



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Greetings parents!

I hope you had a peaceful and happy Thanksgiving with family and friends. Today marks the midpoint of the second quarter and we are quickly moving towards exams and Christmas break!

Yesterday our guest speaker Sarah Panzou shared the painful and amazing story of her personal journey after being involved in a tragic drunk driving accident. She used her story to encourage our students to make good choices, respect the advice of their parents and be less judgmental of others. The girls gave her a standing ovation. I hope they came home and shared some of their thoughts on the presentation with you. It was obvious that many were quite moved by Sarah's honesty, humility and sense of humor.

Please join us this weekend for our holiday show *A Seussified Christmas Carol*. It will be a great way to get in the Christmas spirit with friends and family. Younger children are encouraged and welcome to attend. Shows will be held on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. For ticket information please contact the main office at 859-261-4300. Tickets are selling fast.

Please note that today we will test our phone notification system used to announce school closings and delays. These contacts are made based on the phone numbers that you provided at the beginning of the year. If you did not get a phone call using the system today, please contact Missy Witt in the main office and let her know. She can be reached at 859-261-4300 or you can email her at wittm@ndapandas.org.

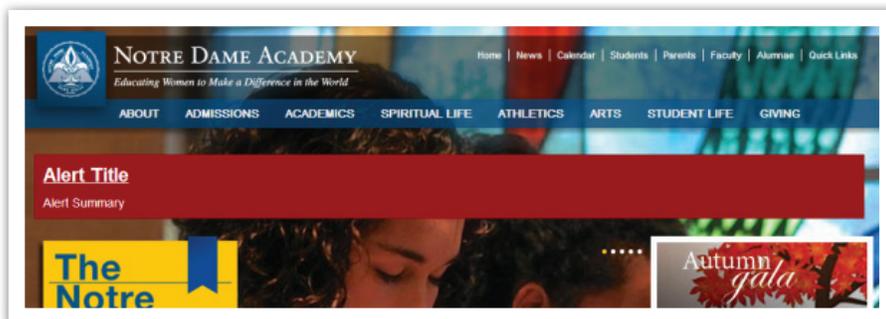
We will also post school closings and delays on our website. You can see an example of how weather related announcements will be displayed on the new website below.

Our juniors will have their class retreat this Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Please keep each of our juniors in your prayers as they experience this special program together.

May you know God's goodness each day,

Dr. Laura Koehl

(EXAMPLE of website display for school closings and delays)





iPad UPDATE ◀

Mrs. Bill reports that the iPad has truly enhanced the cultural component of her Spanish classes. She writes; “ In my Spanish IV Honors and AP classes we took a tour of some of the most famous art museums in Spain and looked at their most influential, important pieces. It allowed us to travel to prime travel destinations right from our desks! In our AP class we ended up looking at a few pieces of the crucified Christ and asked ourselves which is more effective: abstract or more realistic images.”

NEWS FROM THE STUDENT LIFE OFFICE ◀

The Pandas were able to “**Can the Colonels**” this year by collecting more total canned food items, and together, a total of 11,754 items were donated to St. Vincent de Paul. A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who supported the food drive and helped feed the hungry.



Final Can Count:

NDA Total 5933 (10.5 items/student)

Seniors	2708
Juniors	2101
Sophomores	563
Freshmen	561



School spirit can be measured in many ways...

Level of Collaboration, Support, Kindness, and Respect,
 Number of Accomplishments, Goals Achieved,
 Spoken Words of Encouragement, and High Fives

The list goes on and on. At Notre Dame Academy, one way we measure our school spirit is through the acknowledgement of grade level achievement. We proudly recognize the **Class of 2013** who collected **2,708 cans** for the canned food drive. This was the most cans collected across all grades and distinguishes the senior class as winner of the Spirit Stick for this event. A blue ribbon is tied around the Spirit Stick to represent the senior class’s accomplishment.

Established years ago, the tradition of the Spirit Stick will continue on this school year through the help of NDA’s dedicated student leaders and the student body. You can see just how many times each class is awarded this recognition by checking out the Spirit Stick display case in the school’s main foyer.



THEATER NEWS ◀

NDA’s Christmas Children’s Theatre production of “A Seussified Christmas Carol” will be Saturday, December 1, at 10:00 a.m. and Sunday, December 2, at 2:00 p.m.

It is the much loved story of Scrooge and the Christmas Ghosts told in the rhyming sequence a la Dr. Seuss, with the village and characters resembling more of a “Who-ville” type village than the traditional Dicken’s English town.

The performances will be followed by a visit with St. Nick and cookies and hot coca with the cast! For ticket information contact tixs4pandas@aol.com or the NDA website at [Arts 2012-2013 Season](#).

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT AT FABULOUS FURS ◀

The NDA After Prom Committee will host a "Girls Night Out at Fabulous Furs" Thursday, November 29 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at 20 West 11th Street in Covington. The cost is \$5 pre sale, or \$10 at the door. Everyone who attends will receive 15% off everything in the store including clearance. Appetizers and refreshments will be served. A Fabulous Fur throw will also be raffled off. For more information about this fun event visit the [NDA website](#). If you are interested in attending please contact Leanne Kirn at mlmmkirn@gmail.com or 859-344-1003.



MOM'S DAY OUT ◀

NHS will be sponsoring a "Mom's Day Out" for Moms (or Dads) to take some time for themselves or do that extra shopping that they need to do for the holidays. The 2 dates are Saturday, December 8 and December 15 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. and will be held in the auditorium at NDA. No reservations are needed and the ages are from toddler to 8 years of age. Your child will be well cared for and entertained with videos, games, puzzles, play dough, coloring and snacks. They can bring their favorite blanket and/or stuffed animal to snuggle while watching a movie.

PERU MISSION TRIP ◀

The first meeting for NDA's Peru mission trip was held last Thursday and there were about 25 girls in attendance. Several of the girls that went on the trip last year showed slides of what the mission and people looked like and spoke of the many reasons why the girls should go. The girls were also given a list of costs and how those costs would be collected over time. Our next meeting will be after Martin Luther King's birthday in January. We will then have a definite cost for the airfare, which is the largest and most subject to change cost. The girls will then apply for the trip by answering 3 questions and submitting a \$300.00 deposit, which will cover the cost of 2 chaperones and their deposit for their airline ticket. Another notice will appear in the Panda Press as the date draws closer.



LIFE CLUB NEWS ◀

Life Club is selling pro-life Christmas cards. There are ten in a package; an assortment of beautiful pictures from classic artists. They are \$5.00 and the money goes to help pro-life activities. Students can purchase these cards (while supplies last) in 302 throughout the day. Thank you for your support.

DISH ROOM NEWS ◀

Hello Dish Room Volunteers! We need volunteers for the following dates: Nov. 30, Dec. 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, 12, 14, & 17.

We understand that this is an incredibly busy time of year, but if you are able to donate just about an hour and 45 minutes on any of these dates, we would greatly appreciate it! You can sign up to help at [CAFETERIA SIGN-UP](#).



NEWS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT ◀



To all of you practicing artists...we would love to show your talents in Notre Dame Academy's Art gallery. If you are interested in exhibiting your work, please contact Mr. Eckerle at eckerlem@ndapandas.org and please include some of your work samples or a website if you have one. We are looking to fill the gallery with a variety of shows including solo shows and group shows, using any and all types of mediums.

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀

STUDENTS TAKING DEC. 8th ACT: If you have students who are taking the ACT on December 8, the photo upload deadline is 1:00 p.m. on December 4. If students miss this deadline, their registration will be cancelled and they will not be allowed to test. This policy will be strictly enforced by ACT so please be sure your student uploads her photo before December 4 at 1:00 p.m.

ACT Bootcamp/Test Prep: Anyone interested in signing up for the next ACT Bootcamp, please visit the Torchprep website at: www.torchprep.com and click on the NDA link. They will also be offering a free ACT practice test here at NDA on December 15. Visit the website to register for either the Bootcamp or the free practice test. The Bootcamp dates are as follows and are at NDA this time:

NDA/CC Boot Camp @ NDA

Wednesdays: 1/09/2013, 1/16/2013, 1/23/2013, 1/30/2013, 2/6/2013 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Saturdays: 1/12/2013, 1/19/2013, 1/26/2013, 2/02/2013, OFF 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Centre College Fellows Program: Any junior that is interested in Centre College and has an ACT score of a 28 or higher may be eligible for the Centre Fellows Program. This program offers at least a \$14,000 per year scholarship. The nomination for this program has to come through a Counselor, so if any junior is interested please see Mrs. Monohan for more information and visit the website for more information at http://www.centre.edu/financial_aid/centre_fellows.html.

Murray State University Commonwealth Honors Academy: The Program is offered to juniors who have approximately a 25 or higher on the ACT and a 3.5 G.P.A. It is a 3 week residential program that is completely free. It also gives students who complete the program 6 hours of University credit and an automatic \$2,000 scholarship to Murray State. Application deadline is March 1, 2013. Visit the website at <http://www.murraystate.edu/cha> for more information or see Mrs. Monohan.

FRUIT SALE INFORMATION ◀

GAA Parents & Athletes,

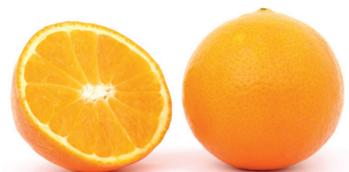
If you have not signed up to work the fruit sale weekend, please take a moment to do it now. You can also sign up to pick up your fruit. All fruit needs to be picked up either Saturday or Sunday at the times indicated. We need to have the school in order for classes Monday morning.

There are spots open on 12/14 for counting money. That is the day all fruit money is due.

The site to go to sign up :
<http://www.timetosignup.com/ndafruitsale/>

Thank you for your cooperation,

J. Schmidt



BAMBOOTIQUE HOLIDAY HOURS ◀

Notre Dame Academy's spirit wear shop, the Bambootique, will have extended hours for holiday shopping now until Saturday, December 22, 2012.

WEEKDAYS

November 26 - December 21

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. & 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SATURDAYS

December 1 - December 22

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

PTO NEWS ◀

Mark your calendars! The Father/Daughter Dance is scheduled for Friday, February 22, 2013 at the Syndicate in Newport.

NDA's PTO is seeking parents to serve on the Faculty Appreciation Committee. Duties include preparing breakfast items for faculty on late start meeting days which are generally the first Wednesday of each month. Contact PTO President Mrs. Dee Reinert (dreinert@wgmlpa.com) if you are interested in helping!

Mother/Daughter Recap Addition

A special thanks to Erin Foltz and her mom, Maureen, who worked the check-in at Mother/Daughter! Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!
Shari Buckley

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK ◀



Stay up to date with everything that is happening at NDA on our official Notre Dame Academy Facebook page. It is at [Notre Dame Academy, Park Hills](#). There are many listings for Notre Dame Academy on Facebook so look for our NDA seal to make sure you have our official page. You can also check out our NDA Alumnae page at [Panda Pal, Park Hills, Kentucky](#) to find out what's going on with our NDA Alumnae.

ADULT BEGINNING GROUP PIANO AT NDA'S PIANO LAB ◀

Learn the basics of making music – note reading, chord patterns, and proper technique – in a relaxed, fun, and learning-filled environment.

Course content includes:

- Finger numbers, proper playing posture, keyboard topography
- Note values and rhythm
- Note identification on the staff and reading music
- I-IV-V Chords
- Accidentals



The classes will be held on Tuesdays from 6:00 - 6:50 p.m. beginning January 8 through May 28 (no class on April 2 for Spring Break). The classes will be in the Piano Lab on the ground floor of Notre Dame Academy. The cost is \$265 and includes your book.

Each group is unique and will determine the pace of the class. At the end of the course, we will have an evening of good music, food, friends, and fun. Come join us! For more information contact Nell Schaffer at schaffern@ndapandas.org or 859.261.4300.

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

Cast your vote for St. Augustine School in "Power A Bright Future" Grant Program

Help St. Augustine School win up to \$50,000 by casting votes now through December 19, 2012 at 11:59 p.m. Adults and children 13 and older can visit www.PowerABrightFuture.com to vote once a day. Neighbors, friends and family can also vote for their favorite school on the website or right from their phones via text message (message and data rates may apply).

Department of Catechesis and Formation
Adult Faith Formation/ Catechist Certification and Maintenance Courses
December 2012, January 2013

Liturgy and Rites

The Department of Catechesis and Formation of the Diocese of Covington is hosting the course “Liturgy and Rites”, with Rev. Daniel Schomaker, on November 29 and December 6 from 6:00-9:45 p.m. and December 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St. Agnes Church in Ft. Wright, KY. During this Year of Faith, learn more about the liturgy of Holy Mother Church by studying the foundational principles and historical developments in her liturgical tradition. The course is one of the requirements for religion teacher certification, but is open to all interested adults. The cost for the entire course is only \$25. To register, visit www.religiouseducation.covingtondiocese.org to download a course registration form, email catechesis@covingtondiocese.org, or call 859-392-1533.

The Last Things (Our Final Destination – Death and Beyond)

The Department of Catechesis and Formation of the Diocese of Covington is hosting the course “The Last Things (Our Final Destination – Death and Beyond)” with Rev. Michael Barth on December 4, 11, and 18 from 6:00 to 9:45 p.m. at St. Joseph Church in Cold Spring, KY. Learn more about Church teaching on the end of life during this Year of Faith. This course is open to all interested adults and qualifies as maintenance for certified religion teachers. The cost for the entire course is only \$25. To register, visit www.religiouseducation.covingtondiocese.org to download a course registration form, email catechesis@covingtondiocese.org, or call 859-392-1533.

Basic Beliefs

The Department of Catechesis and Formation of the Diocese of Covington is hosting the course “Basic Beliefs” with Rev. Michael Barth on January 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at St. Timothy Church in Union, KY. During this Year of Faith, learn more about the tenets of the Catholic faith, particularly through study of the Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds. The course is one of the requirements for religion teacher certification, but is open to all interested adults. The cost for the entire course is only \$25. Participants should bring a brown bag lunch. To register, visit www.religiouseducation.covingtondiocese.org to download a course registration form, email catechesis@covingtondiocese.org, or call 859-392-1533.

Bioethics

The Department of Catechesis and Formation of the Diocese of Covington is hosting the course “Bioethics” with Mr. Mo Woltering on January 7, 14, and 28 from 6:00 to 9:45 p.m. at Covington Latin School in Covington, KY. During this Year of Faith, learn about Church teaching on human dignity, the beginning of life, the meaning of suffering, and the end of life. Topics to be discussed include abortifacients, IVF, cloning, stem cell research, organ transplants, and euthanasia. This course is open to all interested adults and qualifies as maintenance for certified religion teachers. The cost for the entire course is only \$25. To register, visit www.religiouseducation.covingtondiocese.org to download a course registration form, email catechesis@covingtondiocese.org, or call 859-392-1533.

John’s Gospel

The Department of Catechesis and Formation of the Diocese of Covington is hosting the course, “John’s Gospel” with Rev. Timothy Schehr on January 8, 15, and 22 from 6:00 to 9:45 p.m. at St. Timothy Church in Union, KY. Learn about Jesus, the Son of God, as represented in the Gospel of John during this Year of Faith. This course is open to all interested adults and qualifies as maintenance for certified religion teachers. The cost for the entire course is only \$25. To register, visit www.religiouseducation.covingtondiocese.org to download a course registration form, email catechesis@covingtondiocese.org, or call 859-392-1533.

Justice and Peace

The Department of Catechesis and Formation of the Diocese of Covington is hosting the course “Justice and Peace” with Ms. Suzette Glaab on January 12 and 26 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at St. Mary Church in Alexandria, KY. During this Year of Faith, learn more about the basic principles of justice established by our Holy Mother Church. The course is one of the requirements for religion teacher certification, but is open to all interested adults. The cost for the entire course is only \$25. Participants should bring a brown bag lunch. To register, visit www.religiouseducation.covingtondiocese.org to download a course registration form, email catechesis@covingtondiocese.org, or call 859-392-1533.