



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT ◀

Greetings parents!

Happy Catholic Schools Week! Our faculty, staff and students have joined other schools in our Diocese and around the country in celebrating the gifts of Catholic education. This year the theme is *Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service*. Our Student Council has done a great job of planning many activities this week to honor our Catholic heritage and school spirit. These students are a great example of women making a difference! As I write this week's letter the NDA and CCH students are arriving for the annual charity volleyball game. Go Pandas!

As we celebrate this special week, we are truly blessed to be educators and students in a Catholic school and especially one guided by the SND charism. Our celebration this week began with "Nunday" Monday and mass in honor of the Sisters. Several of the Notre Dame Sisters joined us for this mass and Sr. Rita Geoppinger offered a reflection on the importance of Catholic education. It is fitting that we began our week acknowledging the vision and dedication of the Sisters in making the Notre Dame education available to so many. True to their spirit of giving, the sisters served ice cream sundaes to our students at lunch.

Bishop Foys was scheduled to celebrate our Mass, but had to cancel due to illness. Please keep our Bishop in our prayers. In celebration of Catholic Schools week and recognition of our teachers and students, Bishop Foys gave us a free day. **Therefore we will not have school on Monday, February 2.**

We have much to celebrate at NDA and I hope you will read all the news in the sections below. Congratulations to our Academic Team, NDA/CCH Band students, athletes and student artists for their many recent successes. I was also blessed to attend the annual Diocesan Catholic Schools Week mass with several of our students who represented our school very well. They are all shining examples of the reason we celebrate our Catholic school.

May you know God's goodness each day,

Dr. Laura Koehl

**Reminder to replenish
your student's meal
account:**

Please check your daughter's cafeteria account balance as many currently have insufficient funds. You can check PayPams for your balance. Thank you!



INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY UPDATE ◀

In the next few issues of the Panda Press we will feature *The Technology Evolution Series, a Senior Perspective*. Written by some of our NDA seniors, this is a series of descriptions illustrating how technology has changed at Notre Dame Academy during their four years here.

The Technology Evolution Series, a Senior Perspective Week Four: Isabella Ramicone '15

Notre Dame Academy is comprised of over 600 *21st Century Learners*. I heard that phrase early on in my high school career and was somewhat confused. Weren't the students of my generation always *21st Century Learners*? Didn't we use computers and cell phones to communicate and find information? Throughout my time at NDA, I truly discovered what it means to be a *21st Century Learner* and to be a part of NDA's tremendous program has been a learning experience that I am very grateful to have been a part of.

The 2015 graduating class has had their foot in both realms, so to speak. Our first year at NDA was filled with notebooks, binders, filler paper, and planners. We took paper notes and tests and carried textbooks to nearly every class. At 2:45, we would fill our backpacks and be on our way. We also had to take an InfoTech class, and I was fortunate enough to have Mrs. Mullee as my teacher. Every day, she showed us a new website or computer application and allowed us to collaborate and create. We created videos and websites, designed houses and games, and mastered various presentation tools. Our assignments did not feel like work, but like activities that encouraged innovation and creativity and allowed us to explore our interests through technology. At the end of the year, I felt prepared to tackle any assignment or project through technology.

The iPad Initiative was a revolutionary change in NDA history. Each student, now equipped with her own iPad, had a new way of doing virtually anything in the classroom. Learning became much more than reading and memorization. It became an experience with endless opportunities. All students, whether they are auditory or visual learners, were equipped with the ability to collaborate and create. I see this ability everyday. Students create amazing videos and presentations and edit live documents together. Not only has it increased efficiency inside and outside of the classroom, but students are also able to work together to accomplish a common goal. Whether it be working on a lab or trying to fix a problem, students have become prepared to learn and lead creatively through technology. So what is a *21st Century Learner*? Ask any NDA student.



NEWS FROM THE STUDENT LIFE OFFICE ◀

NDA/CCH Winter Dance

Freshmen and sophomores are invited to attend this year's Winter Dance scheduled for Saturday, February 21. The semi-formal event (formally known as CCH's Valentine's Dance) will be held on NDA's campus, and any NDA or CCH freshman or sophomore is welcome to attend for \$5 each. Guests from other schools are also welcome to accompany an NDA or CCH student. Tickets sales will begin soon!

Attendance Policy

Attendance at school is necessary to an NDA education and the whole learning process. When a student is absent from class, lectures, discussions and demonstrations are missed that cannot be repeated. For this reason, families are encouraged to take vacations when school is not in session - this allows students to stay current and engaged in the learning process. For questions regarding our attendance policy, please see page 12 of the [Student/Parent Handbook](#).



NEWS FROM THE STUDENT LIFE OFFICE ◀

These girls attended the Women's Initiative Breakfast today with NDA President Dr. Laura Koehl. They were guests of Caroline Weltzer of Viox and Viox, Inc. The feature speaker was Linda Rottenberg, author of "Crazy is a Compliment". Ms. Rottenberg is the CEO and Co-Founder of Endeavor and she pioneered the field of High-Impact Entrepreneurship, the global phenomenon of using business to transform economies. Pictured: (L-R) Dymond Robinson, Brooke Barker and Rikki Buchberger.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK ◀



Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service. This week we have been celebrating the many great attributes of Notre Dame Academy as part of Catholic Schools Week. Eight of our students were nominated by their religion teachers to represent NDA at the Diocesan Catholic Schools Week Mass at the Cathedral Basilica. They had the opportunity to witness to and be a part of the larger Catholic School Community in the Diocese of Covington. (Pictured on left (L-R): Isabella Ramicone, Caitlyn Zieleniewski, Allison Guess, Lauren Judy, Lauren Reinersman, Teaghan Brauer, Lauren Krausen, Emily Walter. Pictured below are several other pictures taken this week during our Catholic schools week celebration.)



(Pictures by Barb Benkert)

ACADEMIC TEAM PLACES FIRST ◀

Congratulations to the academic team who placed first overall at the District tournament on Saturday.

The Quick recall team placed 3rd and several students placed in written assessments.

- Kelsey Sucher placed 1st in Math.
- Madeline Marita placed 4th in Math and 5th in Language Arts.
- Paige Montfort placed 1st in Composition.
- Julia Gerwe placed 2nd in Composition.
- Rachel Peavler placed 1st in Language Arts and 1st in Arts and Humanities.
- Mariah Bezold placed 4th in Language Arts.
- Fiona Blackburn placed 2nd in Arts and Humanities.



HONORS BAND ACCOLADES ◀

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS goes out to the following band students for being chosen to perform with the NKU HONORS BAND SYMPOSIUM.

Mia Shelton : Bass Clarinet
Emily Walter : Trombone
Mika Sun : Flute
Rachel Cerimele : Flute
Claire Cerimele : Tenor Saxophone

These musical band members performed at NKU with the areas top High School Musicians last weekend in Greaves Concert Hall. It was nice to see Notre Dame Academy represented so well in this select group.

ATHLETIC NEWS ◀

NDA had a good swimming & diving weekend beating Lakota East & West on Friday. We placed second in Freshman Regionals swimming on Saturday and narrowly lost to Ursuline in a dual meet on Saturday.

NDA JV and Varsity basketball teams had big wins this past Saturday against Mother of Mercy High School.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PANDA ARCHERS! ◀

Congratulations to all the archers who competed at the Calvary Christian tournament. Our team shot a collective score of 3044: our best score to date. Several of our archers also bested their high score. Top shooters were Erin Kirchner who placed 5th with a score of 271, Jordan Kruetzkamp, with a score of 268, Kimmy Birrer, with a score of 264, Lindsay Brossart, with a score of 263, and Camryn Scaringi with a score of 262. Well done archers!

Also, the Archery team had its inaugural Top Shot Bullseye Tournament on Monday. NDA's "top shot" is Lindsay Brossart who won in a tie-breaking shoot off with 2nd place finisher Erin Kirchner and 3rd place Kimmy Birrer. Camryn Scaringi took 4th place in a shoot off with 5th place finisher Lauren Reinersman. Excellent shooting archers!

VISUAL ART NEWS ◀

CONGRATULATIONS to Seniors Rachel Schutzman and Kate Lonneman whose artwork was juried and selected to show in this year's Scholastics art competition. Rachel earned 2 Honorable Mentions and Kate earned a Gold Key. These individual students, and all of the Visual Arts students do an excellent job of representing the NDA Arts community.

Congratulations to the Computer Graphics students and Art students who participated in the Memory Project. The Project is a service project that asks for 'Art students to create portraits for youth around the world who've been neglected, orphaned, or disadvantaged'. NDA participated in the project last year and sent portraits to kids in Mexico. This year we were blessed to receive, work on, and return portraits to twenty kids that live in Thailand.

The program is an incredible program. Please feel free to learn more about The Memory Project at:

<http://www.memoryproject.org/>

Some samples of the work our students did for the Memory Project:



- By Allison Whitacre



- By Rachel Peavler



- By Alex Smith

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES

ACT Prep

We are once again offering our students the opportunity to partner with TorchPrep™, an innovative test training program that cracks the code on improving ACT® scores. Through strategy-driven training focused on repetition, customization, and student motivation, TorchPrep™ will help your student overcome the ACT®.



Location: Covington Catholic High School

Boot Camp * 9 Required Sessions

- (Strategy) Thursdays: 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12 6PM - 9PM
- (Practice Test) Saturdays: 2/14, OFF, 2/28, 3/7, 3/14 10AM - 2PM

Registration: www.TorchPrep.com | 888.382.8174 | info@torchprep.com

For a listing of other testing prep options please visit our website [here](#).

Freshman Parent Scheduling Meeting:

We will be having a parent meeting for current freshmen on Thursday, February 5th at 7 p.m in the theatre. We will discuss scheduling for next year as well as other topics that are important to current freshmen and their parents.



Tickets Are Now Available!

"Homeless to Hopeful"

Support the shelter while enjoying a cash bar, silent auctions, and raffles!

Auction items include autographed Bengals memorabilia,
Reds memorabilia & tickets, and much more!

Tickets are \$15 for adults; \$5 for students

Contact Laura at (859) 291-4555 or emergencyshelternky.laura@gmail.com

Date: February 20th

Time: 7:00pm - 10:00 p.m.

Notre Dame Academy Theatre | 1699 Hilton Dr. | Park Hills, KY 41011



Class of 2019

**PRIORITY APPLICATION PERIOD
 JANUARY 7 - FEBRUARY 13, 2015**

to be eligible for scholarship consideration and iPad drawing

CLICK HERE FOR ONLINE APPLICATION



The Notre Dame Life

Building confidence, celebrating excellence, and enabling a future without boundaries.

¿Hablas español? ◀

If you speak spanish and would like to read the reflection by NDA's Ellen Kendall about her experience in Spain last summer, [CLICK HERE](#).

▶ Important dates:

January 28	Students Dress as Boys Charity Volleyball Game at NDA
January 29	Students Wear Grade School Uniforms
January 30	Students Dress for the Decades Skyline at Lunch Talent Show
February 2	NO SCHOOL - Free Day from Bishop Foy's
February 5	Class of 2018 Scheduling Information (Parents) - 7:00 p.m.
February 6	Athletic Signing
February 6-8	Annual Spring Showcase
February 18	Ash Wednesday
February 21	Freshmen/Sophomore Dance with CCH

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

Ash Wednesday Day of Reflection

St. Charles Community is now hiring

Class forming for new drivers with Streetsmartz

Are you caring for an aging parent or grandparent? St. Charles can help!

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

