



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings parents!

This has been a very lively week at NDA. In the midst of preparing for exams, our community took time yesterday to celebrate our seniors, the class of 2016. They began the day with a prayer service thanking God for all that He has blessed them with over the past four years. Next, they attended the annual Alumnae Luncheon for seniors where they were inducted into the NDA Alumnae Association. NDA graduate Anne Smith Wolking '02 spoke to the soon-to-be graduates about the positive impact an NDA education has had on her life. Finally, they processed into the auditorium as a class for the highly anticipated Senior Send-Off assembly with the entire NDA community. It was a very meaningful day for our class of 2016 and I would like to thank everyone who helped in making it so special for our seniors.

Yesterday we also took time to say thank you and goodbye to a few NDA legends who are retiring at the end of this school year: Mrs. Connie Roenker, Mrs. Linda Bricking and Mr. Mike Meadows. Connie and Linda have served as members of our NDA faculty for several years. They are both consummate educators, completely committed to education as it is defined in its finest - excellence. Mike has also been a dedicated member of the NDA community for quite a while serving as our Chief Financial Officer. We have been blessed to have a professional of his caliber in this position for so many years. We will certainly miss each of them and wish them well in the next phase of their lives.

Last Thursday we celebrated many student successes from this school year at our Academic Awards Ceremony. Each of these young women have learned to use their God-given talents and have shown a strong commitment to their education. We also celebrated the success of NDA Academic Counselor, Mrs. Chrissy Monohan, who was recently recognized as a 2016 Greater Cincinnati Excellent Secondary Education School Counselor by Career Quest/IKRON.

Congratulations to senior Julia Gerwe who received the Simon Lazarus, Jr., Human Relations Award for her dedication to serving others. I hope you take time to read about Julia and many other student achievements and activities below.

Today you received a letter via email from NDA President Dr. Laura Koehl with information regarding tuition rates, incremental fees and FACTS billing and account signup for the 2016-17 school year. Financial aid award information will also be sent out this week from our Finance Department.

Please note that senior exams will continue through Friday of this week and exams for freshmen, sophomores and juniors will take place next Monday (5/23) through Wednesday (5/25). I encourage you to discuss the exam schedule with your daughter. This can be a stressful time and we encourage students to support one another and make healthy choices to reduce stress.

Enjoy your week!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

Living Our Stories of God's Goodness

STUDENT LIFE

STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

Congratulations!

We would like to congratulate all of the clubs who completed their service projects this past year. Each club is required to complete at least one service project per year and the club co-presidents play a vital role in making this happen. The individuals pictured below are most of the club presidents who coordinated their club's successful service project. For those co-presidents who were unavailable for the picture, we congratulate them as well! As Gandhi once said, "the best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."



FUNDRAISING AND COLLECTIONS UPDATE FOR THE YEAR ◀

As we wrap up the school year, it is important to take a step back and remember the many ways NDA students have made a difference this year. One way our students show their amazing generosity is through our fundraisers and collections. This year we collected 13,000+ canned goods and 800+ hygiene items. They collected 434 bras and 40 care kits for kids. They have also contributed \$26,270.44 to various non-profits and causes in our community including, CareNet Pregnancy Center, Wounded Warrior Project, Notre Dame Urban Education Center, Henrietta Lacks Foundation, Ed Colina Foundation, Restavek Freedom, Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl, Children's Hospital Leukemia Research, Ugandan students, and quite a few others. Congratulations Pandas on a job well done!

ACADEMIC AWARDS CEREMONY ◀

On Thursday, May 12, NDA held its 39th Annual Academic Awards Ceremony. It was wonderful opportunity to celebrate student success throughout the school year. We congratulate each of the young women who were honored that evening.



AJC HONORS NDA SENIOR WITH HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD ◀

For 51 years, American Jewish Committee (AJC) has honored outstanding student volunteers of all faiths who have demonstrated a passion for making our community a better place in which to live with the Simon Lazarus, Jr., Human Relations Award.

On Tuesday, May 17, 2016, at Rockdale Temple in Amberley Village, AJC celebrated the 51st anniversary of the Lazarus Awards at a ceremony in which NDA's Julia Gerwe was named a senior finalist receiving a cash prize and recognition of her volunteer accomplishments.

Julia is not just a volunteer but a leader, actively involved in several volunteer activities, and exuding passion for each one. Julia volunteers on the steering committee of a youth summer leadership conference for over 100 students each year, serves as a juvenile attorney with the Kentucky court system's intensive training program for future lawyers, and works with a summer enrichment program for latino children. Her service work is so inspiring that other young people who have learned from her have started their own service programs modeling her leadership and passion. She does all of that with a "contagious smile" and a true desire to make change in her community by focusing on young people. She is a leader who inspires others and has left an indelible mark on her community and the individuals who have benefited from her service. Congratulations Julia!



PHYSICS STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE WHAT THEY'VE LEARNED ◀

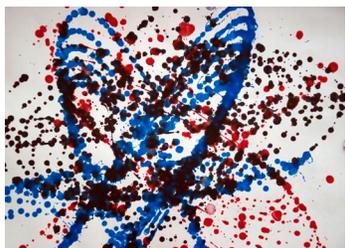
Over the course of the school year, Patrick Strickley's AP Physics students have completed quarterly projects. In the first quarter they built a bridge, in the second - a catapult, in the third - a lander (egg drop), and for the fourth quarter they were free to choose their own project. The projects simply had to illustrate or utilize a concept they covered over the course of the year. You can read below some of the interesting concepts the students chose!

Project 1: Pendulum Art. A pendulum made with a water bottle was used to drop paint as it swung, illustrating the pattern created.

Project 2: Marble Roller Coaster. This was designed to show conservation of energy, as well as centripetal force.

Project 3: A Telescope. The telescope demonstrated waves, which we had previously seen in a mechanical form, in an optical form.

Project 4: A Potato Cannon. It used force and pressure, and involved the analysis of a projectile.



CREATIVE DISPLAY ◀

Pat Brennan's Textiles Class members show off completed Log Cabin quilts. This project is the Capstone project for the class. Every quilt is the same pattern, but student originality in fabric selection and arrangement makes every quilt unique. They enjoyed the project, persevered over difficulties, corrected our mistakes, and have beautiful queen size quilts to show for our efforts!



COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



Congratulations to Mrs. Chrissy Monohan!

Mrs. Monohan was officially recognized as a **2016 Greater Cincinnati Excellent Secondary Education School Counselor** by Career Quest/IKRON (Integration of Knowledge and Resources for Occupational Needs) at NDA's Academic Awards Ceremony. This regional award is given to outstanding school counselors in the Greater Cincinnati Area and is voted upon by a committee of people from Northern Kentucky University, University of Cincinnati, Xavier University, Cincinnati State, and Career Quest. This recognition and award was a surprise for her, but not to any of us who have worked with her or benefited from her help as a School Counselor!



Drug Free Clubs of America has announced their **2016 Scholarship Essay Contest Winners**, and NDA had four entries in the Top Ten (out of 140)! Congratulations to junior Hypha Fries and senior Lilly Bradley for having their essays named in the Top Ten of the Essay Contest, and to freshman Lauren Schutte and junior Paige Montfort (pictured at right) for winning the top two \$2,000 Scholarship Awards! You can read the winning essays by clicking on their name [HERE](#). We are so very proud of all of our Drug Free Pandas!!



Academic Signing

Congratulations once again to the seniors who participated in NDA's Academic Signing last week by receiving scholarship offers in the amount of half tuition or more at the college or university they are attending. An impressive group of 42 students were acknowledged at this event. This is a true testimony to their hard work and the education they receive here at NDA!





2016 NDA GOLF OUTING ◀

NDA's Golf outing will be held on July 29 at Twin Oaks. It will be an 11 a.m. shot gun start. All proceeds benefit ALL of the NDA Athletic teams. Sign up at today [HERE](#). Sponsorship opportunities available [HERE](#).

NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ◀

TENNIS

Congratulations to our Tennis Pandas on a great season! They won the region on Friday but fell to Sacred Heart Saturday in state quarterfinals. Good luck to Francie Case and Kylie Moellering who are competing in the doubles state tournament starting tomorrow.

SOFTBALL

Come cheer on the Softball Pandas as they take on Ryle Thursday at Ryle.

LACROSSE

Lacrosse won Monday night to advance to the district championship today!

Soccer

The Soccer Pandas participated in half time PK's against Ryle at the FCC game Saturday and won 4-2!



EXTRA EXTRA READ ALL ABOUT IT! ◀

Don't miss the latest edition of NDA's Gavel produced by Mr. Rory Glynn's Publications classes. From interviews with Mrs. Roenker and Mrs. Bricking to "Bits of Wisdom" from some of our graduating seniors - this is a must read issue! You can find it [HERE](#).

**WIN
2 FREE
GALA
TICKETS!**

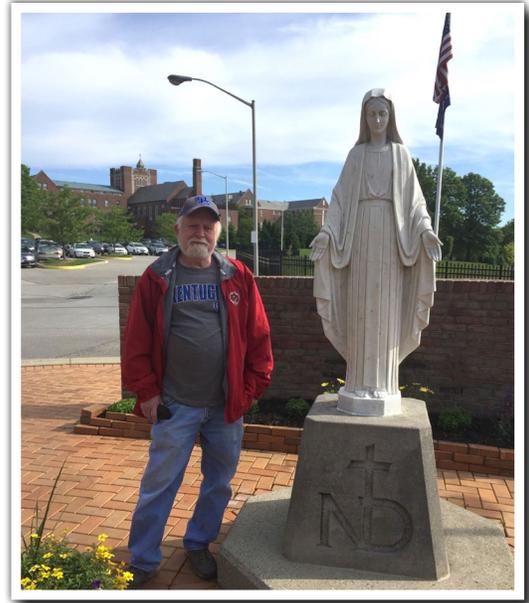
Want to win 2 free tickets to the September 24 Autumn Gala?

Don't miss the opportunity to enter your name in the drawing to be held this Friday, May 20. Gift cards, bottles of wine, bourbon, baskets, and other gifts are encouraged and welcome. Gifts for the Gala can be dropped off at the school office or given to members of the Gala committee who will be waiting curbside when you bring your daughter to school tomorrow and Friday morning. Thank you in advance for your generosity!



SPECIAL GIFT FOR OUR LADY ◀

Have you noticed anything different about the statue of the Blessed Mother in front of NDA? The statue was recently repaired and restored by Mr. Ray Tanner. The next time you are at NDA, take a look at his beautiful work. What a wonderful gift for our patroness during the month of May!



NDA TRACK TEAM BEAUTIFIES OUR BLESSED MOTHER'S GARDEN ◀

Members of the NDA Track and field team met on Sunday, May 15, with the purpose of making the island in front of the school a beautiful place. Track team members with parents and coaches arrived at NDA, and the planting began at 1:00 p.m. Within a couple of hours, the garden island represented the love we have for the school and community dedicated to Mary. Athletes from the track team that participated in the planting of the garden were junior Kimmy Birrer, freshman Elly Piat, freshman Andrea Skubak, freshman Hanna Miller, freshman Jenna Cayze. Parents: Diana Miller and Laura Cayze together with NDA track coaches A.J. Skubak and Tom Milbery were also present. After the planting and scrubbing of the patio, the athletes enjoyed a pizza celebration in the NDA cafeteria. (View more pictures [HERE.](#))



Important Reminder:

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

ATTENTION SENIORS: If you would like a refund of your cafeteria balance or to transfer your balance to a younger sister, please email Karen Brungs at brungsk@ndapandas.org. **Thank you!**

Celebrating the Class of 2016



ALUMNAE LUNCHEON



SENIOR SEND-OFF



SAYING GOODBYE



SUMMER
Opportunities!

at NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Whether you are **Artistic** **ATHLETIC** **Musical** **Dramatic**
or you are just looking for **Something Fun**
to do this summer, **NOTRE DAME ACADEMY** has all
sorts of opportunities for you! Check them out at:

www.ndapandas.org

SND 4th OF JULY FESTIVAL ◀

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](#). You can also find more information about the festival [HERE](#).



IMPORTANT DATES:

May 18-20	Senior Exams
May 23-25	Exams
May 26	Cleaning Day Baccalaureate Mass
May 27	Senior Awards Breakfast Graduation
June 6, 7, 8	iPad Set Up Meetings for Incoming Freshmen
June 23, 24	iPad Set Up Meetings for Incoming Fresh

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- Craig Underwood Memorial 5K Run and Walk
- Thank You Paul Michels and Michels Contructions, Inc.
- DCCH Center for Children and Families - Meet and Greet - June 2
- Our Lady's Blue Army - June 4
- Carrabbas Care Days for DCCH - June 7 and 8
- Cross the Bridge for Life - June 5
- Regional Pro-Life Mass - June 14
- Serra Club Florence Freedom Doubleheader - June 22
- Sisters of Notre Dame July 4th Festival
- Life's a Ball - Faces of Pro-Life Awards - August 20
- Work Study Positions Available with the Sisters of Notre Dame
- Part-time Job Opportunities for Students and Moms

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

