



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Dear Parents,

Happy St. Patrick's Day! It is hard to believe that one year ago today, after the initial shutdown due to COVID-19, our students and teachers had their first day of Remote Learning @ NDA. As we look at the date and memories pop up on our devices, we can't help but think of what was happening in our lives just a year ago. It's important to look back and think about how far we've come and remind ourselves of our future goals and our mission in life. I think it's also beneficial for us to focus on gratitude and recognize what is valuable and meaningful to us. As I reflect upon the past year and all that our NDA community experienced in the face of the coronavirus global pandemic, I can't help but feel abundantly blessed. I appreciate all that our students and faculty members have sacrificed this past year to remain engaged in meaningful learning. I am also grateful for the perspective and resilience that they have shown. We have published a bit of a historical retrospective of our COVID-19 experience this past year on our website. If you are interested in reading it, you can find it [HERE](#).

Last week we celebrated 100 days of in-person learning this school year. It was certainly something to commemorate during this challenging year. As we move toward the end of the school year, I wanted to touch base with you on a few things regarding our COVID-19 protocols and procedures.

We have seen a significant drop in our COVID-19 positive cases on our campus. If you have been reading the Panda Press Weekly, you know that we have only had 7 reported cases of a member of our community testing positive for COVID-19 within the last month compared to 30 the month prior. Although we are seeing a notable decrease in the number of positive cases of COVID-19 at NDA, we will continue to stay the course continuing to follow the COVID-19 mitigation protocols we have in place and those required by the Diocese. These protocols are listed on the following page.

Although members of our community may have COVID-19 antibodies or have already gotten the COVID-19 vaccine, these situations DO NOT eliminate the need to follow the protocols and procedures in place. We have made it through 70% of the school year following these mitigation strategies and they have worked well for us. Last week's 100 Days of In-Person Learning celebration is proof of that.

I would also like to point out a few things regarding travel as spring break is quickly approaching:

- All travel must be reported to our school nurse, Tina Sizemore, RN.
- International travel will require a 14 day quarantine upon your return
- Domestic travel that meets any of the following criteria will require a mandatory 10 day quarantine upon your return:
  - Travel via public transportation such as plane or bus
  - Travel to a to a state with a positivity rate of 15% or higher

If you are traveling over spring break, please continue to follow COVID-19 mitigation strategies and monitor the state positivity rate of your destination. Even if you travel to a state with a positivity rate lower than 15%, if it rises above 15% while you are there, you will need to quarantine for 10 days upon your return.

Thank you for allowing us to partner with you in your daughter's Catholic education!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



## NDA COVID-19 INFORMATION

[Learn More >>](#)

## NDA COVID-19 INFORMATION ◀

REMEMBER, the [NDA COVID-19 Information page](#) on the website has many important resources for parents and students.

## FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE ◀

**Please keep NDA updated on any COVID-19 related issues** involving your family. In the event that someone in your household is being tested for COVID-19 or your daughter is exposed to or tests positive for COVID-19, please contact our school nurse, Tina Sizemore, RN, at 859.292.1843 or [sizemoret@ndapandas.org](mailto:sizemoret@ndapandas.org) or Mrs. McLeod in the front office 859.292.1821 or [mcleods@ndapandas.org](mailto:mcleods@ndapandas.org).

It is important that your daughter continues to follow COVID-19 mitigation strategies. **PLEASE DISCOURAGE YOUR DAUGHTER FROM GATHERING IN PERSON WITH FRIENDS DURING THIS TIME.**

## COVID-19 Mitigation Protocols

- Daily symptom screenings with the NDA Symptom Checker
- Wearing masks
- Hand Sanitizing
- Social Distancing
- Following directional signs
- Cleaning and sanitizing our campus
- Using safety barriers where necessary
- Contact tracing
- Following NDA's COVID-19 Response Chart
- Remote Learning for students testing positive or exposed to COVID-19
- Following travel guidelines

*Together we can Make a Difference!*

**As of today, Wednesday, March 17, we have had 0 reported cases of a member of our community testing positive for COVID-19 within the last week.** Although we do not have any members of our community who have tested positive for COVID-19, we do have students who have reported that they have been exposed to COVID-19. As per our requirements, those students are following the quarantine guidelines in our [COVID-19 Response Chart](#).

We have consulted with the Diocese of Covington about these recent exposure cases and we thank the families involved for reporting this information and helping to keep our school community safe.

**As we move forward, please keep NDA updated on any COVID-19 related issues involving your family.** In the event that someone in your household is being tested for COVID-19 or your daughter is exposed to or tests positive for COVID-19, please contact our school nurse, Tina Sizemore, RN., at 859.292.1843 or [sizemoret@ndapandas.org](mailto:sizemoret@ndapandas.org).

# STUDENT LIFE

## EASTER BREAK TRAVEL INQUIRY ◀

In our efforts to prepare safely to in-person learning after the Easter break, we are asking all Pandas to report any and all travel over the Easter break. If students did not fill out the form and plan to travel, they should email Mrs. Grayson or Mrs. Sizemore directly about their travel plans.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR ◀

August 17

First Day of School

September 6

No School: Labor Day

October 8

No School: Professional Development Day

November 1

No School: All Saints' Day

November 24-26

No School: Prof. Dev. and Thanksgiving Break

December 8

No School: Immaculate Conception

December 15-17

Exams

December 20 - January 2

No School: Christmas Break

January 17

No School: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February 21

No School: Presidents' Day

April 14-22

No School: Easter Break

May 26

Cleaning Day/End of 4th Quarter

May 27

No School: Graduation

## PROM 2021 ◀

After much consideration and collaboration with the Diocese and other Diocesan high school leadership, it has been decided that proms will be permitted this year at Diocesan high schools with certain restrictions in place to keep students safe:

- Proms will be open only to seniors
- Students will not be allowed to bring guests
- Dancing will not be permitted

Yesterday afternoon during Panda Prime Time we met with the senior class to discuss how they would like to celebrate their prom this year. As you know, Notre Dame Academy's Prom has been rescheduled to Friday, April 30 at Music Hall. During our meeting we offered several different options and opened the discussion to hear additional ideas from the seniors and answer their questions. We followed up yesterday's meeting with a survey to seniors in order to give them an opportunity to decide how we will move forward with planning this special event for their class.

We know this has been a very challenging year for our seniors and appreciate the maturity and perspective with which our seniors are handling the planning of this event and this school year in general. We received several great ideas and will take their thoughts and ideas into account in order to provide them with a fun and memorable prom.



**PLEASE NOTE**

## **BE ON THE LOOKOUT! ◀**

Report cards for the third quarter are scheduled to be sent digitally on Wednesday, 3/17. No printed report card is sent home for the third quarter as students are not earning credit for courses this quarter. The report will be in a PDF format. You will need some application able to read PDF files to open it.

Look for another PDF document next Monday, 3/22. We are planning to send a list of the classes your daughter has entered as course requests for next year in PowerSchool. This is part of the continuing scheduling process and the counselors ask you to review this list. You also will be asked to confirm that you have seen the list as one of the questions on the Final Forms documents soon to open up for next year.

## **LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES ◀**

During the Lenten Season we encourage students to find ways that they can draw closer to God through Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Below are some opportunities that will be offered:

**Prayer** - A decade of the Rosary is prayed every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 7:40 a.m. in the chapel. Mass is held every Friday morning at 7:20 a.m. in the chapel. Reconciliation will be offered through Religion Classes on Wednesdays throughout Lent. Students are encouraged to wear Purple accessories/shirts with their uniforms on Wednesdays as a way to remind us of this prayerful season.

**Fast** - Students are encouraged to “give up” something during the Lenten Season - suggestions were shared in the student bulletin. Throughout Lent we will encourage students to fast from certain things for a day - for example - fast from gossip on Thursday, February 25. etc.

**Almsgiving** - Students are encouraged to find ways to give of their time and treasure in a way that benefits others. Whether that is through a service project or donating to one of our collections. We had a collection for GoPantry in February and we are taking part in the Rice Bowl Project this year as well. Rice Bowls were handed out in Religion classes last week and will be collected during Holy Week.

Additional opportunities may be added throughout Lent - students should listen for announcements and look for changes in the student bulletin.

## **NDA SUMMER ART STUDIO ◀**

Mr. Eckerle will once again be offering Junior High and High School Summer Art Studio classes this summer. You can find more information and the registration form for these fun summer programs [HERE](#). **Please note: registration forms are due by May 28.**

# Campus Ministry





## ORDER LUNCH FOR NEXT WEEK! ◀

Click [HERE](#) for the lunch order form for next week.

This form serves as a head count for our cafeteria staff. **Please indicate which days you would like to purchase lunch next week.** Payment will be due upon pick up in the cafeteria and using your ID card barcode and will be charged to your NDA lunch account through [PayPams](#).

**Orders for next week are due by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 5.**



## CONGRATULATIONS TO NDA'S ACADEMIC TEAM ◀

Congratulations to Notre Dame Academy's Academic Team and their coach, Mr. Michael Cerimele, this year on a successful season!

Sam Mazzaro, Lauren Heupel, Grace Heberling, Nicolette Cottingham, Kaitlyn Eberhart, Natalie Lovell, Lydia Dusing, Lizzie Lange, and Liz Duffy have competed very hard all season in each virtual Quick Recall match and advanced to Governor's Cup on the District and Regional Levels where they participated in Quick Recall and Written Assessments.

The team finished as Runners-Up in the District Level's Quick Recall competition with several students placing in the top-5 in the Written Assessments. A special congratulations also goes to Sam Mazzaro, who has shown strong leadership as the Quick Recall Team Captain and finished first in the Science Written Assessment in the District. The students have been great models of enthusiasm and dedication throughout the year.



### IMPORTANT FINANCIAL INFORMATION

**Work Study Job Application Deadline: April 16, 2021**

**Financial Aid Applications & Academic and Tuition Assistance Scholarships**

The application for work study jobs is available on the website [HERE](#) and is due by **APRIL 16, 2021**.

Financial aid applications are also now open and will remain open until **APRIL 16, 2021**.

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. You can access the Financial Assistance page of the website [HERE](#).

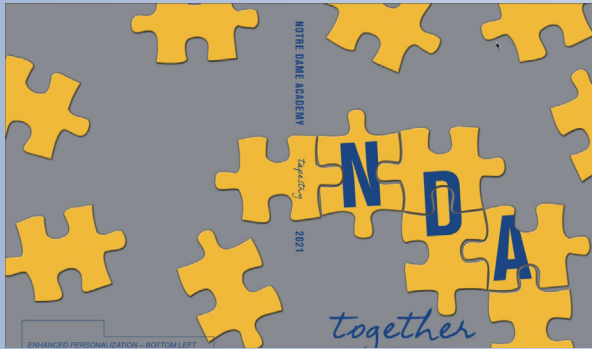
**If a family receives financial assistance, a family member is expected to have a work study job.**

We are currently accepting applications for Academic Scholarships. Applications can be found on the website [HERE](#) and are due in the front office no later than April 16, 2021.



## NDA STUDENT WINS LIFE ESSAY CONTEST ◀

Congratulations to Gabby Browning. Gabby is the Diocesan winner for the 11th grade Life Essay Contest. She will be honored at a banquet in Louisville this Thursday where she will receive a \$500 scholarship.



## YEARBOOKS: RECOGNITION ADS ARE BACK! ◀

Don't forget to buy your yearbook! Yearbooks on sale through May 28 [HERE](#).

Senior parents: You're understandably proud of your daughter? Why not say it with a yearbook recognition ad? They're available in a variety of sizes starting at just \$45. You get to choose the photos and words you want, and making them is quick, easy and fun! Getting started is as simple as following this link:

[https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/ybAdDesigner/1069982/-/20210223041611680102/CATALOG\\_SHOP/](https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/ybAdDesigner/1069982/-/20210223041611680102/CATALOG_SHOP/)



## PANDAS LOVE PI(E)! ◀

NDA's Math Club and Mu Alpha Theta celebrated Pi Day this week!

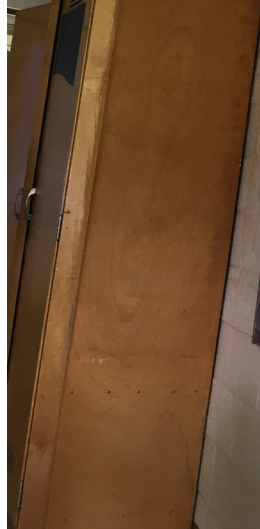


# SPANISH CLUB



## GREAT "CHARLA" ◀

This past week the Spanish Club met virtually with NDA alumna Heather Duncan, class of 2011, who has been living in Spain for the last five years. Heather shared some of her experiences and offered our students advice for studying and traveling abroad. Our students and Heather had a great "charla" (chat)! Our Spanish Club members left feeling excited and motivated to travel and experience the Spanish speaking world!



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY  
Bambootique

## BAMBOOTIQUE NEWS ◀

Don't miss all of the awesome spirit wear at NDA's Bambootique! Shop now at NDA's [online Bambootique](#).

# ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

## KHSAA COVID-19 RETURN TO PLAY FORM ◀

All students who test positive for COVID-19 must be cleared for progression back to activity by an approved health care provider (MD/DO) and **MUST** complete the [KHSAA COVID-19 Return to Play Form](#) before returning to participation in a physical education class or sports at NDA.

## BASKETBALL NEWS ◀

JV Basketball finished their season UNDEFEATED, and as the REGIONAL CHAMPION. They had an impressive record of 17-0 on the year. A true collective effort and achievement through this COVID season. Congratulations!

## ARCHERY UPDATE ◀

Congratulations to the Archery Pandas for their success at the 2021 Kentucky State Archery Tournament held in Louisville this past Friday. The team scored 3128 and finished in the top 50% of our division. Of the 21 Pandas who competed eleven scored over 250 and twenty scored over 200. The team was led by Elie Puglisi at 277, Nicole Andrew at 272, Madison Merk at 269, Keira Schneider at 266 and Megan Raab at 265. In addition several archers shot season high scores. Go Pandas!





## SEIZE THE DAY SHOWCASE: NOW AVAILABLE TO VIEW ONLINE! ◀

Please watch NDA & CCH's Showcase Seize the Day: <https://vimeo.com/523178500>

Suggested donation is \$15 per person. Please donate (any amount) here: <https://www.cognitofirms.com/NotreDameAcademy1/SeizeTheDayDonation>

To view the program for this show follow this link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1lflgXE5vXY1Twjd0BaWn3qwnwhLJPGJN/view>

In spite of the current global situation, we decided to Seize the Day for this winter's Showcase. We continue to strive to make the best of our circumstances at home, at school, and for our filmed show. We persevered through virtual auditions and rehearsals, dual in-person and virtual rehearsals, wearing masks while dancing and singing, increasing sanitary precautions and procedures, and switching to filming for our performance. Additionally, the entire show was directed, choreographed, and designed by the students. Please join me in applauding the entire team of cast, crew, designers, and directors!

In Seize the Day, follow the story of a grandma in the year 2080 sharing her favorite "oldies" with her granddaughter Talia. During Talia's weekend visit with Grandma, watch their relationship grow and see some of your favorite songs and scenes become meaningful lessons to pass on to the new generation. From The Greatest Showman to Queen's "We Are The Champions," The Mighty Ducks, and Newsies, watch characters overcome struggles, make the best of their scenarios, celebrate who they really are, and Seize the Day!

Feel free to share with your family and friends!





## Panda Preview Night March 23 | 6:30-8 pm

### Attention 6th and 7th graders!

This is your chance to get a head start on the 8th grade! Learn about NDA life and how to get ready for high school.

### Attention 8th graders!

Come and take another look at all that Notre Dame Academy has to offer!

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, reservations are required by 4:00 p.m. March 22  
[caccavarik@ndapandas.org](mailto:caccavarik@ndapandas.org)



## WE ARE ALMOST THERE... ◀

Thank you very much to those of you who have already subscribed to our YouTube channel to help us reach 1000 subscribers! In order to live stream with a mobile device on YouTube, our channel needs to have at least 1000 subscribers. Currently we have 779. We are so close! Once we have 1000 subscribers, we will be able to share Masses, athletics events and more with our NDA community. If you haven't already subscribed, please do so at the link below. If you have already subscribed, please share the link with a friend or family member.

PLEASE [CLICK HERE](#) to subscribe to NDA's YouTube channel today.

## Alumnae Storyboard

## ALUMNAE STORYBOARD ◀

The Alumnae Storyboard is a feature which captures the everyday happenings of our alumnae. Each story is posted in the main hallway just outside the cafeteria so that you can see how our alumnae are truly continuing to make a difference in the world. The Storyboard serves as a source of inspiration and motivation just for you! You can access the Alumnae Storyboard [HERE](#).



## 2021 AUTUMN GALA ◀

Save the date! This year's Autumn Gala is scheduled for October 16, 2021. If you are interested in serving on the Executive Planning Committee for the 2021 Autumn Gala, please contact Nancy Goeke at [goeken@ndapandas.org](mailto:goeken@ndapandas.org) or 859.292.1851.

## COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



### ST. ELIZABETH MOON PROGRAM ◀

St. Elizabeth Healthcare will be welcoming high school students for the Medical Observation Opportunity Network program or M.O.O.N. program during the summer of 2021. This is a great way to explore a career in the medical/healthcare field. Deadline to Apply: April 1

Applications and more info: [MOON Program](#)



### ACT MATH PREP ◀

NKY Tutoring is offering a new round of [ACT Math Prep Classes](#). These might be especially helpful for Juniors who will be getting their ACT Test Scores back in the next several weeks.



### UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY VIRTUAL VISIT (FOR NDA) ◀

Tuesday, March 23

7:00 pm

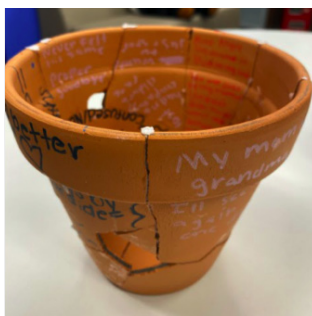
Sign-Up Link: <https://uky.zoom.us>

This is for all NDA Students (any grade level) and is a great way to learn more about UK and find out about when you can do an in-person visit!



### NDA GRIEF GROUP ◀

Our Grief Group wrapped up our last session by glueing together a clay pot that we had broken the previous week. Things that made things harder for them surrounding the loss of their loved one were written on the inside of the broken pieces and things that made things better for them on the outside broken pieces. We hope to start another Grief Group next fall. Contact Mrs. Hildreth for more information.





## RESOURCES FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS ◀

### [NDA PARENT TOOLBOX](#)



## STATE OF MIND SPEAKER SERIES ◀

1N5 is offering a [State of Mind Speaker Series](#), a series of videos to promote mental health & wellness for educators, caregivers, and youth. Topics include: Stress Management, Mindfulness & Meditation, Self-Care, Mental Health Disorders, Grief & Loss, Advocacy & Education. Click on the link above to access - you can watch on your own time!



## DRUG FREE CLUB ◀

ACTIVE Drug Free Club Members received cinch backpacks on Monday - loaded with treats and goodies!

An Unconfirmed Member of Drug Free Club can become an ACTIVE member (and get rewards) by following these steps:

1. **If the Home Drug Test was already completed with good results, go to step 4.**
2. **Find the Home Test Kit** that Drug Free Club sent to members' homes in November 2020. (It's about the size of half of a shoebox.)
3. **Take the drug test** at home
4. Have a parent go to [THIS LINK](#) and enter your information.
5. Enter your **DFCA Member ID#**. (If you do not have it, email Mrs. Hildreth!)
6. **Check the certification box** that says you passed your drug test.
7. **Submit!**

Email Mrs. Hildreth if you did not do the drug test and cannot find your Home Test Kit! We will get it figured out!

## **DFC 2021 Scholarship Contest is Now Open!** **\$8000 in Scholarship Winnings Available!**

The 2021 Drug Free Clubs of America Scholarship Contest is now open to all active members of the 2020-2021 school year! Please click [HERE](#) to access the information needed to enter. Be sure to have your essay and application turned in to your chapter's coordinator by midnight on April 5, 2021





At [Mosquito Hunters](#), our mission is simple: To provide local families with effective, safe, and affordable mosquito, tick and fleas control. By choosing Mosquito Hunters, you're choosing proven protection for your home and family. We apply targeted treatments, which are proven to greatly reduce mosquito, tick and flea activity and are effective for 21 days after application. Our friendly Technicians can identify the biggest mosquito hot-spots on your property and create a customized plan for defense.

We will then treat your yard using products which are proven to greatly reduce mosquito activity. We're so confident in the quality of our work that we back every treatment with our Client Happiness Promise. Under this policy, we guarantee your satisfaction for 21 days after treatment. If you're unhappy with our work for any reason during this period, we will re-treat your yard with no questions asked, at no additional cost.

## COMMUNITY NEWS



### COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- Seeking Lower Tuition Payments?
- St. Agnes Big Blue Bash
- Urgent Action on HB 149 - Education Opportunity Accounts
- Help Wanted
- Cafeteria Staff Needed
- Resources to Support Learning for parents, educators, & kids of all ages

## ▶ Important dates

March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 19	Panda Prowl Kickoff
March 20	8th Grade Conferences
March 23	Panda Preview Night for 6th and 7th Graders
March 29	School officer elections
March 31	Holy Week prayer service
April 1	Spring break begins
April 12	Classes resume
April 30	Panda Prowl
	Prom