PARENT CLUB MEETING ◀

Mark your calendar for the next Panda Parent Club meeting on **Monday, January 13 at 7:00 p.m.** The topic is **Social Media and Your Digital Tattoo** and our speaker will be Steve Smith.



### 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](#).



### CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS ◀

At NDA, we celebrate our Catholic Identity everyday by living the Gospel message of Jesus through kindness and generosity to others, respect for life, community service and striving to use our God given gifts. Take a look at our Campus Ministry Department calendar for the next week [HERE](#).



### 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.



## COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



### EXAM SCHEDULE ◀

Exams will be today through Friday. Please see the [NDA Handbook](#) for the exam policy which is under the Academic Policy category. Please see the [exam schedule](#) that has been also shared with the students. Snacks will be sold each morning before exams begin and students will be allowed to eat a snack in homeroom each day.



### PSAT Information ◀

Sophomores and juniors may have started to receive emails about their PSAT scores. If a student did not supply an email to PSAT, she will not get an email about the scores. If a student wants to view scores online, she can create a Collegeboard account at <http://www.psat.org/myscore>. They may need an access code and can email Mrs. Monohan if they do not have this code. Paper score reports will be handed out to students/parents at the college planning meeting on Thursday, Feb 6 for juniors and Tuesday, Feb 11 for sophomores.



### ACT for Juniors ◀

The juniors will be taking an in school ACT on March 24. Juniors will register through school and not online for that test. There will not be a charge for this test as it is a part of tuition.



### 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!



## ALUMNAE NEWS ◀

### Alumnae Mass

All are welcome to join us at our monthly Alumnae and Friends Masses in our new *Mary, Mother of the World* Chapel at 11:30 a.m. on the last Wednesday of the month. Due to the Christmas holiday, there will not be an Alumnae and Friends Mass in December. The next Alumnae Mass is scheduled for January 29.



## CALLING ALL NDA/CCH THEATRE ALUMS! ◀

Please join us for the 2nd Annual NDA/CovCath Theater Cabaret in the NDA Theater.

**When:** Sunday, January 5, 2020

**Show Times:** 2:15 – 4:00 p.m.

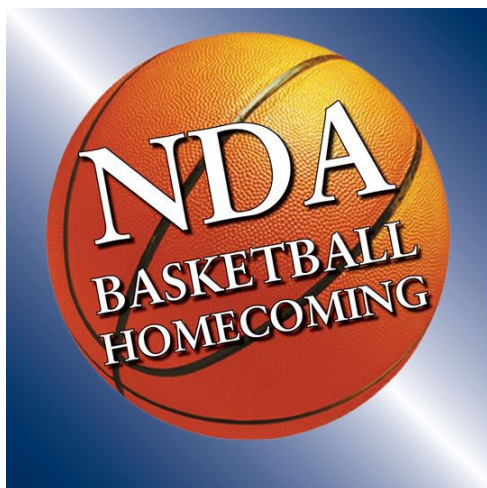
Doors will open at 1:30 p.m. with refreshments and beverages in Alumnae Hall.

**Ticket Prices:** \$15 - Adults; \$5 - Students with School IDs

Tickets are available online [HERE](#)

or Day of Show at the NDA Theater Box Office

If you are interested in performing, please email Liz Voto at [voto1@ndapandas.org](mailto:voto1@ndapandas.org). We hope to see you there!



## ATTENTION ALL PANDA BASKETBALL ALUMNAE ◀

The coaching staff and the Panda basketball team would like to invite alumnae basketball players to join them as they take on the Cooper Jaguars on January 3, 2020. Meet the current team and catch up with former Panda alumnae. Join us to be recognized at halftime of the varsity game. A hospitality room will be available during the JV and Varsity games. JV starts at 4:30 and Varsity at 6. Please RSVP by December 28th to [bbreeze2011@gmail.com](mailto:bbreeze2011@gmail.com).



## COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- Live Nativity at St. Timothy



## SEVEN HILLS Women's Health Centers

Seven Hills Women's Health Centers, a physician owned medical practice, is the leader in women's health care in the tri-state area. Our providers offer compassionate and comprehensive women's health care for women of all ages. With 12 physicians, 2 midwives and 2 nurse practitioners serving

the Northern Kentucky community across three convenient office locations, our care is easily accessible. Visit us at [womenshealthcenters.com](http://womenshealthcenters.com) to find a provider near you. We're proud to support the Notre Dame Academy. Several of our physicians and their daughters are part of the NDA family!

Dr. Emily Woeste, 1994

Dr. Meredith Donnelly, 1995

Jeanne Setters, APRN, 1982

Liz Kirkwood Adair, 1998

Rachel Kirkwood, 2002

Kelsey Darpel, 2011

Kendall Darpel, 2014

Emma Jacobs, 2014

Emily Jackson, 2016

Caroline Jackson, 2018

Paige Donnelly, 2022

Addy Woeste, 2022

Ava Jacobs, 2023

Kimberly Woeste, 2024

## ► Important dates

December	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
	20	No School - MLK Day
	21	Senior retreat
	24	Life March
		Prayer for Penance Prayer Service
	27	Catholic Schools Week Begins
		Nunday Monday Mass
	30	Bring an Alum to School
	31	CSW Talent Show