



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Greetings parents!

During this Advent Season, we find special ways to pause and reflect on our spiritual journey as a community. Each morning one of the girls reads an Advent Prayer over the PA. I have shared today's prayer with you below. Our daily Advent prayer calls to mind the true gift of the season. During Advent we are celebrating Reconciliation in all religion classes. Additionally, our Campus Ministry Office and Peer Ministry Team have arranged for the special recognition of Advent through prayers, decorations and special events in homeroom.

As you may know, NDA participated in the Uganda Shoe Project this past month. We collected over 1200 pairs of shoes. These will be turned into funding for a water purification project at our school in Uganda. Congratulations to the students who helped to lead the project and many thanks to those who made donations. Speaking of contributions, yesterday a group of 8th graders and several NDA students got together to make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for local food pantries. Over 900 sandwiches were prepared and these have been delivered to five different agencies in our area.

The end of the quarter is approaching quickly. Exams will be held on December 18-20. The exam schedule will be posted on the website by the end of this week. Students are required to wear their uniforms for exams. This year the second quarter will end on the last day of exams. The third quarter will begin when we return from Christmas break on January 6. Students should have all work for the 2nd quarter completed prior to our Christmas vacation.

The majority of students use their iPads for notes. Please talk to your daughter about backing up her iPad. This is each student's responsibility and very important. Information about backing up iPads can be found at our website on the [iPad page](#). Students can also get assistance from the Technology Office.

Please plan to join me for the NDA Choral Concert on Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. and the NDA/CCH Band Concert on Sunday at 4:00 p.m. These are wonderful Christmas time events featuring our talented students and admission is free. Also, make sure to get your tickets for the Christmas show *-The Only Christmas Pageant in Town*. Information can be found on our website [HERE](#).

May you know God's goodness each day,

Dr. Laura Koehl



### Today's Advent Prayer

'He shall not judge but what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.' -Isaiah 11:3-4

God of mystery, help us to treasure each person as one of your gifts, full of wonder and surprise. May we open each one carefully and value what is inside more than their "wrapping."



## TECHNOLOGY UPDATE ◀

### Congrats to NDA's SWAT Team!

Great news today for NDA's SWAT Team - Mrs. Mullee received confirmation that they have been accepted to present at the Kentucky Society for Technology in Education Conference (KySTE) again this year. The conference will be held in Louisville, KY, March 5-7, 2014. This year's theme is "Redefining Horizons: Moving Learning Forward." Our SWAT Team certainly has some insights on that topic!

## PHOTOSYNTHESIS IS A HIT AT NDA ◀

NDA students are using their technical skills and musical talents for more than their Fine Arts classes these days. Check out this video made by a few of Molly Proudfit's Honors Biology students - [PHOTOSYNTHESIS SONG](#).

## NDA and CCH PRESENT... ◀

Notre Dame Academy and Covington Catholic High School proudly present their annual children's Christmas production, the weekend of December 14 and 15. Children and adults of all ages will delight in our Christmas Children's Theatre production of *The Only Christmas Pageant in Town*, a sweet yet funny story filled with memorable characters who combine to teach a gentle lesson - that Christmas is not found in the flash and glitter of modern day, but in the true gift of that holy night given so long ago. After the show, audience members will be invited to share hot cocoa and cookies with Santa and the cast. Production dates and times are Saturday, December 14 at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, December 14 at 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 15 at 1:00 p.m. Tickets can be reserved by calling 292-1863.



## GUADALUPE MASS ◀

On Thursday, December 12, 2013, Life Club will be celebrating a mass in the chapel at 3:00 p.m. in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patroness of pro-life. Miracles happen when we pray, especially when we pray as a community. In 1531 Our Lady appeared to St. Juan Diego in Mexico. She appeared wearing the native dress of a pregnant woman. Though he was Catholic, many of the people were still pagan and immolating their children to the gods. Within ten years of her apparition 9 million native Indians changed their hearts and minds and were baptized! So all are welcome to attend this special mass. Let us bring our hearts and souls together so that our nation will convert as did Mexico five hundred years ago.

## THE A.L.I.C.E. PROGRAM ◀

A huge thank you to the parents who attended Tuesday's night's ALICE training at NDA. Tomorrow morning during homeroom, students will participate in the second of several training sessions regarding NDA's updated lockdown procedure. During the session, students and faculty will review the basics of the ALICE program, explore different ways the school community will be alerted in an active shooter situation and discuss enhanced lockdown options including barricading the door and evacuating the building. Student training will continue into the second semester.

# ALICE



## 1st ANNUAL PANDAS for TOTS ◀

The 1st Annual Pandas for Tots will be held on Sunday, December 15, at 9:00 a.m. at Notre Dame Academy. The 2 mile run is sponsored by the NDA Cross Country Team. Registration is \$15 but if you bring a toy to support Toys for Tots, you will receive \$5 off of race registration. Get more information and the registration form online at [PANDAS FOR TOTS](#).

## WHERE ARE YOU WEARING? ◀

by Katie Hellmann

Kelsey Timmerman is the author of the book “Where Am I Wearing?.” Ms. Staggs ninth grade honors English class is currently reading it. The book follows Kelsey across the world as he tries to find the people who made his clothes. He travels to Honduras, Bangladesh, and China meeting many interesting people along the way. I, Katie Hellmann, emailed Kelsey and asked to see if he was speaking anytime soon, and it just so happens that he was speaking at Indian Hill High School two days after I emailed him! A group of girls and I went to see him speak. Kelsey spoke about his jeans and where they were made in sweatshops. He stated how only 3% of the clothes in your closet are made in America and he asked us the question, “Exploitation or Opportunity?” This was a very hard question to answer because one person’s sweatshop is another person’s opportunity. The opportunity could be the only way to feed their family.



Kelsey is also the author of “Where Am I Eating?” He does basically the same thing but follows his food across the world! Kelsey was a wonderful speaker and he taught us how to make a difference in how people are treated in sweatshops, and to always buy fair trade. When the other students and I met him (image below) he was one of the most genuine and kind people that I have ever met. I would highly recommend going to hear him speak, it will really change your perspective on the importance of that little tag in the back of your clothes.

## BAMBOOTIQUE OFFERS HOLIDAY DISCOUNT ◀

The Bambootique, would like to offer all Pandas - past, present, and future, a discount this holiday season! You can download your coupon and get more information [HERE](#).



Monday - Friday	10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
	3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturdays	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



## MOTHER DAUGHTER NIGHT WRAP-UP ◀

Mother/Daughter night was a huge success. Thank you to all volunteers, especially Shelly Voet, Elizabeth Kruezkamp, Karen Rennekamp, Rita Carol Williams, Lorri Kim, Missy Watts, and the poster committee for bringing all posters to event and setting them up. Also, a big thank you to Jim Rennekamp, James Resing and Charlie Bradley for manning the registration table. Congratulations to all the winners of the costume parade! Excellent costumes this year!!



## WHAT'S FOR LUNCH? ◀

Did you know that the lunch menu is on website? You can find it by going to [Quicklinks](#) or directly to the [Cafeteria page](#) (Students>>Policies and Procedures>>Cafeteria).

## PARENTS - WE NEED YOUR HELP ◀

Volunteers are needed daily to help in the dish room in NDA's cafeteria. Shifts are from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. You can sign up to volunteer at [Volunteer Spot](#).

## COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



### Parent College Financial Aid Presentation at NDA:

A Financial Aid Officer from Xavier University will be at NDA next Tuesday, December 10, at 6:30 p.m. to give a Financial Aid Presentation. This event will be held in the Auditorium and will last approximately 1 hour. Any parents are invited to attend and Senior Parents are highly encouraged to attend in light of filling out the FAFSA starting January 1, 2014 for students entering college in the Fall of 2014. If you have any questions about this event, please contact Ms. Burgei at [burgeik@ndapandas.org](mailto:burgeik@ndapandas.org).

### ADDITIONAL COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES:

Ms. Burgei has updated the College Financial Aid Page on NDA's Website to list the major questions and resources involving Financial Aid.

Click here to visit this page: [NDA Website College Financial Aid Page](#)

For an overview of the Financial Aid process: [Click here](#)

To Learn more about how your student's Aid is calculated from the information submitted on FAFSA: [How Aid is Calculated](#)

### Parent Meetings:

We will have parent presentations for the 2014-15 scheduling process as well as a review and distribution of test scores for sophomores and juniors (PSAT and PLAN tests) on the following dates:

JR Parent Meeting Scheduling/PSAT/College planning info on January 8 @ 7:00 p.m. in the Theatre

SO Parent Meeting Scheduling/PSAT/PLAN/College planning info January 15 @ 7:00 p.m. in the Theatre

FR Parent Meeting Scheduling/College Planning January 23 @ 7:00 p.m. in the Theatre

Students are also welcome to attend but it is not required. Anyone who is unable to attend will receive the packet of info given out at the presentation as well as the test scores for PSAT/PLAN (for sophomores/juniors) in homeroom.

## FRUIT SALE ◀

Thank you to all those that signed up to work this weekend. Pickup for fruit is **Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. and Sunday 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.** Please come during those times. All fruit needs to be picked up by Sunday at 1:30 p.m.



Please remember that the fruit needs to be stored in a cool place.

**DO NOT LEAVE THE FRUIT IN THE TRUNK OF YOUR CAR. IT MAY FREEZE. ALSO SO NOT STORE BY HEAT AS THAT WILL CAUSE THE FRUIT TO GO BAD QUICKLY.**

PLEASE CHECK THE FRUIT BEFORE DELIVERING. I will replace bad pieces of fruit. Bring the bad in a plastic bag and bring a clean bag to take the good fruit home. Starting Monday, I will sell any extra fruit boxes if you have customers that want more. I will be at school until 1:00 p.m. I will be in the foyer Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings to do exchanges and sell extra fruit in the morning. I am not there after school. All exchanges and additional purchases need to be done by Thursday, 12/12.

**ALL MONEY IS DUE BY DECEMBER 13, 2013. WE START COLLECTING AT 7:00 a.m. IN THE AUDITORIUM.**

Thank you for your cooperation with this fund raiser.

Janice Schmidt

## ► Important Dates

December 6	Fruit Sale Pick Up Choral Concert 7:00 p.m.
December 7	Fruit Sale Pick Up
December 8	Band Concert 4:00 p.m at (CCH Griffin Hall)
December 9	No School
December 10	Financial Aid Presentation
December 13	Fruit Sale Collections
December 14	ACT 8:00 a.m. High School Placement Test for Eighth Graders 9:00 a.m. <i>The Only Christmas Pageant in Town</i> 1:00 p.m and 4:00 p.m.
December 15	<i>The Only Christmas Pageant in Town</i> 1:00 p.m
December 18	Exams Begin
December 20	End of 2nd Quarter
December 21 - January 5	Christmas Break

## PIANO LESSONS ◀

**Winter/Spring 2014 Classes**  
**January 7 – April 22, 2014**

### Adult Group Piano I

Have you always wanted to learn how to play piano? Did you take lessons as a child but can't remember much more than Middle C? This class is for you! Join other adults in a fun and relaxed, yet learning-filled environment of recreational music making! This weekly class will cover the basics of piano: proper technique, note reading, rhythm, articulation, chords, and more. At the end of the course, students will enjoy a night of good friends, food, and musical fun. Class size is limited; register early to reserve your seat!

Day/Time: Tuesdays 5:15-6:15pm

Cost: \$230 (book included; \$30 due at registration)

### Adult Group Piano II

This class is for adults who can already read music and understand basic rhythms, but would like to expand their musical horizon. Students will cover more advanced technique, various key signatures/chords, playing from lead sheets, 12-bar blues, and some improvising. As with the first section, this course will conclude with an evening of friends, food, and musical fun! Due to the nature of this course, it is strongly recommended that students discuss placement with the instructor before registering. Class size is limited; contact the instructor early to reserve your seat!

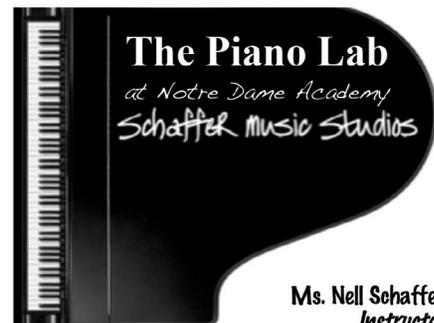
Day/Time: Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

Cost: \$200 (students having taken Piano I @ NDA) | \$230 (all other students)  
(\$30 due at registration for all students)

For more information and to register contact Nell Schaffer (see above)

**Registration Deadline: December 31, 2013**

**Winter/Spring 2014 Classes**  
*January 7<sup>th</sup> - April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014*



**Ms. Nell Schaffer**  
*Instructor*