



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings parents!

I hope all of you had an opportunity to get outside a bit and enjoy this beautiful day!

Yesterday our seniors participated in their senior mission retreat. The theme of the retreat was focused on the special charism and ministries of the Sisters of Notre Dame. Several of the sisters joined us for presentations, witness talks and a special blessing that occurred at the closing of the retreat. The retreat was planned by Sr. Rita Geoppinger, SND and Mrs. Price. The day included reflections on the 4 educational principles of the Sisters of Notre Dame from a few of our alumnae including Andrea Schmidt, Michele Johnson and Dr. Laura Koehl. It was a very special day and our seniors left knowing that the sisters' charism will be with them always as NDA alumnae.

Congratulations to our March Student of the month - junior Emily Rice. Emily is definitely living her own story of God's goodness! Please see more news about Emily below.

Congratulations also to our English Department and our very talented group of student writers. Two of our students qualified as national winners in the Scholastic Writing competition and three of our students were recently recognized in the Mt. Saint Joseph Creative Writing Contest.

Our NDA Future Business Leaders of America were very successful in the Region 4 FBLA Conference. Eight NDA students who placed in the top three of their respective events and will be moving on to the FBLA State Conference in Louisville in April. Congratulations to these students and their moderator, Ms. Hillary Johnson.

Your daughter(s) may have mentioned that they had the opportunity to view a special video about NDA this week. The video is being shown at our *Excellence Without Boundaries: Empowering 21st Century Women* Information Sessions. If you have not already had the opportunity to see this beautiful look at NDA today, you will have the chance to view the video at one of our Parent Information Sessions in April. You should receive a letter regarding these session in the mail today followed by an email in the next couple of days letting you know how you can sign up for one of the sessions. I highly encourage you to take time out of your busy schedule to attend. We are very excited to show you our plans for transforming our school into a 21st Century learning space!

Our Panda Preview Night will be held next Tuesday, March 22 at 6:30 p.m. If you know of anyone interested in NDA and the opportunity to join our school community, please share this information with them. More details about this informational evening can be found in the section below.

As always, I thank you for supporting the mission of Notre Dame Academy.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

Uganda Pandas 5K: Go for Gula!

On Sunday, April 3, the Uganda Pandas are hosting a 5K Walk/Run on NDA's property starting at 8:30 a.m. Proceeds from the race benefit an organization called Unified for Uganda, which financially and emotionally supports the educational journey of destitute children in Gulu (Northern) Uganda. [CLICK HERE](#) if you are interested in participating in the Walk/Run.

Prom and After Prom

Prom is scheduled for Friday, April 22 and will take place at the Hilton Netherland Hotel in downtown Cincinnati. All Juniors and Seniors are expected to attend an informational meeting next Wednesday morning starting at 8:30 a.m. Prom tickets will go on sale beginning Monday, April 4 and end Friday, April 15.



STUDENT OF THE MONTH - MARCH ◀

Congratulations to this month's Student of the Month - Emily Rice. Emily is described as a kind and hardworking student. Emily is also being recognized for her dedication to her younger brother and the entire autism community. You can read more about Emily and how she began the Autism Awareness Club at NDA [HERE](#).

SCHOLARSHIP TAX CREDITS - ACT NOW! ◀

The Kentucky House of Representatives and Senate are considering House Bill 336 and Senate Bill 44. This legislation would create a Scholarship Tax Credit Program in Kentucky which would help ensure that all students have the opportunity to obtain the education they deserve at a school that best suits their needs. As reflected below, this legislation enjoys broad bipartisan support and momentum is on our side.

PLEASE CALL the Legislative Message Line at 1-800-372-7181 (1-866-840-6574 for Spanish) and urge your State Representative to co-sponsor House Bill 336 and Senator to co-sponsor Senate Bill 44 (the operator on the line will assist you in getting the message to the correct Representative and Senator).

House Bill 336 is sponsored by Rep. Tommy Thompson (D-14), Rep. Larry Clark (D-46), Rep. Fitz Steele (D-84), Rep. Dennis Keene (D-67), Rep. Russ Meyer (D-39), Rep. Terry Mills (D-24), Rep. Brad Montell (R-58), Rep. Sal Santoro (R-60), Rep. James Tipton (R-53), and Rep. Addia Wuchner (R-66). Senate Bill 44 is sponsored by Sen. Ralph Alvarado (R-28), Sen. John Schickel (R-11), Sen. Max Wise (R-16), Sen. Julie Raque Adams (R-36), and Sen. Joe Bowen (R-8). If you live in their districts, be sure to thank them for their support.

Also, please consider joining us for an event where you can learn more about the issue. The event will take place at Bishop Howard Memorial Hall, 1125 Madison Avenue, Covington, Kentucky on March 21 at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Kaylee@runswitchpr.com. You can also sign up for the event by visiting EdChoice KY's Facebook page.



INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY UPDATE ◀

KySTE

Last Thursday Raymond Schlosser presented a breakout session at the annual Kentucky Society for Technology in Education (KySTE) conference in Louisville. The conference saw record attendance this year and is the premier conference on the use of technology in education in the state. The session was well received by the teachers who attended. The title of the presentation was *This Is Your Brain On The Internet* and

explored what happens to the nerve connections in our brains in response to working online. In particular his presentation looked what neuroscientists tell us happens to our attention spans and ability to multitask as we (teachers and students alike) use the internet. The presentation concluded with how this carries over into the growing problem of accidents resulting from distracted driving that is a topic we cover in our Technology and Communication course for our freshmen.

NEWS FROM THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ◀

Congratulations to Ming Waih Wong Burgess, Maribeth Stafford, and Taylor Eiting (pictured at right). These sophomores competed in the regional Mt. Saint Joseph Creative Writing Contest. Taylor won first place in Poetry and will receive a cash award of \$100. Maribeth won Honorable Mention in Poetry and will receive a cash award of \$50. Ming Waih won Honorable Mention in the Essay category and will receive a \$50 cash award. These students have represented their class well and are to be commended on their award winning writing ability.



National Silver Medalists

Two NDA students are National Silver Medalists in the Scholastic Writing Competition. They are junior Kendall Crawford, Ms. Sampson's student and sophomore Katherine Horsford, Mrs. Bricking's student. Kendall won for her poem, "The Demise of Eve," and Katherine for her humor piece, "Holden Caulfield Analyzes Facebook." Congratulations to these two talented writers who are invited to NYC to receive their awards.

NDA'S FBLA TEAM GROWING AND IMPROVING ◀

Last week, the Notre Dame FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) team competed at the Region 4 FBLA Conference. With only 20 competitors (compared to over 100 at Ryle and Campbell County High School – just to name a few of our competitors), we did extremely well! This is also only our 3rd year in existence, so we're growing and improving each year.

A huge congratulations is in order for the following students who placed in the top three of their respective events and will be moving on to the FBLA State Conference in Louisville in April:

- Tess Witt and Rachel Franzen (Seniors) – 1st place in Social Media Campaign
- Annie Lee (Junior) – 1st place in Business Calculations
- Erika Nageleisen (Sophomore) – 2nd place Introduction to Business Procedures
- Abbie Macke (Senior) – 2nd place in Personal Finance
- Megan Heeb (Freshman) – 2nd place in Public Speaking I
- Lauren Lawler and Claire Benson (Juniors) – 3rd place in Entrepreneurship

And we would also like to express a congratulations to our members, Amber Powell, Emma Nurre, Hannah Hammond, Audrey Field, Hannah Knaley, Caroline Fedders, Jenna Meiners, Caroline Iglesias, Kirsten Richards, Claire Dunlevy, Taylor Watts, Dymond Robinson, Kiersten Nienaber and Kennedy Baugh on a job well done in their events as well.



ARCHERY NEWS ◀

The Pandas and Colonels formed an all star team for the Beechwood tournament and the results were impressive. We scored a 3222 tying Beechwood for first place, but we took 2nd because of the number of bullseyes scored. Erin Kirchner was the top shot on the NDA team, coming in 4th place, Lily Gamel was right behind her: coming in 5th with her personal record score of 274. Jordan Kruezkamp shot her top score of 270. Jenna Wigger set a new personal best of 268, and Kayla Torres, Manon Stovik, and Hannah Rovito rounded out the point leaders. Libby Roebker and Emily Farrell shot their best scores. Excellent shooting, Pandas!

TOOTHY DISCUSSION ◀

Today in Mr. Stamm and Mrs. Ziegler's Anatomy classes, Dr. Jack Lenihan, a General Dentistry practitioner and father of Eliza Lenihan, spoke about career opportunities and answered many questions about dentistry.



NDA HISTORY STUDENTS ATTEND TEA PARTY AT THE WHITE HOUSE ◀

While finishing up their studies on the Progressive Era, Nancy Stratman's US History Honors classes went to a "tea Party" hosted by President Theodore Roosevelt (Mrs. Stratman) at the White House (Alumnae Hall)!

Each student was given a progressive reformer, entrepreneur or political personality from the progressive era. They were invited to the tea party to ask the president's support for their particular cause. As they role played through the gathering, the students were asked to defend their causes and explain why the president should support them. Each personality from the era was also asked to present the president with a small gift or token to be remembered by.

As you can see below, there were some very interesting historical characters at the tea parties!



FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ◀

WINTER SPORTS PROGRAM

NDA's Winter Sports Program will be held March 21, at 7:00 p.m. in the theater.

CONGRATULATIONS KIM GUNNING!

This past Saturday at the KHSAA Girls' State Basketball Tournament, former NDA Athletic Director Kim Gunning received the Kentucky High School Coaches Association Brigid DeVries Outstanding Leadership Award. Congratulations Ms. Gunning!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY ◀

The Sisters of Notre Dame need some reliable and hardworking volunteers at for their 4th of July Festival. You can find a volunteer form on our website [HERE](#).



PPC NEWS ◀

After Prom Fundraiser

Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for a fundraiser to support NDA's After Prom. Come in to the Skyline at 1730 Dixie Highway in Ft. Wright TONIGHT, March 16 between 3:00 and 9:00 p.m. Bring in the flyer [HERE](#), show it on your smartphone or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 20% of the proceeds will be donated to Notre Dame Academy.

PPC Meetings

Please note, the Panda Parent Club will not meet in April. The last PPC meeting of the school year will be held on May 10, 2016. We hope to see you there!

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



Help the Teen Leadership Club Make A Difference!

The Teen Leadership Club would like to remind everyone that this week, March 14-18, they will be collecting items to support the Notre Dame Urban Education Center. The Urban Education Center's after school program assists 53 students daily and they come hungry! The center likes to provide a snack and drink for the children when they arrive after school and they need help providing this for the children. TLC will be collecting individually packaged snacks and drinks such as peanut butter crackers, cookies, capri sun, etc. to donate to the center. Donations can be brought to school and placed in designated spots in the front lobby. If you donate, please make sure the portions are individually packaged. Thank you in advance for your generosity ~TLC

Winter Dance Update!

A very good time was had by all who attended the Winter Dance on March 12! Dancing was started by The NDA Panda and The CCH Colonel, and soon everyone else joined in, including a randomly selected Princess and Prince! Notre Dame's portion of the dance's proceeds will go toward member rewards for Drug Free Club!



Job Opportunities for Students

NDA receives many notices regarding Job Opportunities for students. You can find Job Opportunities posted on the Bulletin Board across from Dr. Koehl's office. Below is an example of one job notice that came in this week!

Ohio River Foundation offers High School students a unique summer job working to restore and protect our natural habitat. Ohio River Foundation seeks to protect water quality and restore rivers, creeks, and streams. They are looking for students to work on their Youth Conservation Teams. For more information and to apply: www.ohioriverfdn.org. Applications deadline: March 25.

Drug Free Clubs of America: \$4,000 Essay Scholarship Contest 2016!

Two \$2,000 prizes will be awarded for excellence in performance in this essay contest:

- Why do you think it is, or is not, important for you to be a good influence on others such as your friends, family, and classmates?
- How does your membership in Drug Free Clubs of America affect your ability to do this?
- Must be postmarked or emailed by midnight of March 24, 2016.
- See letter from Drug Free Clubs of America or Mrs. Hildreth for more details.

You can find the entrance form for the contest [HERE](#).

Seas the Day

Last Friday, March 11, Body Peace Week ended with a presentation from the organization Seas the Day. They shared some great information with our students about mental health awareness, specifically depression and suicide. They provided warning signs to look for as well as what to do if a student is concerned for herself or a loved one. They had a great message to share and we hope the girls learned how they can help if they are worried about someone.

DO YOU KNOW A FUTURE PANDA? ◀

NDA Panda Preview Night for 6th, 7th and 8th Graders will be held on Tuesday, March 22 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. This is a great chance for future Pandas to learn about the NDA life and how to get ready for high school all in one evening. Questions? Call Katie Caccavari, NDA Admissions, 859-292-1829.



Panda Preview Night

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

The program begins at 6:30 p.m. and offers two hours of sessions where you can learn about admission and financial aid, student support services and the NDA academic experience.

ndapandas.org | 859.292.1829



NDA SUMMER CLASSES ◀

NDA has all sorts of Summer Enrichment Opportunities. Below is information on our Art Classes but you can find further information and registration forms online at <http://www.ndapandas.org/admissions/summer-enrichment-programs.aspx>



IMPORTANT FINANCIAL INFORMATION

FACTS Payment Plan Re-enrollment and Financial Aid Applications:

Re-enrollment in the FACTS Payment Plan is easy. You are automatically re-enrolled to the same plan you have for this school year UNLESS you want to change it. If you want to change your payment plan. An example of this would be if you paid monthly this year and want to do lump sum next year, just contact Laura Hehman in the finance office hehmanl@ndapandas.org or 859-292-1844.

Also the financial aid applications are now open and will remain open until April 15. This is separate from your payment plan. If you are in need of financial assistance OR are looking to do work study the application with FACTS must be completed before anything else. Financial assistance requests increase each year we cannot stress enough the importance of getting your application in early. Late applications run the risk of financial aid funding being exhausted.

IMPORTANT DATES:

March 19	8th Grade Conferences
March 21	Winter Sports Awards Banquet
March 23	Holy Week Prayer Service
March 24 - 30	Spring Break (No School)
March 31	Classes Resume
April 3	Uganda Pandas 5K
April 14	Alumnae Dinner Theatre
April 15-17	Spring Musical
April 16	Incoming Freshman Math and Language Placement Tests
April 20	Sophomore Ring Ceremony
April 22	No School - Prom
April 24	Orange and White Flag Football Game

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- Work Study Positions Available with the Sisters of Notre Dame
- Part-time Job Opportunities for Students and Moms
- Mass for the Loss of a Child

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

