



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World

Panda Press Weekly

January 3, 2024

THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! As the Christmas season comes to a close, we continue to reflect on the profound gift of Jesus becoming human and graciously sharing His life with us. In doing so, we allow the spirit of love and joy that filled our hearts and homes these past few weeks to inspire us as we begin the second half of our school year.

It was wonderful to have our students, faculty and staff back on campus today. The energy our students provide is truly uplifting and a great reminder of the tremendous potential that lies within each one of them.

At Notre Dame Academy, we are not just beginning another semester; we are continuing our journey of *Radiating God's Goodness*. Our theme this year is woven into the fabric of our school and it is with gratitude that we recognize the love of God, especially present in those around us each day.

I encourage our students to approach this semester with enthusiasm and a sense of purpose, embracing the many opportunities that come their way. Whether it's in the classroom or in the co-curricular activities in which they participate, I hope they see the new year as a fresh start and make the most of every experience.

We are grateful to you for allowing us to partner with you in your daughter's Catholic education. It is an honor to carry on the academic traditions of the Sisters of Notre Dame and provide support for the academic success and personal development of our students.

Have a great week!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



Have a great day and make good choices!

Student Life

New Year

LITURGY

SPECIAL LITURGY

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We look forward to celebrating the New Year with a special liturgy on Friday, January 5 at 8:50 a.m. We will welcome Bishop Iffert to NDA to share in the celebration. **Students will need to dress in their normal uniform attire and NOT in spirit wear for this event.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK CELEBRATIONS!

Catholic Schools' Week will be celebrated nationally during the week of January 28 - February 3. Our Student Council has been working hard to determine various activities that can be held to highlight the blessings of our Catholic education. A few of the events that will occur that week are: Mass and a reception with the Sisters of Notre Dame, pajama day, the annual volleyball game versus CCH, Decades Day, and a rebranded Talent Show titled, "PaNDA's Got Talent."

Students are asked to consider participating in the Talent Show in one of two ways - showcasing a true talent or performing a skit / dance / act with a group of friends in a lighthearted way. The hope is that this encourages more girls to participate and will have the format of a variety show to showcase the amazing talents of our Pandas and also some lighthearted comical skits as well. Students who are interested can complete the [Talent Show Form](#).



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

ALUMNAE MENTOR PROGRAM KICKOFF MEETING

The Alumnae Mentor Program Kickoff Meeting is Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. in Alumnae Hall. This required meeting will provide important information about this year's program and will be an opportunity to meet your Alumnae Mentor and set your meeting schedule for the semester. The mentor and student pairings will be emailed this week to the participating students. If you have any questions regarding the Alumnae Mentor Program, please contact [Ms. Lisa Willenbrink Mosley '95](#), Director of Alumnae Relations.

ALUMNAE
MENTORING



SPREADING HOLIDAY JOY

SPANISH STUDENTS VOLUNTEER AT BE CONCERNED DURING CHRISTMAS VACATION

There were 17 Spanish students from Notre Dame Academy that volunteered to serve Latino families at Be Concerned on their first afternoon of Christmas vacation. Several of these students were familiar with the work because they had volunteered previously since we have helped regularly each month, but this time was different. It was Christmastime and more families were expected.

Although sometimes all students were in motion, gathering the food from the shelves to match the preferences of the families, there are times when they could engage in more direct activities with the families. Since Julia Meyers had bought gifts for children, she and another student gave these out individually and were thrilled to see the smile or the jumping in joy when the child received the new store-bought gift. Others passed out a little Nativity drawing and worked with the children as they colored. And a few of the advanced students spoke with the clients as Leo Calderon, president and founder of Esperanza Center introduced them to each other. The spirit of Christmas was certainly present as two cultures intermingled in friendship and joy.

Student of the Month!

CONGRATULATIONS

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Claire Weaver who was our November Student of the Month. Known for radiating positivity and respect, Claire is a self-assured, compassionate, and engaged student, earning admiration from her teachers. You can read more about Claire [HERE](#).

HOST A STUDENT!

INTERNATIONAL PANDAS

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

NDA is once again going to host international students from our sister school in Germany (Liebfrauenschule Vechta) for a portion of the 2024 fall semester. Two students will be experiencing The NDA Life for 6-8 weeks. The German students would love to be in the US to celebrate Halloween if possible, so we are exploring the idea of having the girls arrive here in mid-September and depart at the beginning of November. These students speak English very well and are screened thoroughly by their school before they are allowed to apply for this exchange program. Please call or email Katie Caccavari, NDA Director of Enrollment, at caccavarik@ndapandas.org/859-292-1829, if you would be interested in more information about this opportunity. Your reply is not a commitment but would help us to know which families would consider supporting our international student enrollment by serving as host families.

YEARBOOK

MEMORIES FOR LIFE

ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK TODAY

NDA's 2024 yearbook, 24 hOURS, is on sale now for the early price of \$77 through December 15. Buy now to take advantage of early-bird pricing at the NDA store at jostens.com. This is a must have for all Pandas! Mr. Glynn and our Publications team does an AMAZING job capturing all of the wonderful happenings at NDA throughout the year and students will look back at their yearbook for years to come.

NDA's 2023 yearbook, Finding Our Groove, is on track for fall delivery! Be sure to check the Panda Press for updates and a special '23 graduate welcome back/yearbook pickup event!

LIVE TRAINING DATES

VIRTUS

If you are new to Virtus and need to attend a live training, here are some opportunities:

Diocesan Curia, Bishop Howard Memorial Auditorium,
1125 Madison Avenue, Covington, Kentucky.

- Tuesday, January 9, 2024 - 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
- Tuesday, January 9, 2024 - 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM
- Wednesday, January 24, 2024 - 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
- Wednesday, January 24, 2024 - 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM
- Wednesday, February 7, 2024 - 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
- Wednesday, February 7, 2024 - 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Burlington, Kentucky.

- Thursday, January 11, 2024 - 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Remember: To be Virtus compliant, you must read and answer the accompanying question on the monthly bulletins. You should receive an email with a link the first week of each month.

PANDA SPIRIT WEAR!

BAMBOOTIQUE

New Year, new gear! Start the new year right with some new Panda spirit wear! You can shop online [HERE](#).

We are looking for volunteers for the Bambootique. If you can help out, please sign up [HERE](#).

DELICIOUS NEWS

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

You can find NDA's lunch menu below and on our website [HERE](#).

Parents, please check your daughter's lunch account balance. We have many overdue accounts and some are quite large.

**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION
PLEASE READ**



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
Bambootique

Welcome
to the
Longshore
Dining Hall

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

**GO
PANDAS!**

**VOTE!
VOTE!
VOTE!**

HELLO SPORTS FANS

ATHLETIC CALENDAR

Don't miss any of the action with our Panda athletes! [Here](#) is the calendar for the upcoming week.

FROM THE DESK OF THE

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

VOTE FOR PLAYERS OF THE WEEK!

Kendra Collins has been nominated for Girls Basketball Player of the Week! Kendra led the Pandas to victory over Ursuline with 15 points and six rebounds. Also, Sadie Hartig has been nominated for Girls Swimmer/Diver of the week. She took fifth place in the 100-yard backstroke at the Girls Night Out at in Louisville. You can vote for your fellow Pandas [HERE](#).

Swimming and Diving

The Aqua paNDAs traveled to Louisville on Friday (12/22) for the Girls Night Out meet. The girls placed in the top 5! Go Pandas!

Congratulations All-Stars!

Congratulations to our student athletes and Soccer Coach Brian Woeste on being recognized in the 2023 Enquirer Fall All-Stars for Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky! You can check them out [HERE](#).

Join Our Coaching Team at Notre Dame Academy!

Middle School Track Coach: Notre Dame Academy is on the lookout for a dedicated Middle School Track Coach for the 2023-24 season! If you have high school-level coaching experience, we want to hear from you. All coaches must undergo KHSAA and Diocese onboarding and training. Send your letter of interest and resume to ndahr@ndapandas.org.

Junior Varsity Lacrosse Head Coach: Be a key player in our Lacrosse program! We're seeking a Junior Varsity Lacrosse Head Coach for the 2023-24 season. High school coaching experience is preferred. Take the next step and send your letter of interest and resume to ndahr@ndapandas.org.

Assistant Varsity Lacrosse Coach: Elevate our Lacrosse team as an Assistant Varsity Lacrosse Coach for the 2023-24 season. If you have experience at the high school level, we'd love to hear from you! All coaches must go through KHSAA and Diocese onboarding and training. Send your letter of interest and resume to ndahr@ndapandas.org.



COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



ATTENTION JUNIORS ACT PREP

Covington Latin School is delighted to extend an invitation to Diocesan junior students for an upcoming ACT Prep Course.

Dates: Feb. 3rd, Feb. 10th, Feb. 24th, Mar. 2nd

Time: 9:30 AM - 12 PM

Location: Covington Latin School

This comprehensive course is over 4 Saturdays, open to all local juniors, and will be led by Kelley Ching, a seasoned educator and tutor with a rich background in education. Kelley holds a master's degree in education and a teaching credential for secondary education. With over 25 years of experience, she has been instrumental in helping students excel in ACT, SAT, and PSAT.

Course Highlights:

Subjects Covered: English, Math, Reading, and Science

Content Review: Grammar, algebra, and geometry for the English and Math sections

Interactive Sessions: Homework assignments provided between sessions for concept reinforcement

Practice Exams: Course book contains 8 practice exams, with one to be completed at home

Cost: \$400

Required Materials: Students will need to purchase [this ACT Prep Book](#)

We believe this course will significantly benefit students' ACT preparation, providing them with the necessary tools to succeed. Please share this information with your junior students and encourage them to register early to secure their spot.

How to Register: <https://exploremoregifted.wufoo.com/forms/zrpy-0g2lwpzc06/>



UNLEASH YOUR ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

APPLY NOW FOR THE KY GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR ENTREPRENEURS 2024

Applications are open for the [KY Governor's School for Entrepreneurs](#) to current to 9th, 10th, and 11th grade KY residents and are **due January 22, 2024**. Spend 3 weeks of the summer on the campus of Northern Kentucky University with other high school entrepreneurs, learning how to nurture ideas into businesses. The first step is to create a 90-second video showing why you'd be a good team member. See the website for information and application tips!



PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

NDA COLLEGE VISIT SCHEDULE

[CLICK HERE](#) for a list of college visits specifically for NDA students/families. The visits are in the hallway outside the cafeteria. All students are welcome to visit the reps.



CHECK IT OUT!

THE KY GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

[Creative Writing](#) - [Dance](#) - [Design](#) - [Drama](#) - [Instrumental Music](#) - [Vocal Music](#) - [Musical Theatre](#) - [Visual Art](#) - [Film + Photography](#)

- GSA is a tuition-free residential summer program for passionate and talented artists from across the Commonwealth.
- GSA Alumni receive access to scholarships at nearly 30 colleges/universities, as well as life-long mentorships and a transformative summer experience.
- Click [HERE](#) for Applicant Guides
- Only two GSA 101 Webinars are left:
- Wednesday, December 6 - 5:00 p.m. Click [here](#) to register!
- **Applications due January 14, 2024.**

ADVANCING THE MISSION



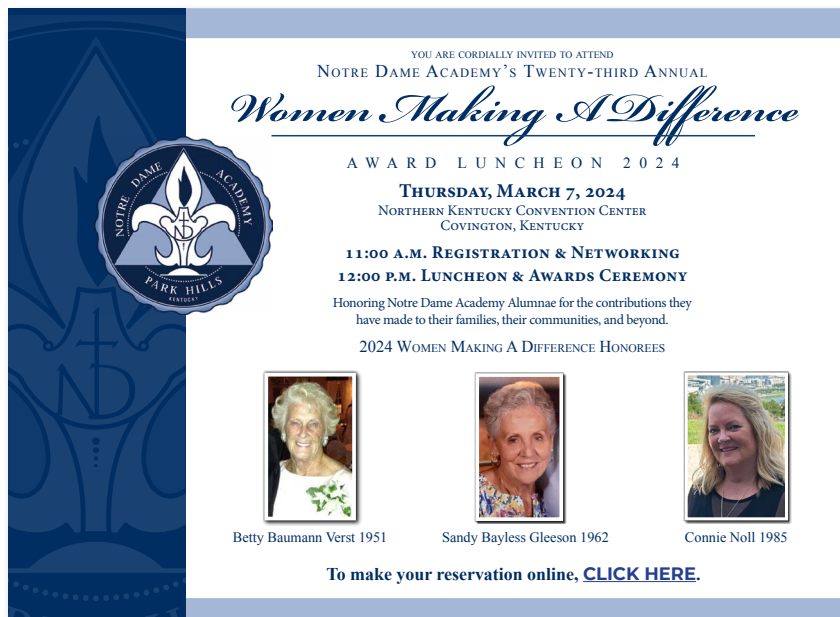
JOIN THE PLANNING COMMITTEE - BE A PART OF THE FUN!

GEARING UP FOR NDA'S 26TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

NDA's 26th annual golf outing will be taking place on Friday, June 14 which means we are getting a planning committee together now!

Joining the planning committee is a great way to get involved at NDA, meet other parents, and we just have a lot of fun! We will meet once in January, February, March, April, May and then twice in June leading up to the event. You do not have to attend the outing to help plan!

Sign up for the planning committee [HERE](#)! If you have any questions, email Myanna Webster at websterm@ndapandas.org.



RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY YOU'RE INVITED

Three distinguished alumnae from Notre Dame Academy will be celebrated at the annual Women Making a Difference Recognition Award Luncheon, scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 2024. The honorees for this year's event are Betty Baumann Verst (Class of 1951), Sandra Bayless Gleeson (Class of 1962), and Connie Noll (Class of 1985).

Now in its twenty-third year, the Women Making a Difference award program acknowledges the remarkable contributions of Notre Dame Academy alumnae to their families and communities through service, professional achievements, and philanthropic endeavors. It is a tribute to these women for embodying NDA's proud legacy and

their continued impact on the world. Additionally, the luncheon plays a vital role in raising funds for tuition assistance at Notre Dame Academy.

The ceremony will take place at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center in Covington, commencing with registration and networking at 11:00 a.m., followed by the luncheon at 12:00 p.m. The Women Making A Difference luncheon warmly welcomes all alumnae, corporate representatives, parents, and friends of Notre Dame Academy.

Ticket information and sponsorship opportunities can be found [HERE](#). For more information, please contact Notre Dame Academy's Director of Alumnae Relations, Lisa Willenbrink Mosley '95 at mosleyL@ndapandas.org or 859.292.1852.



SHARING OUR Community News

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

- 2023-24 Thomas More Dual-Credit Information Sessions
- Molly Mayer's Studio of Dance

Important dates

January 5	New Year's Mass with Bishop Iffert
January 8	Incoming Freshman Scholarship Recognition HSPT Results Meeting
January 10	Senior Retreat #2 FAFSA Application meeting for parents
January 11	Ski Trip to Colorado
January 15	No School - MLK Day
January 24	Green Dot Bystander Training
January 29	Catholic Schools Week begins
February 2	NDA's Got Talent Father/Daughter Dance
February 8	Sips and Stem- Alumnae Event
February 10	ACT at NDA