



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

Our students and faculty have returned from Labor Day weekend re-energized and ready to continue *Cultivating Hope and Happiness, Strengthened by God's Love*. I hope you enjoyed the long weekend and are feeling refreshed as well.

Last week we incorporated PANDA PRIME TIME into our schedule and I'm happy to report that it has been going very well. I encourage you to talk to your daughter about how she is using this flexible time period on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

There are a few important upcoming events listed below that I would like to bring to your attention:

- On Monday, **September 9**, from 7-8 p.m. in Alumnae Hall, we will have our first **Parent Panda Club (PPC) meeting** of the school year. As I told you at our Parent Meetings in August, this year at our PPC meetings we will be focusing on topics of special interest to our parents. At our first meeting, there will be a special presentation on **Powerschool Unified Classroom** to help you better monitor your daughter's progress at NDA.
- On Tuesday, **September 11**, we will have our **Parent Mini-Night** at 7:00 p.m. I hope you will attend this special event to learn more about your daughter's classes and meet her teachers. I look forward to seeing you there.

As the principal of Notre Dame Academy, I spend a great deal of time observing our students and faculty both in and out of the classroom. In doing so, I am reminded of how blessed we are to be part of the NDA community. While I am often impressed with the work ethic of our students in the classroom, I also see the grit of our students at athletic events. I see their spirit at extracurricular activities and I see their joy as they laugh with each other everyday in the cafeteria. In all of these circumstances, I witness our young NDA women learning, growing, serving others and becoming women who will make a difference in the world. I find my job very rewarding!

I thank you, our parents, for allowing us to partner with you in the education of your daughters. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the mission of Notre Dame Academy.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

*Cultivating hope and happiness,
Strengthened by God's love.*



I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:13

STUDENT LIFE

PLEASE NOTE!



PERMISSION TO LEAVE EARLY ◀

If a student needs to leave school early for any reason, parents are asked to provide a written communication to the front office. This will enable the front office staff to issue a leave early note for the student to present to her teacher.

PARENT MINI NIGHT SCHEDULE ◀

Parent Mini Night takes place next Wednesday, September 11, and students will provide to their parents the Parent Mini Night schedule early next week. Mini night is an opportunity for parents to walk through their daughters' schedules and to meet each of their teachers. First period begins at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday evening.

Due to Parent Mini Night next Wednesday night, we will have a delayed start on Thursday, September 12



Hawaiian Mixer ◀

The first Mixer, hosted by Student Council, will take place at NDA on Saturday, September 14 from 8:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. All students are welcome to attend and must arrive by 9:00 p.m. Students are permitted to leave the dance at any time.



PICTURE DAY ◀

Picture Day is this Friday, September 6, and [order forms](#) were sent home last Friday. Payment is due to LifeTouch with the form on Picture Day. Students may be out of uniform for their school picture; however, they may not wear a V-neck or any low cut top, or one that has writing on it. Shorts or skirts must be of appropriate length. Students will still need to have picture taken if not buying a packet. Their updated school ID will go in their lanyards. Seniors are not able to order pictures, but a picture will be taken for their transcripts.



COMMON READER ASSESSMENT ◀

All students will take this year's Common Reader Assessment on Monday, September 9 during homeroom. We are looking forward to celebrating the book *I Choose to Be Happy* on Common Reader Day scheduled for Wednesday, October 9.

IMPORTANT
INFORMATION
for
PARENTS

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR PARENTS FROM NKY HEALTH ◀

Cases of measles have been on the rise in the U.S. Please read [this message](#) from the Northern KY Health Department regarding this issue.



EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING ◀

Congratulations to NDA Social Studies teacher Nancy Stratman! Yesterday at the Diocesan Senior Mass, Mrs. Stratman received the Diocesan Excellence in Teaching Award. This award is sponsored by Thomas More University and given each year at the senior mass. Mrs. Stratman does many great things inside and outside the classroom and deserves to be recognized for the impact she has had on her students. Mrs. Stratman received a standing ovation from our NDA Seniors.



WANT TO MONITOR YOUR DAUGHTER'S PROGRESS? ◀

If you are interested in learning how to monitor your daughter's progress through Powerschool Unified Classroom, don't miss the first Panda Parent Club (PPC) meeting of the school year on Monday, September 9 from 7-8 p.m. in Alumnae Hall. Each Panda Parent Club meeting this year will focus on a particular topic of interest to parents. This month, there will be a special presentation on Powerschool Unified Classroom with some very valuable information for parents.



CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS ◀

At NDA, we celebrate our Catholic Identity everyday by living the Gospel message of Jesus through kindness and generosity to others, respect for life, community service and striving to use our God given gifts. Take a look at all our Campus Ministry Department has to offer students [HERE](#).

CLASS OF 2020!

BISHOP FOYS GIVES SENIORS DAY OFF ◀

Our Seniors attended the annual Diocesan Senior Mass yesterday and Bishop Foys gave them an extra day off this year which will be on Monday, September 16.



NDA ART STUDENTS EXHIBIT IN FIRST O'DONNELL STUDENT ART SHOW ◀

Congratulations to Kenzie Eberhart, Grace Eckerle, and Zoe Moellering for being selected to exhibit in the first annual O'Donnell Student Art Show at the Behringer-Crawford Museum in Devou Park. You can read more about this show celebrating the life of local artist Connie O'Donnell [HERE](#).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND PLANNING APPS FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15! ◀

All students at NDA are invited to participate in the annual Smiles and Miles 5K Run and Walk Honoring Maria Schaffstein, plus the Katie Stewart Memorial Frog Hop for young children. (Both Maria and Katie attended St. Agnes and Notre Dame Academy.)



Event: Smiles & Miles 5K Run and Walk

Date: Sunday, September 15 - 4:00 p.m.

Where: 5K race will start and finish at St. Agnes and wind through Park Hills

To register: Go to runningtime.net

*You get discounted family pricing if you register together with several of your NDA friends before Thursday, September 12.

Proceeds benefit the children of St. Agnes. So grab a few friends - and have fun on Sunday, September 15 - at the Smiles and Miles 5K Run and Walk. See you there!



LAST GREECE 2020 INFORMATIONAL MEETING ◀

For all those still interested in traveling on the 2020 Greece this summer and have not enrolled on the trip yet, we will hold one last informational meeting before closing registration on September 30. This meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 10 at 7 p.m. in Alumnae Hall. Please remember that these trips are only open to students.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

PLAYING FOR A PURPOSE ◀

This year's Play for a Purpose game will be held on September 20. We will have a pep rally at NDA during the school year but we are NOT cutting hair at the pep rally this year.



KHSAA PHYSICAL ◀

The KHSAA has changed from a four page physical to a six page physical. If you are getting your daughter's physical after 8/1/19, please make sure you use the [six page physical](#) found on our website. Do not turn KHSAA Sports Physicals in to the school or Athletic Department. All families can upload their daughter's 6 page physical to their Final Forms Account to the upload folder.

PLAY LIKE
A CHAMPION
TODAY

PLAY LIKE A CHAMPION TODAY ◀

Notre Dame Academy will be hosting a Play Like a Champion Today Parent-Training on October 3 at 6:00 p.m. in the Notre Dame Academy Theater for freshman student-athlete parents/guardians. It is a Diocesan requirement for all incoming freshmen student-athletes to have at least one parent/guardian attend the PLACT Parent training. PLACT will last approximately 1 hour in length and is a research based program through the University of Notre Dame which will focus on the overall culture of high school sports.

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



RECENT COUNSELING EVENTS ◀

Suicide Prevention Presentations

Sophomores and Juniors had their presentations last week, Freshmen have theirs on Friday of this week and Seniors will have theirs later in September. The presentation focuses on how to identify signs of feeling suicidal and how to get help for oneself or a friend.

Naviance Training

Last week Juniors were introduced to the SuperMatch program within Naviance, which matches a student's wants and needs to colleges that fit those criteria. Students were also given time to update their resumes in Naviance.

Sophomore and Junior year 101 presentations

During the 1st and 2nd week of school, Counselors outlined to juniors and sophomores some basics about standardized testing that will happen this year at school. We also informed them of unique opportunities they can sign-up or apply to be a part of. Many of these opportunities are also listed in the Panda Press for your viewing.

Senior Updates

Seniors were given updates and reminders regarding the college application process.

NORMAL ISN'T REAL ◀

On October 3, 2019, Springer School and Center is joining with Cincinnati Children's to screen the documentary, "Normal Isn't Real: Succeeding with Learning Disabilities and ADHD." The film features stories of successful young people with LD and ADHD. The filmmaker, Krys Kornmeier's purpose in making the film was to inspire young people, their families and teachers. For more information visit: www.Springer-LD.org/normalisntreal

2019-20 College Rep Visits ◀

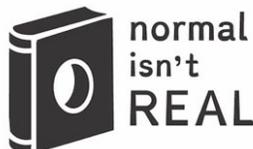
Throughout the school year many college representatives visit NDA to speak with students during lunch periods. You can find a list of upcoming visits [HERE](#).

DRUG FREE CLUB INFORMATION ◀

The time is NOW sign up for Drug Free Clubs of America (DFCA) - unless a student was signed up for all 4 years as a Freshman! For more information [CLICK HERE](#).

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL PROGRAMS ◀

Juniors interested in applying to the Kentucky Governor's Scholars Program (GSP), can attend an Informational Meeting after school on Thursday September 5 in Alumnae Hall. You can find more information on GSP, GSA and GSE [HERE](#).





SAVE THE DATE - OCTOBER 12! ◀

Planning for the 2019 Autumn Gala is in full swing, and the committees are working hard to provide an even greater experience for all. The 2019 Autumn Gala will be held on Saturday, October 12 at Summit Hills Country Club and will feature an open bar, hors d'oeuvres, a gourmet sit-down dinner, specialty games, and silent and live auctions.

Read more about The Golden Ticket and a sampling of some of the items that will be offered in the Live and Silent Auctions [HERE](#).



ALUMNAE NEWS ◀

Alumnae Mass

All are welcome to join us at our monthly Alumnae and Friends Masses in our new *Mary, Mother of the World* Chapel with a continental breakfast to follow. You can read about upcoming Alumnae Masses [HERE](#).

Alumnae Day

Our 3rd Annual Alumnae Day will be held on Saturday, September 21, 2019. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).

*Women Making
A Difference*

WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE ◀

The Women Making a Difference award program recognizes Notre Dame Academy alumnae who have made significant contributions to their families and their communities through service, professional, and philanthropic efforts. We are currently accepting nominations for the 2020 Award Ceremony. Nominations are due no later than Friday, September 27. For more information on nominating a deserving alumna please [CLICK HERE](#).

**COMMUNITY
NEWS**

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- Work Study Positions Available
- Smiles and Miles 5K and FROG Hop
- SAVE THE DATE – “THE MARRIAGE JOURNEY”
- Living Your Strengths: Taking Your Life to the Next Level
- Yoga Sol Classes
- SWORKIT Youth Initiative
- Diocese of Covington Bible Study
- Special Tumbling Offer for NDA Students



► Important dates

September

- 6 Picture Day
- 9 Panda Parent Club Meeting 7-8 p.m. in Alumnae Hall
- 11 Informational Coffee for Prospective Parents
Parent Mini Night
- 13 Club Orientation
- 14 Student Council Fall Mixer
- 16 Seniors Off School (per Bishop Foys)
- 20 Fall Sports Pep Rally - Playing for a Purpose Volleyball Game
- 21 NDA Alumnae Day
- 24 Naturalization Ceremony at NDA
- 25 Alumnae Mass
Donor Scholarship Breakfast

October

- 1 SND Foundations Day
- 2 Informational Coffee for Prospective Parents
- 3 Parent Teacher Conferences
- 4 Grandparents' Day Mass
- 6 Golden Girls Celebration Mass and Brunch
- 9 Common Reader Day
- 10 Junior Retreat
- 11 No School: Faculty Professional Development
- 12 Autumn Gala
- 16 SO/JR PSAT | Freshman Retreat #1
- 18-20 Fall Play
- 21-24 Senior Retreat #2
- 30 Alumnae Mass