



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

As I told you at our Parent Meetings in August, Notre Dame Academy is going through the accreditation process this school year through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Accreditation is an important method of quality assurance developed more than 100 years ago by U.S. universities and secondary institutions. It was originally designed primarily to recognize institutions adhering to a set of educational standards.

Our Engagement Review was scheduled for this week and despite the snow day today, the Engagement Review Committee completed their work at NDA. I am happy to report that the committee appreciated the hospitality they were shown at NDA and the opportunity to learn more about our school. I always look forward to going through this process as it is very effective in driving student performance and promoting continuous improvement in education and it always a wonderful chance to share our NDA story.

The accreditation process required the contributions of many people beginning in the fall with the administration of inventories and surveys. I would like to thank you for participating in our two Parent Surveys and for making a difference in the continuous improvement of Notre Dame Academy. The feedback we received today from the committee was very positive and a validation of what makes our community special. One theme that came across to the committee from our community was "Felt like I belonged here as soon as I got here." I am very proud of the inclusivity our students, faculty and staff feel at NDA. As you well know, we strive for excellence in all areas at Notre Dame Academy. We plan to use the results of the accreditation process this year to ensure that we are reaching our goals and developing new strategies for continuous improvement.

Due to the cancelation of school today, our Cash Raffle drawing has been rescheduled for Friday, February 9 at 2:15 p.m. Raffle tickets will be accepted until noon on Friday, February 9. Sr. Paul Ann, Sr. Rachel and Jan Gilliam will be collecting raffle tickets both tomorrow morning and Friday morning. Thank you very much for your support of the Cash Raffle and the mission of NDA!

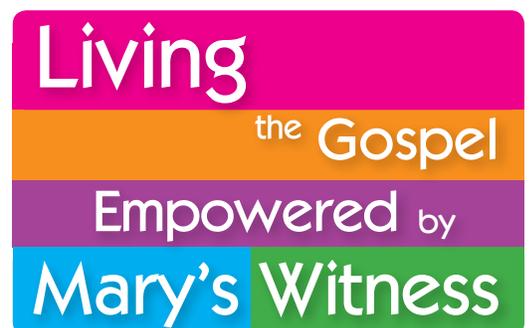
We are ready to begin our scheduling process for the 2017-18 academic year. This includes **College Planning meetings with parents** as listed in the information below. We also meet with each class during long homerooms prior to these College Planning meetings to review the process and course options.

One final note: Last Wednesday at the Diocesan Catholic Schools Week Mass, Bishop Foys awarded a day off for everyone. He asked that the day be used within the month of February and **we will be taking that day off on FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16.**

Have a great week!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



STUDENT LIFE

STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

Creating a Healthy Environment at NDA

To ensure a healthy and safe environment at NDA, efforts are made to keep the spread of casual-contact communicable diseases to a minimum. We ask for your help in this matter by communicating with our school office if your daughter presents symptoms of or has been diagnosed with a communicable disease. [NKY Health Department Disease Fact Sheet](#)



toms of or has been diagnosed with a communicable disease. [NKY Health Department Disease Fact Sheet](#)

Also, here are the NDA Student Handbook guidelines should your daughter become ill and need to leave or miss school:

Illness During School

In case of illness during the school day, the student is to report to the school office and may be admitted to the health room. Every fifteen minutes in the health room is counted toward the missed time in a class. A student must decide if she is going home or returning to class within one half hour. If she decides to go home, the school secretary contacts a parent. In the case of illness, no student may leave the building or call, text or email a parent on her own. This is to be done from the school office. If a student does so, disciplinary consequences will result.

Unexcused Absences

Unexcused Absences include any time a student is absent from school when it is not considered excused as defined above. Illness, even with a doctor's statement, is NOT an excused absence. Sick days are simply added to the "missed days" total.

If a student must be absent from school, a parent/guardian should call the school office by 7:45 am. If a student is missing from 1st period and a phone call explaining the absence has not been received, a call will be placed to the student's parent or guardian verifying her absence. The student should bring a note upon her return stating the date of the absence and the reason for missing school. Other documentation, such as a doctor's note, is also very helpful but does not excuse the absence. These notes are kept in the student's file.

2018 NDA RAFFLE ◀

It's Raffle time at NDA!



Due to the cancelation of school today, our 2018 Cash Raffle drawing has been rescheduled for Friday, February 9 at 2:15 p.m.

Sr. Paul Ann, Sr. Rachel and Jan Gilliam will be collecting raffle tickets both tomorrow morning and Friday morning.

The winner of \$10,000 will be announced Friday afternoon in school as well as the student winners. We hope to see a great turn out Thursday and Friday!





INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY UPDATE ◀

SWAT GETS APPLE TEACHER CERTIFIED

Mrs. Mullee's Media & Technology and SWAT students have been spending the month of January becoming Apple Teacher Certified. This certification is specifically tai-

lored to iPad use. There are eight badges to earn: iPad Starter Guide, Pages for iPad, Numbers for iPad, Keynote for iPad, iMovie for iPad, Garageband for iPad, Productivity for iPad, and Creativity for iPad. All of the content and instruction is free of charge.

This certification will enable students to assist teachers with iPad support. Their next certification quests are Google Educator Levels 1 and 2.



Macy Seiter and Riley Crawford collaborate on their Apple Teacher Certification Modules.



NDA 2018 MOTHER DAUGHTER DANCE ◀

Mothers and daughters - "Keep Calm and Put Your Jammies On" for this year's Sweet Dreams P.J. Party on Friday, February 16 from 6:30-10:30 p.m. at Receptions in Erlanger. Tickets are \$25/person and can be purchased online [HERE](#) before February 9.

SENIOR PARENTS ◀

Just a reminder that Parent letters for the Senior mission Retreat are due on February 15 to the school office. Information about these letters was emailed out the week of January 15. If you did not receive this information, please contact Mrs. Bridget Price at priceb@ndapandas.org.



2019 INTERNATIONAL TRIP- ITALY! ◀

Do you love to travel? Do you want to experience new cultures? We are excited to announce that our student international trip for the summer of 2019 will be to Italy! Come with us to visit Florence, Venice, Rome, Capri, and more! There will be an informational meeting for parents and students on Tuesday, February 13th at 6:30 p.m. in Alumnae Hall. We will discuss itinerary, pricing, how to sign up, and more. You can RSVP for the meeting at www.ndaitaly.eventbrite.com. If you are interested in the trip but are not able to attend the meeting please email Mrs. Wagner at wagnerk@ndapandas.org. We hope to see you there!

WELCOME! ◀

Welcome to the Panda family baby Alexander Marcus! Alex (son of English teacher Gurrie Frisbie) decided to make his debut February 1 at 12:21 p.m. and was 7 pounds and 19.5 inches long. Mrs. Frisbie reports, "We're both doing great, although he's definitely sleeping better than I am." Congratulations Frisbie family!





6TH & 7TH GRADE SCAVENGER HUNT ◀

Do you know a 6th & 7th grade girl? If so, invite her to join in all of the “Pandamonium” at the Notre Dame Academy 6th & 7th Grade Girls Scavenger Hunt on Friday, February 16, from 3:30-5:00 p.m. It will be an afternoon of fun, friends and food. The event is FREE, however, students can start Making a Difference in the lives of others with a donation of 2 canned goods that will be delivered to a local food shelter. For more information go to www.ndapandas.org or contact NDA's Director of Admissions, Katie Caccavari, at 859.292.1829.

DIG IT? ◀

The NDA/CCH Jazz Band were quite a hit at the Showcase this past weekend. If you missed the opportunity to hear them play, you can get a taste of it [HERE](#) or at the Cov Cath Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday February 24 from 3:50 - 6:30 p.m.



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS ◀

SOCCER

Congrats to signing NDA soccer seniors Allison Robertson, Maddie Wilhoite, Kylie Long, and Libby Durrough!

SAVE THE DATE ◀

Mark your calendars for this year's NDA Gala! Last year's Gala was a sellout crowd and a full evening of entertainment! Save the date for Saturday, October 13, 2018 for this wonderful event which will once again be held at Summit Hills Country Club. Invitations will be mailed in early September. We hope to see you there!



WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE 2018 ◀

You are cordially invited to attend Notre Dame Academy's Seventeenth Annual Women Making A Difference Award Luncheon on Thursday, March 8, 2018, at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center beginning at 11:00 a.m. with Registration & Networking followed at 12:00 p.m. with Luncheon & Awards Ceremony. Please contact NDA's Advancement office at 859.292.7729 to RSVP.



COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



Upcoming College Planning Nights

Sophomore College Planning Night

Thursday, February 15

6:30 pm - 7:45 pm

NDA Theatre

Freshmen College Planning Night

Tuesday, February 20

6:30 pm - 7:45 pm

NDA Theatre

Topics to be covered for both presentations: scheduling courses for next year, standardized test and college applications, using PSAT results and exploring ACT/SAT, utilizing Naviance for career and college planning, tips for improving mental and emotional health in teens. If you can't make it for the date indicated above, we will send a copy of the presentation to all parents and students via email.

Attention Juniors and Seniors!

Cinderella's Closet is again helping junior and senior girls have a memorable prom experience by providing dresses and accessories at no cost to those who have a financial need! If this is something your junior or senior daughter could benefit from please contact personal counselor Erin Maggard at maggarde@ndapandas.org. Cinderella's closet will be open the weekend of March 16 & 17. Appointments can only be made by Mrs. Maggard, so please contact her to make one!

Gateway Open House

Gateway Community and Technical College is hosting an Open House event on **Thursday, February 8 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at The Center for Technology, Innovation, and Enterprise at 516 Madison Avenue, Covington, KY.** The event is designed for high school seniors (juniors welcome!) and their parents or guardians. This event is to introduce students to the programs Gateway has to offer. Gateway wants to ensure students know their programs (everything from two to three class certifications in Computer Information Technology, to degrees in massage therapy, up to Associate in Science transfer degrees with Pre-Med science offerings). For more info and to RSVP: gateway.kctcs.edu/openhouse



2017-18 College Rep Visits at NDA

Throughout the school year many college representatives visit NDA to speak with students during lunch periods. Below is a list of upcoming visits.

FEBRUARY

8 U.S. MARINES

12 SCAD

CAN YOU LEND A HELPING HAND? ◀

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](#).

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS ◀

Parents, did you know that NDA's daily announcements are posted each day on our website? You can find them [HERE](#).

ART STUDENTS EARN OPPORTUNITIES TO EXHIBIT ARTWORK ◀

It's been an amazing year for our Visual Arts students. Besides participating in many service opportunities, students have also had many opportunities to submit work to exhibit in various shows.

Congratulations to Camryn Mason and Lindsey Foust who were selected to exhibit at the College of Mount St. Joe's High School art Exhibition 'Selections'.



- Camryn Mason



- Lindsey Foust

Congratulations to Lindsey Foust, Riley Best and Erika Nageleisen, and Rachel Darpel for having their artwork selected to show in the Thomas More College Annual Juried High School Exhibition. Special congratulations to Rachel Darpel who was the first student ever to have an original film selected to show in this exhibition's history.



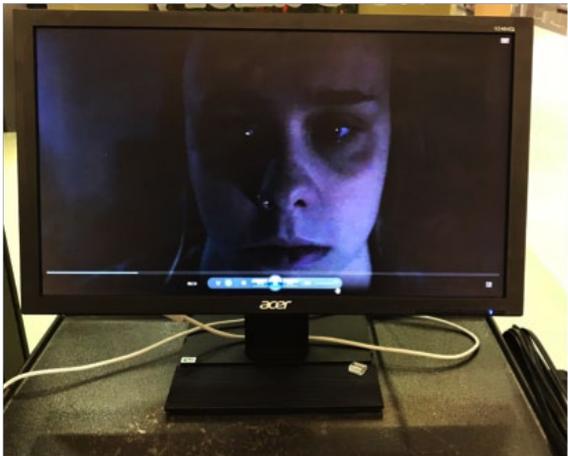
- Lindsey Foust



- Riley Best



- Erika Nageleisen



- Rachel Darpel

Congratulations also to Hana Kennedy, Grace Caccavari, Grace Eckerle, Katherine Donaghy, and Oliva Ossege for having their work selected to show in this year's Scholastics Art and Writing Competition's Art Exhibition. Olivia Ossege and Grace Caccavari both earned an Honorable Mention, Hana Kennedy earned a Gold Key, Grace Eckerle earned an Honorable Mention and a Gold Key and Katherine Donaghy earned an Honorable Mention and a Gold Key. This work as well as many works from students from around the Tri-State area are currently on display at the Art Academy of Cincinnati.



- Grace Eckerle

NDA Art Senior work will be on display at Reality Tuesday's Café throughout the entire month of February. Thanks to Reality Tuesday's for this opportunity so please stop in, grab something to eat and drink and check out a selection of work from our own Senior Art students.



► Important dates

February 8	Fr. Hennigen will come to classes to bless throats (St. Blaise) Sophomore Ring Ordering 10:50 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Basketball Senior Night
February 9	\$10,000 Raffle Drawing
February 14	Ash Wednesday Mass 1:30 p.m.
February 15	Sophomore College Planning Meeting 6:30 p.m.
February 16	NO SCHOOL - Thanks to Bishop Foys Mid quarter 6th & 7th Grade Scavenger Hunt 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. Mother/Daughter Dance 7:00 p.m. - Receptions
February 19	No School: Presidents' Day
February 20	Freshman College Planning Meeting 6:30 p.m.
February 26	Body Peace Week begins
February 27	Super Tuesday! (FR/SO CERT, JR ACT, SR Mission Retreat)
March 3	8th Grade Conferences
March 8	Women Making a Difference Service Day/Luncheon
March 10	Silver Bells Dance at NDA
March 13	Blood Drive Winter Sports Awards
March 16	Third Quarter Ends

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- SND Charis Retreat
- World Meeting of Families
- Positions Available for Students
- Part-time job opportunity

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

