



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

I want to begin this week by thanking all those who helped to make our Catholic Schools Week such a success. Thanks especially to our Student Council and their moderators for planning a wonderful week that provided so many reminders of why it is a blessing to teach and learn in a Catholic school. From the opening mass on Nunday Monday to the annual Talent Show on Friday and all events in between, there was much to celebrate about our school community! Please enjoy some photos from our Catholic Schools Week activities below.

We are ready to begin our scheduling process for the 2019-20 academic year. This includes grade level College Planning meetings. Parents are asked to attend these meetings which will include information about standardized tests your daughter took this year, course scheduling for the coming year, and college planning action steps for each grade level. Students are welcome to attend as well! You can find the schedule for these meetings below. We also meet with each class during long homerooms prior to these College Planning meetings to review the process and course options.

Scheduling meetings for the 2019-20 school year:

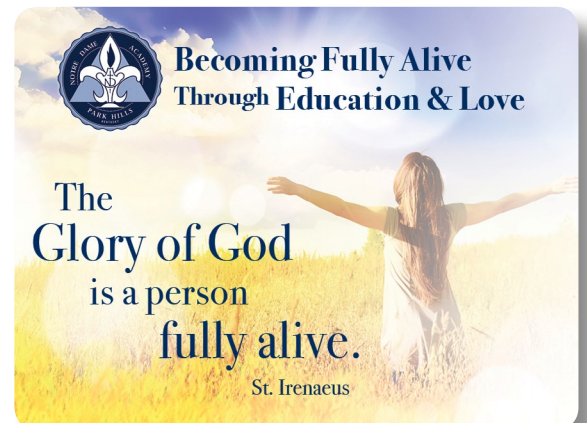
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| Current Junior College Planning Meeting | Thursday, February 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the theatre |
| Current Sophomore College Planning Meeting | Monday, February 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the theatre |
| Current Freshman College Planning Meeting | Tuesday, February 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the theatre |

Finally, our annual raffle drawing was today and I would like to thank you for your support of this important fundraiser. Proceeds from the raffle help us offer assistance to deserving students so that every young woman in our community has the opportunity to receive a Notre Dame Academy education.

It is a privilege to partner with you in your daughter's Catholic education. Have a great week!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf





A special note of gratitude to all who helped plan last week's Catholic Schools Week activities!





Congratulations!

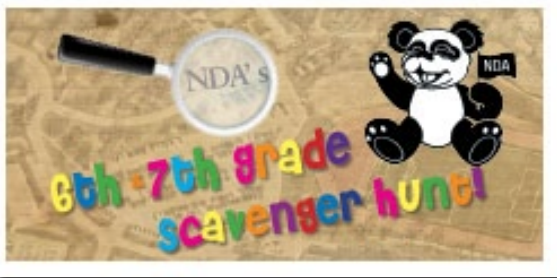
Grand Prize: \$10,000

Our Grand Prize winner was drawn at today's Winter Sports Pep Rally. Congratulations to Maria Kathman, parent of Senior Abbey Kathman. Thank you to the Kathman family and to everyone in our NDA community who supported our 2019 Cash Raffle. We appreciate your commitment to Catholic Education at Notre Dame Academy!



ATTENTION SOPHOMORE PARENTS ◀

Just a reminder that 15 Sophomore Service hours are due on March 20, 2019. Mrs. Price has been meeting with students to make sure they have a plan for completing their service hours. A few reminders - all sophomore service hours must be completed at a Non-Profit agency, they must be verified by the agency contact before they can be approved, they must be logged on x2vol by the student within 2 weeks of the date of service in order to get full credit for the hours. All service opportunities called into the school are listed on the students Unified Classroom Service Information Page.



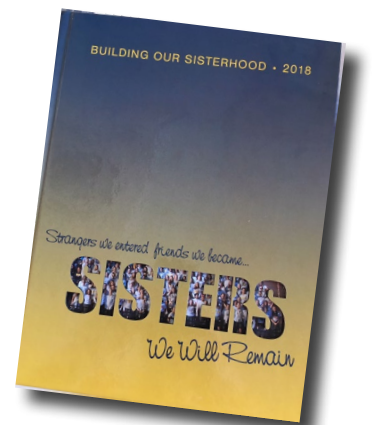
6TH & 7TH GRADE SCAVENGER HUNT AT NDA! ◀

Attention future Pandas! Join in all of the "Pandamonium" at the 6th and 7th Grade Scavenger Hunt at Notre Dame Academy on Friday, February 15 from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. Don't miss this afternoon of games, the NDA Scavenger Hunt, food and more! Please return the registration form for this event before February 13. You can find the registration form online [HERE](#). For more information contact NDA's Director of Admissions, Katie Caccavari, at 859.292.1829. We hope to see you there!

YEARBOOK NEWS! ◀

2017-18 Yearbook: We have a limited number of copies of the 2017-18 school yearbook, "Building Our Sisterhood", available for purchase. Books are \$70 (check payable to NDA) and can be purchased in the school office or by contacting Publications instructor Rory Glynn at glynnr@ndapandas.org.

2018-19 Yearbook: This year's book, "New and Forever", will be out next fall but can be purchased now for the pre-order price of \$60. They're available at [jostens.com](https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/productBrowse/1069982/Notre-Dame-Academy/2019-Yearbook/20180825044300310151/CATALOG_SHOP/) or by following this link. (https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/productBrowse/1069982/Notre-Dame-Academy/2019-Yearbook/20180825044300310151/CATALOG_SHOP/)





HOST FAMILIES NEEDED FOR GERMAN STUDENTS FOR FALL 2019 ◀

NDA is in the process of recruiting international students as part of our Fall 2019 enrollment. We are again working with our sister school in Germany (Liebfrauenschule Vechta). At this time we are seeking families who would consider hosting the German students for the 2019 fall semester. Please email Mrs. Katie Caccavari at caccavarik@ndapandas.org, if you would be interested in more information about this opportunity. Your reply is not a commitment but would help us to know which families would consider supporting our international student enrollment by serving as host families.

NDA GIRL UP DAY! ◀

Attention all girls in grades 4-8! Notre Dame Academy's Girl Up Club is presenting NDA GIRL UP DAY! On March 9, 2019, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., Notre Dame Academy invites girls in grades 4-8 to come to NDA to learn about our Girl Up Club, confidence, leadership skills and how to develop strong bonds and relationships with other girls. All proceeds will be donated to the United Nations Foundation's Girl Up campaign. Students registered by February 22 will receive a free t-shirt! Register online [HERE](#).



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS ◀

NDA SOFTBALL TRYOUTS

Come join the Panda softball family! Tryouts are open to all 7th & 8th graders from all NDA feeder schools on February 15 from 4-6 p.m. and February 16 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. in the NDA gym. If you have questions please email Coach Joe Stephenson at stephensonj@ndapandas.org.



VOTE FOR IZZY!

Vote for NDA student athlete Isabel "Izzy" Coomes for the The I AM SPORT Award! I AM SPORT is a contest created to honor high school student athletes who are committed to giving back to the youth in their communities.

The voting period began January 22 and runs through March 5, 2019 at 11:59 am EST. You may vote once per day [HERE](#).

¡VAMOS PANDAS! ◀

Spanish club hosted Serena Kain to lead a Zumba class after school! Students raised funds for the Cooperative for Education foundation. This foundation raises money for education in Guatemala. ¡Vamos Pandas!



CONGRATULATIONS

NDA MOCK TRIAL TEAMS HEAD TO STATE! ◀

For the second year in a row, Notre Dame Academy's Mock Trial A Team has placed 1st at Regionals, earning them a birth in the Kentucky High School Mock Trial State Tournament, where they will look to improve upon last year's 4th place state finish. And for the first time in program history, NDA is sending two teams to the State Tournament.

Over the weekend of February 2-3rd, both NDA Mock Trial teams competed in the Louisville Regional Tournament. In a pool of 16 teams, the Notre Dame Academy A Team placed 1st and the Notre Dame Academy B Team placed 7th. The top 8 teams from both the Louisville Regional Tournament and the Lexington Regional Tournament, go on to compete at the Kentucky High School Mock Trial State Tournament, March 1-3, in Covington, Kentucky.

At the conclusion of the weekend, each team was awarded a Best Witness and a Best Attorney. For Team A, Briana Seibert won Best Witness and Julia Hughes won Best Attorney. There was a three-way tie for Best Witness on the B team between Zoe Moellering, Chaye Bonner and Isabelle Bailey, while Emma Scharstein was awarded Best Attorney.

Both teams are coached by three former Notre Dame Academy Pandas. The 2018-2019 Pandas are led by Katelyn (Connor) Mollett ('08), Amy Hebbeler ('09) and Emily (Cooney) Couch ('10). All three alumnae are current practicing attorneys in our community.

Congratulations ladies and best of luck at the Kentucky High School Mock Trial State Tournament!

Team A: Natalie Gerdes, Mara Schutt, Julia Hughes, Josie Monfort, Briana Seibert, Dani Shoemake, Katie Crail, Libby Smith

Team B: Cathrine Ghazala, Emma Scharstein, Nicole Heuker, Chaye Bonner, Isabelle Bailey, Zoe Moellering





NDA STUDENTS RECEIVE 86 SCHOLASTIC WRITING AWARDS ◀

Congratulations to our very talented young writers who recently received 10 Gold Keys, 31 Silver Keys, and 45 Honorable Mentions for a total of 86 writing awards in the Scholastic Art and Writing Competition. Special Awards to note: Olivia Ossege was recognized as American Voices nominee for one of her Gold Key pieces and Kate Williams received a Gold Key for her writing portfolio - a collection of several pieces of writing. Congratulations also to our NDA English teachers represented: Michael Byrd, David Jackson, Gurrie Frisbie, Lauren Garrett and Amanda Schultz.



GO PANDAS! ◀

Special thanks to our Cheer Pandas for supporting our teams and bringing the spirit of the sisterhood to our NDA events! Cheer Pandas is an enthusiastic group of NDA students that cheer at the NDA girls' home basketball games, and they are looking forward to becoming a competitive cheer group. Whether they are on the cheer team or not, many NDA students have been involved in the making of this squad, from Sydney Dierig and Chloe Vogel (Student Leader of Cheer Pandas) creating the design for the uniform to Olivia Voelker and Sarah Barhorst as the Cheer Pandas managers. The following are this year's Cheer Pandas: Chloe Vogel, Eden Robinson, Madi Harmon, Grace Ward, Liz Farwick, Katy Magary, Megan Leonard, Mary Elmlinger, Elaina Downes, Allie Kratzer, Mya Martin, Mya Huser, Macy Feagan, Caitlin Iannelli, Emma Scharstein, Emma Pohlman, Catherine Nerswick, Katie Scola, and Ava Hering. Coach Jen Ericson says, "I feel very blessed to have the opportunity to be their cheer coach."





AMBER BRANUM

FEBRUARY STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Notre Dame Academy Freshmen, Amber Branum, who has been selected as February's Student of the Month. Amber's Science teacher, Mrs. Perrino says, "Amber's presence in class is always dynamic, appropriate, and actively involved. She is a pleasure to teach and . . . epitomizes this year's theme because her active engagement in class benefits everyone, especially her questions and clarifications. She is not afraid to make sure she really understands the material." Thank you, Amber, for becoming fully alive and contributing positively to Notre Dame Academy!

SOMETHING ABOUT AMBER

According to Ms. Ericson, "Amber always gives 110%. She is a self-starter and excels at everything she puts her mind to. Amber balances academics and athletics, giving each her best effort."



As a Freshmen new to Notre Dame life, Amber jumped right and participates in soccer and basketball. She says the "lunches are great" at NDA and appreciates the "teachers who explain things really well."

Mrs. Perrino says Amber "is an example of how a student with the right attitude and work ethic can succeed regardless of her challenges."



DO YOU WONDER WHAT THE SOUTHERN BORDER IS LIKE? ◀

This summer Sister Maria Francine is facilitating a trip there to see the situation and speak with those involved, particularly immigrants and border patrol. This trip is for adults, not students. The Columbian Missions in El Paso who have a shelter there provides talks with immigrants, border patrol and relief workers. Sometimes we need, when possible, to take an initiative to be informed. Access [THIS LINK](#) for details. You may contact Sister Maria Francine at stacymf@ndapandas.org.



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.

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀

High School 101 for Freshmen Pandas!



During High School 101 for Freshmen Pandas last week, School Counselors and our Media Specialist taught Freshmen in their Tech and World Geo classes about a wide variety of topics: How to Calculate a GPA, What is a Transcript, Stress Management, Decision-Making, Data Bases at NDA, Finding a Career, Summer Enrichment Opportunities, KEES Money, Study Tips, and good Note-taking! Be sure to inquire of your daughters about their top 3 Career Clusters, and ask them to show you Naviance, our online Career and College Planning tool. The more they use Naviance, they they benefit from it!

Learn Arabic Summer Program

The STARTALK Arabic summer program held at the University of Cincinnati is a 4-week intensive program (June 17 –July 12) designed for high school seniors, rising seniors and rising juniors at the beginning level of study. This program is totally funded and the number of students admitted to the program is 17. Upon successful completion of the program students will earn FIVE semester hours of college credits.

Students can apply through this link: <https://www.artsci.uc.edu/departments/rall/startalk2019.html>

Open House at Gateway Community and Technical College

Gateway Community and Technical College is hosting two Open House events for current juniors and seniors:
Thursday, February 28th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Center for Technology, Innovation, and Enterprise at 516 Madison Avenue, Covington, KY
Tuesday, March 5th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at our Boone Campus, Center for Advanced Manufacturing at 500 Technology Way, Florence, KY



HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT OUR NDA PARENT TOOLBOX?

Our [NDA Parent Tool Box](#) has some new articles regarding teens with recommendations for healthy relationships and friendships: [Healthy Dating](#) and From [BFF to “Friend Divorce”](#).

Check out these wonderful tools to help with understanding and raising teenage girls!



ALUMNAE MENTORING ◀

Our alumnae mentors have sessions set up for once a month to speak and interact with Seniors.

Here is what to expect for future dates:

- Soft Skills / Office Etiquette / Social Media Do’s/ Do Not’s Wednesday, February 13
- Featuring the following speakers:
Emily Edmondson
Teri Vonhandorf
Autumn Richards
- Communication / Responsiveness Wednesday, March 13
- Critical Thinking/Decision Making Skills Wednesday, April 10
- Speed Mentoring Session Wednesday, May 1



Dental Center of Florence

Being a local, family owned & operated full service dental practice, the Dental Center of Florence team works hard to offer you excellent dental care in a warm, friendly & comfortable atmosphere.

Our services include every aspect of family, general and cosmetic dentistry including sedation and implant dentistry, teeth whitening & Invisalign.



We are the tri-state leader in same day dentures and have the latest dental techniques and technology available, including our on-site denture lab.

We invite you to join the many NDA Panda families we care for. To serve your busy life, we have evening and Saturday appointments available. We'll bring a smile to your face "all in a day!" Go Pandas! Corinne Laws, Class of 2021

Learn more about Dental Center of Florence [HERE](#).

► Important dates

February 6	Juniors to attend Play Winter Sports Pep Rally - Raffle Drawing
February 7	Current Junior College Planning Meeting for Parents and Students
February 8	FR/SO Scheduling Meeting during Homeroom
February 11	Current Sophomore College Planning Meeting with Parents
February 12	Current Freshman College Planning Meeting with Parents
February 13	Sophomores to attend Play
February 15	Mid-quarter 6th and 7th Grade Scavenger Hunt
February 18	No School: Presidents' Day

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- Religious Freedom: Our First, Most Cherished Liberty
- Northern KY Basketball - Kenton County Night
- Nonprofit Founder and TIME 100 Most Influential People Winner to Speak at TMC
- Host Family Program

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

