



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

We continue to prepare the way of the Lord during this Advent season. In this special time of hope and waiting, we draw closer to each other and especially to God who sent His only son to save us from our sins. During Advent, we look for new ways in which God enters our lives. We open ourselves to discovering Christ in all things and each other and we continue *Becoming Fully Alive Through Education and Love*.

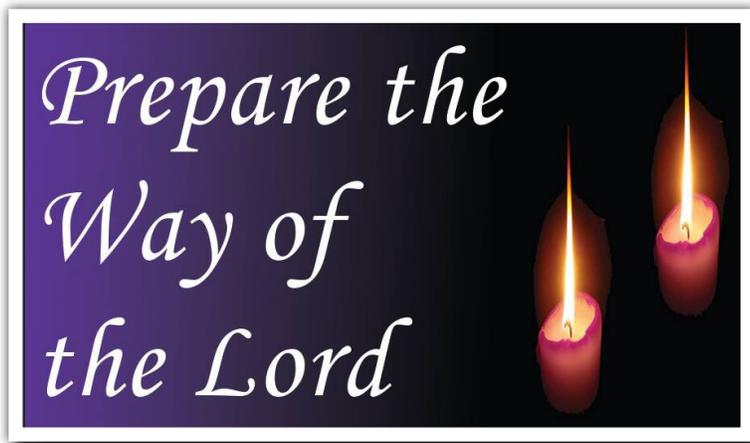
It's hard to believe that our students and faculty are just a week away from our Christmas break. **Please note: due to our adjusted calendar this year, our exams will be January 15, 16 and 17.** An [exam schedule](#) has been shared with students. I think it is important over the Christmas break to encourage your daughters to strike a healthy balance between studying for exams and taking some well deserved time away from school work. As much as we strive for excellence at NDA and want our students to be successful in their coursework, I also want them to take time to relax, rejuvenate and spend time with family and friends throughout the Christmas season.

I would like to thank our students for their generous contributions to our Hygiene Drive this year and all they do to make a difference in the lives of others. You can see several examples below of the wonderful work our students are doing this school year. I would also like to call your attention to our Honor Roll lists which are mentioned below as well. Our students have been very diligent in their studies this year and their commitment to education is evident in the large number of students on the Honor Roll for the first quarter of this year. I commend them for their dedication and hard work!

May this holy season of Advent fill you with peace, hope and many special blessings, and may you be reminded of God's presence in your life each day.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



STUDENT LIFE

STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

Silver Bells: Silver and Gold

Silver Bells is at NDA this Friday! 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. Thank you to the Class of 2021 for coordinating! School will dismiss at 2:00 p.m. on Friday in preparation for the dance.



Christmas PJs on Friday

Student Council is encouraging all students to wear their Christmas PJs on Friday!

Out of Uniform Day

Next Tuesday, December 18, is an out of uniform day. Cost is \$3 and all proceeds will support the service efforts of some NDA's clubs.

IMPORTANT DISMISSAL INFORMATION:

There will be early dismissal this Friday, December 14, at 2:00 p.m. for the Silver Bells Dance. ALSO, School will dismiss at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 19 due to the Faculty/Staff Christmas Party.

CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS ◀

Advent Reconciliation Services will be taking place during Religion Classes next week. Our Advent Prayer Service will take place on December 18 in the morning. A reminder that the Rosary is prayed each morning before school, beginning at 7:30 a.m. in Heritage Hall. All are welcome!

POWERSCHOOL UNIFIED CLASSROOM UPDATE ANNOUNCEMENT ◀

On December 14 or shortly thereafter, we expect an upgrade to PowerSchool's Unified Classroom will be installed. This is a larger make over than PowerSchool usually releases in the middle of the year. Normally this would be something that comes out in the summer between the school years when everyone has more time to adapt to the changes. This upgrade will have some new screens for the student and parent view and some new ways for students to connect to their Goggle Drives that we hope will help streamline their work in the Unified Classroom portal. Most of the new look will be in the teacher portal view and include new features that should help teachers serve the students better in presenting class materials and in grading student projects more easily. We appreciate your patience as we adjust to the new look and features in the weeks ahead.

CONGRATULATIONS ◀

Honors lists from our first quarter are now posted on the website [HERE](#). Congratulations to all of our honors students!

FIRESIDE ESSAY CONTEST ◀

Each year, Fireside Catholic Publishing awards five graduating Catholic High School Seniors a \$1000 Scholarship based upon the essays they compose titled, *How is Your Religious Education Influencing Your Life?*

The NDA Religion Department is proud to announce that Annie Gronotte's essay was chosen from among several applicants to be submitted for consideration. Only one applicant per Catholic High School may apply for this scholarship. NDA wishes Annie well as she moves from NDA finalist to the national level. National winners will be announced April 22, 2019.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

BECOMING FULLY ALIVE THROUGH EDUCATION AND LOVE! ◀

On Wednesday, December 5, NDA's Sign Language Club visited the Urban Education Center after school and made a difference in the lives of the students there! Our NDA students taught the girls and boys in the after school program an introduction to basic sign language. Each NDA student paired up with an Urban Ed student and taught them the alphabet, how to sign their name and sign "My name is...". They also taught them how to sign "Jingle Bells". The club co-presidents are seniors Paige Heimbrock and Kara Brunot, who are also regular volunteers at the Urban Education center.



MATH CLUB LIVING THE MISSION! ◀

The math club at NDA has been visiting Newport Primary School this semester and working with the coding club in the after school program. The girls have really enjoyed working with the students there and helping them with their math homework after school. They have also learned a lot about coding and some of the apps that they use on a daily basis in that club. The math club was awarded one of the club grants this year and used this money to buy the coding club new Botley Robots. These robots are controlled through an app on their iPad in which the students send codes to the robots in order for it to perform certain tasks. We cannot wait to use these robots with the coding club in the future!



NOW SHOWING

ON BROADWAY

NDA

Mother Daughter Dance

January 12, 2019

6:30-10:30pm

**Receptions Banquet Center
1379 Donaldson Road
Erlanger, KY 41018**

**Register by Monday, January 7th
\$25 per person**

Come dressed as your favorite Broadway characters/cast, theatre patron or stage hand. Plan to walk the red carpet, enjoy dinner and dance the night away to the tunes of DJ BCD (aka Brian Dunham). The costume parade will be after dinner & winners announced.

Make your reservation online at <https://www.cognitoforms.com/NotreDameAcademy1/2019MotherDaughter>

OR send cash/check along with this form to the school office.

Tickets must be paid for at the time of reservation. DUE BY January 7, 2019

Questions – stephanie_m_ahlers@yahoo.com or mklaird@fuse.net

Send in a cash or check with this form to the school office.

Student Name(s): _____
Mom's name: _____
Mom's email and phone: _____
Amount enclosed: _____



2019 MARCH FOR LIFE: IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN US ◀

Saving lives, ending abortion, and promoting a culture of life is why we march each year in Washington D.C. If your daughter would like to attend this important event on January 18, 2019 and be a voice for the voiceless please have her stop by front office to pick up permission slip forms. If you have any questions please email Mrs. Theresa Van Auken at vanaukent@ndapandas.org. Parent chaperones who are virtue trained are needed so please let Mrs. Van Auken know if you are able to join us.

WORK STUDY AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE LONGSHORE DINING HALL ◀

Do you have just one day a month to volunteer for two hours in the NDA cafeteria? Helping out is neither difficult nor time-consuming and our current volunteers have fun visiting the school and seeing their daughters, granddaughters and friends. Volunteers are also welcome to stick around after their two-hour shift for lunch with "the crew". Grandparents in particular seem to love this job, so please consider asking your daughter's grandparents if they would like to help out. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Karen

Brungs at 859.292.1856 or brungsk@ndapandas.org. The schedule is online and you can sign up [HERE](#).

ALSO, we have a Work Study position open in the Longshore Dining Hall dishroom as well. If you are interested in this position, please contact Karen Brungs at 859.292.1856 or brungsk@ndapandas.org.

ALUMNAE MENTORING ◀

This week our seniors had the opportunity to attend a Speed Mentoring Session hosted by our Alumnae Department. We will have more opportunities throughout the rest of year, along with another Speed Mentoring Session at the end of the school year. The alumnae mentors have sessions set up for once a month to speak and interact with Seniors.

Here is what to expect for future dates:

Women in the Workplace

Wednesday, January 23

Soft Skills / Office Etiquette / Social Media Do's/ Do Not's

Wednesday, February 13

Communication / Responsiveness

Wednesday, March 13

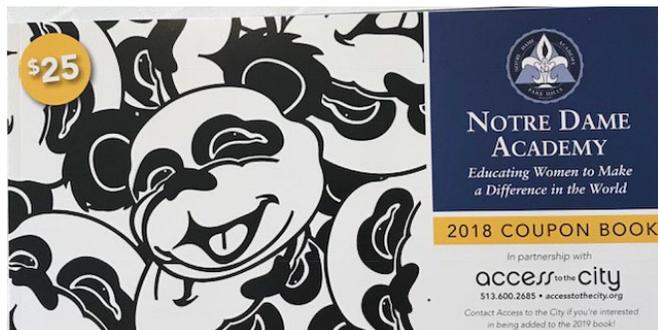
Critical Thinking/Decision Making Skills

Wednesday, April 10

Speed Mentoring Session

Wednesday, May 1

We will release more details of each session prior to that session.



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS ◀

Coupon book money is now due.

Coupon Book Sellers:

Looking for some great deals? Check out NDA's Access to the City coupon book! If you would like to purchase a coupon book. you can contact Susan Colvin in Athletics at colvins@ndapandas.org. The books cost \$25 and checks can be made pay-able to Notre Dame Academy.

Athletes should turn all money to the front office or the Athletic Department. All money and checks should be in a sealed envelope with name and homeroom on it.

Spring Athletes

If you are planning to participate in a Spring Sport but have not yet picked up your coupon books to sell you can pick up your books from the Athletic Department.

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



GSE

The [Governor's School for Entrepreneurs](#) Application is open NOW until January 20th for Kentucky 9th, 10th,



and 11th graders! A total of 72 students will be selected to learn about opportunities, benefits, and pitfalls of taking a business concept from the idea phase to pitching it to potential investors! This 3-week residential program at NKU is FREE of charge, and can ultimately result in college scholarships! Program dates are June 23 - July 13. Students can apply as an INDIVIDUAL, as a TEAM (Leadership/CEO, Technology, Speaker, Design/Artist) or - THEY CAN APPLY FOR BOTH!



GSA

The [KY Governor's School for the ARTS](#) from Kentucky 10th and 11th grades are due January 11! Students can apply in TWO of the nine Art Forms! Creative Writing is one Art Form that some students do not realize is an option, so we are hoping that some talented student writers will apply!

ACT Math Prep

All Juniors will be taking an Official ACT test on Feb. 20 during the school-day here at NDA. **NKY Tutoring** offers ACT Prep specifically for the MATH section of the ACT. They have just opened their Registration for the classes that will prepare Juniors for the February 20 ACT. **For more Information and to Register:** <http://nkytutoring.com>

Full List of ACT Prep Options

There are many options for ACT Prep. We have compiled a full list of options here: [ACT Prep Options](#)

Free Online ACT PREP: [ACT ACADEMY](#)

The ACT has launched a Free Online ACT Prep called ACT Academy. We have gotten really good feedback from students who have used this Free Resource! Students take short diagnostic quizzes and then are given specific prep for areas they need to work on. **Sign-Up Here:** [ACT Academy](#)

*Please email Ms. Burgei if you have questions or would like assistance setting up this Free ACT Prep Resource. Ms. Burgei: burgeik@ndapandas.org.

Students interested in Medical/Health Careers:

St. Elizabeth Volunteer Services offers an amazing opportunity for teens to spend 3-4 hours each week providing service to their community while exploring a career in healthcare. Teens choose a volunteer placement from a multitude of options either within the hospital or at one of our numerous off-site facilities. Volunteer tasks range from patient contact, assisting staff, retail service or being guest liaisons, all impacting the patients' experiences at St. Elizabeth Healthcare. Applications are being taken for the Spring 2019 Program. Must be 14 years of age.

For more information: [St. E's High School Volunteer Programs](#)

To Apply: [Application Website](#)

PSAT

PSAT scores are available online for the sophomores and juniors that took the test in October. Students that provided an email on their test answer sheet should have received from Collegeboard about seeing scores. Juniors may have already set up an account from last year but sophomores may need to set up an account first when accessing scores. Students were advised to watch the video linked below if they have trouble accessing their scores. We will have a meeting about scores and hand out paper copies in late January.

Collegeboard: [Login](#)

Here is a video about accessing scores: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1l6f51n3-dc>



CALLING ALL NDA/CCH THEATRE ALUMS! ◀

Join us for the first-ever NDA/Cov-Cath Alum Cabaret at Notre Dame Academy on Sunday, January 6 at 1:30 p.m.! We'll be spending an afternoon with drinks, food, and a celebration of the performing arts, past and present, at NDA/CCH. This variety show will feature performances from recent and not so recent alum and to round out the show, we will have performances from our current theater students. You can purchase tickets [HERE](#).

IT'S HOLIDAY SHOPPING TIME AT THE BAMBOOTIQUE ◀

Santa came early this year at NDA and he left many awesome new items for you to purchase for your Panda! Stop in and check them out!



Holiday Hours



The Bambootique will be open for Holiday Shopping:

Dec 12th 5:30-7:30

Dec 13th 5:30-7:30

Dec 15th 10:30-12:30

Dec 18th 5:30-7:30 Final Night to shop before SANTA comes!

▶ Important dates

December 14	Silver Bells Dance (school dismisses at 2:00 p.m.)
December 19	Faculty Christmas Party
December 20- January 2	Christmas Break
January 3	School Resumes
January 7	HSPT meeting for Incoming Freshmen
January 12	Mother/Daughter Dance
January 15-17	Mid-Term Exams
January 18	Life March

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- NCYC
- B.R.A.K.E.S. - Teen Pro-Active Driving School

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

