



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all our parents who attended the Mini Night last week. We appreciate your time and the many positive comments you shared with us about the evening. It was great to welcome so many of our parents and have the opportunity for our teachers to share information about their classes and expectations for your daughter.

Yesterday we had a truly wonderful prayer service celebrating our designation as a 2012 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. Most Reverend Bishop Roger Foys presided over midmorning prayer and our ceremony included several remarks about this accomplishment. Bishop Foys reminded our gathering of what a gift we all have in Catholic education and congratulated our NDA community on carrying out the educational vision of the Sisters of Notre Dame. Other speakers included veteran English teacher Mrs. Linda Bricking, as our teacher representative, and senior Audrey Hehman as student representative. Many were very moved by their presentations. A special moment came when the students spontaneously joined Mrs. Bricking in her recitation of the e. e. cummings poem (see below) she uses in her classes as a prayer. This moment was most fitting to the occasion because of the content of the poem and the strong sense of community conveyed in the unity of those many student voices. One additional note - In celebration of our 2012 Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award, Bishop Foys gave our students a day off school which will be Friday, September 28.

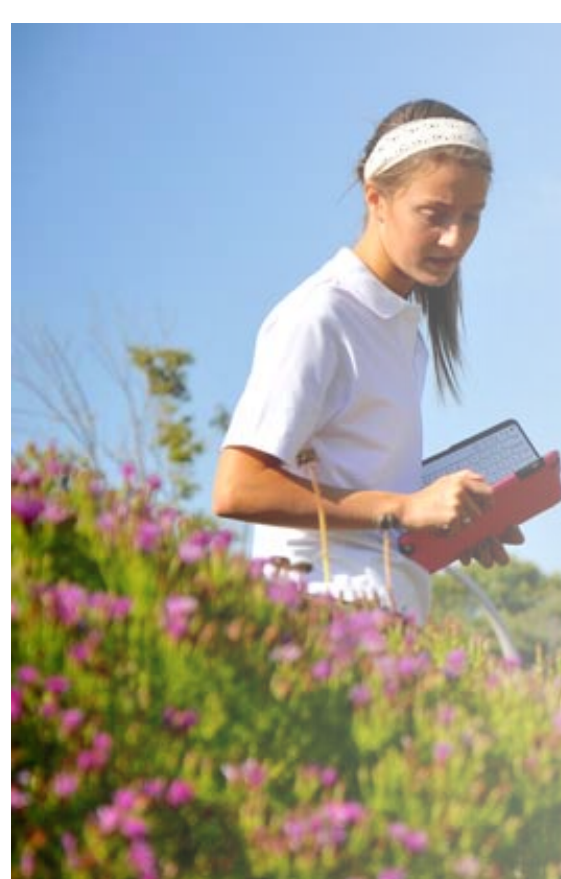
Speaking of celebrations, we hope you are planning to attend our [Autumn Gala](#) on September 29. This annual event is a major fundraiser for our school and an opportunity to meet and catch up with many parents and supporters of NDA. The festivities begin at 5:30 p.m. and will be held in our gym. The gym is transformed into an elegant (cocktail attire) and celebratory space. Please call the Advancement Office at 292-7729 for ticket information.

As part of the Gala fundraiser we are selling chances for our Major Raffle. The students have been asked to support this effort by selling five chances each. The chances are \$10 each and the Grand Prize is a year's tuition or \$5000. Please encourage your daughter to sell her chances if she has not already done so. If each student sells five, we will raise \$28,000 to support our school. We do appreciate your support!

Speaking of supporting our school, many thanks to our PTO for providing cafeteria volunteers this year. PTO is desperately seeking others to join them in their efforts. The hours are from 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on regular schedule days. Please sign up using this [CAFETERIA SIGN UP](#) link. One day a month would be a great contribution!

May you know God's goodness each day,

Dr. Laura Koehl



*i thank You God for most this amazing
day:for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything
which is natural which is infinite which is yes*

*(i who have died am alive again today,
and this is the sun's birthday; this is the birth
day of life and of love and wings: and of the gay
great happening illimitably earth)*

*how should tasting touching hearing seeing
breathing any--lifted from the no
of all nothing--human merely being
doubt unimaginable You?*

*(now the ears of my ears awake and
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)*

e.e. cummings

NEWS FROM THE STUDENT LIFE OFFICE ◀

Club Orientation is this Friday, September 21! During this time, all Pandas will learn about the 30+ clubs and activities available at Notre Dame Academy. Clubs and activities are wonderful opportunities for all Pandas to develop their interests, give back to the community, make new friends, and have fun. All students are encouraged to take part in the fun by joining at least one club or activity.

Check out the new [school calendar](#) on the updated NDA website! The "Calendar" link is available at the top of the web page. If you would like a [yearlong calendar](#) in a printable form, one is available by clicking on "Students." Then, click on "Schedules" to access the PDF version. There is so much happening at our Blue Ribbon School!

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FROM OUR ADVANCEMENT OFFICE ◀

The **Autumn Gala** is **September 29** at NDA! Please make your reservations today. We need your support of this event, our largest fundraiser! Make your reservations today by sending in your RSVP card or calling the Advancement Office at 859-292-7729.

Also, if you can't attend Gala (or even if you can!) consider purchasing a \$50 **First Choice ticket**, which gives you the opportunity to choose one item from the Live Auction before the Live Auction begins! Check out [Autumn Gala 2012](#) for a list of all our completely fabulous live auction items, including a 2013 Derby package, a trip to New York City, and an item that exempts student athletes from selling fruit in the NDA Fruit Sale!



COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀

The **PLAN** test will be administered to all sophomores on Wednesday, September 26. This is a practice test to prepare students for the ACT. The sophomores and juniors will be taking the **PSAT** on Wednesday, October 17. This is a practice for the SAT test. The students were given some information about the tests as well as a practice PSAT booklet. The Math and English Departments will be working with the students and these booklets to help with preparation. If any student would like to borrow a preparation guide for the PSAT please see Mrs. Monohan. For information about these tests please visit the following websites:

PSAT - <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about.html>

PLAN - <http://www.act.org/path/parent/tests/plan.html>

There will be a **Health Career Exploration Fair** on Thursday, October 25, for any sophomores, juniors and seniors interested in a health related career. The event will be at the Cintas Center at Xavier University and will have representatives from various local colleges and hospitals available to discuss the many fields available in health care. NDA will be going from 7:45 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. and we will be riding the St. Agnes bus for this event. There are limited spots for this field trip and permission slips must be returned to reserve a spot. The permission slips can be obtained from the school office or from Mrs. Monohan's bookcase outside her door. Please return the slip signed by teachers and parents to Mrs. Monohan.



Ms. Dickman's Senior AP English Literature and Composition Class is using an AP Literature App that offers 500 test questions in either study mode or testing mode. Students can use these for practice exercises in and out of the classroom.

Religion teacher Mrs. Johnson shares her thoughts on the iPad - "I am enjoying the collaborative spirit among my students and among the faculty as well. It is exciting to be able to learn so many new things - and I get to learn some of them from my students. Certainly all of this is not perfect and there are some frustrations but those are minor compared with the benefits and advantages!"

WANTED! ◀

We are looking for **volunteers** to work in the dish room from 10:45 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Please sign up for once a week, every other week or monthly through this [CAFETERIA SIGN UP](#) link. You can see what days are open and sign up to fit your own availability. You will have to provide your email address so that you can receive reminders. You will NOT receive junk mail or promotional e-mail from volunteer spot unless you choose to do so. Please contact Shari Buckley at sharib@zoomtown.com or 859-380-6239 if you need assistance signing up or if you do not have access to the internet. We greatly appreciate your help. It's a great way to see your daughters, her friends and the teachers during the school day. Complimentary lunch of your choice is also provided at the end of the lunch period.

GOT DIRT? ◀

Bring your car to N.D.A. on Sunday, September 30, from 11:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. for a **Diocesan Car Wash**. Covington Catholic and Notre Dame Academy are sponsoring this fundraising event. All donations will benefit local pregnancy centers doing pro-life work. Free lemonade and cookies while you wait!

SMILES & MILES 5K ◀

Registration is now open for the Smiles and Miles 5K will be held on Sunday, October 14th at 4:00 p.m. at St. Agnes. This 5K honors Maria Schaffstein who lost her life in a tragic accident two years ago. The family friendly 5K features a walk and run through scenic Park Hills and Devou Park and ends at St. Agnes with a large party featuring music, food and drinks. All proceeds benefit St. Agnes School and Parish. You can register for the [Smiles and Miles 5K here](#).

PARENTS & TEACHERS IN THE SCHOOL OF VIRTUE ◀

*September 23 and October 7 meet from 4-6:00 p.m. at St. Patrick in Taylor Mill.
September 30 and October 28 meet from 2-4:00 p.m. at St. Patrick.*

Description of the course:

This practical, hands-on course will allow parents and teachers to examine their view of parenthood, to understand it as a vocation essential to Church and society, and to see the teacher's role as an extension of the parent's vocation. Based on Father Edward J. Flanagan's Boys Town model for raising children to be responsible, productive, virtuous adults, this course will affirm parents as the primary educators of their children and give parents and teachers the tools to help them in virtue and good behavior. Fathers, mothers, and teachers are encouraged to attend. It is most beneficial for couples to attend together, if possible. Babysitting is available upon request.

- Explain how and why parents are teachers of virtue
- Identify that the first step toward growth in virtue is self-evaluation
- Differentiate between authoritarian and authoritative discipline
- Describe the relationship between the virtue of prudence and the appropriate use of consequences and praise
- Demonstrate the steps in preventive teaching: developing moral virtues (justice, prudence, temperance, and fortitude) via social skills
- Demonstrate the steps in teaching self-control/self-mastery: calming down Describe the use of Family Meetings as a means of preventive teaching and teaching self-control
- Demonstrate the steps in corrective teaching involving the virtues of humility and obedience
- Identify prayer as the primary "tool" for parents