



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

*Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World*

# Panda Press Weekly

January 31, 2024

THE *nda* LIFE

## Dear Parents,

Happy Catholic Schools Week! I would like to thank our students for their excitement and enthusiasm in celebrating their Catholic education this week. Our Student Council has done a wonderful job orchestrating several activities and themed days to honor our Catholic heritage and showcase our school spirit.

We began the week with our annual "Nunday Monday" celebration honoring our sponsors, the Sisters of Notre Dame. We shared in the celebration of the Eucharist in the morning and after lunch, true to their spirit of giving, the Sisters shared ice cream sundaes with us. Yesterday our students enjoyed a comfortable day in their pajamas and enjoyed a lunchtime movie. Today marks Faculty/Staff Appreciation Day acknowledging our dedicated faculty and staff for all they do to provide an exemplary Catholic education at NDA.

This morning, our community joined other Diocesan Catholic Schools in a Mass celebration with Bishop Iffert. Tonight, we're excited about our annual volleyball game against Covington Catholic, an event not only for spirited competition but also to raise funds and awareness for the Emergency Shelter of Northern Kentucky. Tomorrow, we'll see a creative twist as students don their favorite holiday attire and Friday wraps up the week with Decades Day and our entertaining Pandas Got Talent show.

Catholic Schools Week allows us to reflect on the immense value a Catholic education provides to our students. It's also an opportunity to express our deep appreciation to parents for their sacrifices in choosing NDA. To help us continue offering the best educational experience, we've prepared a [Parent Survey](#). Your insights as NDA parents are invaluable and a few minutes of your time will make a lasting impact.

As we celebrate our NDA Catholic community, please know that we are most grateful for your commitment to Catholic education at Notre Dame Academy.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



**Catholic Schools**  
United in Faith and Community

**Have a great day and make good choices!**

# Student Life



## CELEBRATING THE SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME SHOWING GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION

The first day of Catholic Schools' Week at NDA is traditionally a day to focus on those who contributed so much to the schools' rich Catholic history and academic success. We began our exciting week by celebrating mass together. We showed our gratitude and thanksgiving for the Sisters of Notre Dame who pioneered Catholic education in the Diocese of Covington. The Sisters were invited to attend our liturgy so we could honor them, present them with gifts, and show gratitude for their incredible sacrifice. The celebration continued into lunch as many of the Sisters joined our students and served them ice cream sundaes. The students enjoyed this traditional start of such a fun and exciting week.



## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK CELEBRATING SISTERHOOD

The students enjoyed a cozy Tuesday while dressed in their pajamas. The movie Cloud 9 played for the students while they enjoyed their lunch. The focus was on celebrating our sisterhood and the bonds that our all girls' school provides as it unites us together.

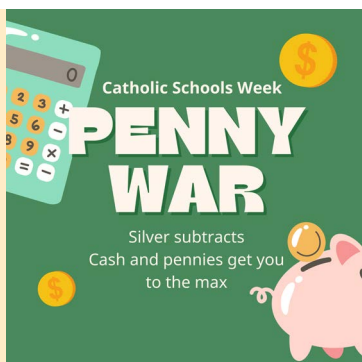
**NDA VS. CCH**



**Emergency Shelter  
of Northern Kentucky**  
Life Saving. Life Changing

## LET'S GO PANDAS! PREPARING FOR VICTORY

Our students and faculty look forward to Wednesday when they will have the chance to claim victory over Covington Catholic during our annual Catholic Schools Week volleyball games. The teachers of NDA will take on the teachers of CCH. Then, our varsity volleyball PaNDAs will take on some CCH students. The evening will end with our senior volleyball team (led by Eva Dozier and Sammie Poulos) playing against another CCH team. All of the proceeds of this fun event will benefit the [Emergency Shelter of Northern Kentucky](#). We are happy to invite Mrs. Kim Webb (the Executive Director) to speak to the students prior to the game about the importance of this outreach opportunity.



## SERVING THOSE IN NEED PENNY WAR

The leaders of the Family System set up a Penny War to benefit the Emergency Cold Shelter of Northern Kentucky for this week. Students can contribute by employing those piggy banks. Bring in your silver to bomb another family, bring in your dollars and pennies to benefit your family!



## FEBRUARY OUTREACH

# NEW FAMILY COMPETITION - DRESS DRIVE

During the month of February, our family leadership students will sponsor and lead an outreach activity to benefit Cinderella's Closet. This organization works as a non-profit to help make Prom more affordable for girls who may struggle with the costs. Cinderella's Closet is in desperate need of dresses this year and we are happy to help and support them. What better time than right after the New Year when many families work to clean out closets and make donations? If you have formal gowns, blingy jewelry, formal shoes or just feel compelled to make a monetary donation, please consider helping such a worthy cause (which may benefit some of our very own PaNDAs). More information to come regarding our collection that will begin on February 1. The flyers found [HERE](#) provide more details regarding what they need.



## ONLINE ORDERING NOW OPEN!

# FAMILY SPIRIT WEAR

PaNDAs - Please consider showing support for your family and Saint by purchasing spirit wear. The [link](#) will be open until 2/4/24.

We are excited to offer monthly Family Spirit Wear days and we will also encourage students to dress in spirit wear on the Feast Day of the family's patron Saint. On those days, students could wear shirts of their family's color or the spirit wear offered in the link above. **St. Gemma Galgani / Green family - Please Note** - the shirts appear to be different colors based on the picture. We have been told that they will be the same color, the pictures are just from different manufacturers.



## INFORMATION SESSION

# STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Student Council moderators (Ms. Hilbert and Mrs. Kroger) and Mrs. Timmerding will hold an informational session for students interested in leadership opportunities at NDA. We will discuss the leadership options which are offered to students in both the Student Council and the Family System. We encourage all students who might be willing to play key roles in the development of activities at our school to attend this information session. It will be held on Wednesday, February 14 at 8:30 a.m. in the Choral Room. Additional information will be sent as the date approaches.

## 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.

- Wednesday, February 7, 2024 - 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
- Wednesday, February 7, 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.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION PLEASE READ

REGISTER TODAY!

## 2024 FATHER DAUGHTER FUN NIGHT!

Register today for the hottest tickets in town - NDA's 2024 Father Daughter Fun Night! This is one of Notre Dame Academy's oldest and most loved traditional events! It will be held on Friday, February 2 at 7:00 p.m at NDA. Dads and daughters, come dressed for your favorite sport, team or athlete! You can enjoy appetizers, drink and a delicious dessert bar, games, contests, a photo booth and all sorts of father/daughter fun!

REGISTER TODAY HERE - TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER!

### NDA Father Daughter Fun Night

Friday, February 2 at 7pm  
at NDA

**Come dressed for your  
favorite sport, your  
favorite team or  
athlete!**



NDA Father Daughter  
Friday, Feb 2 at 7pm  
Ticket No: PANDAS



### Terms & Conditions

- This ticket is valid for Fathers and Daughters
- Appetizers, Drinks and Dessert Bar
- Games, contests, fun and music
- Costume Contest
- Photo Booth

CAN YOU HELP?

## LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

We are in need of some help with Father Daughter Fun Night. Please take a look at the sign up genius below to see how you can help - many options from dessert/candy donations to borrowing corn hole sets and helping with clean up. Thanks in advance for supporting this fun night for our Dads and Daughters! Sign up to help [HERE](#).

FATHER - DAUGHTER

## SENIOR POSTERS

Seniors and Senior Parents: The tradition of making a senior poster for the Father Daughter Fun Night continues! Here's some info to help:

\*poster can be homemade or digitally made

\*poster can be on full size or half size poster board or foam board

\*Some ideas for your poster - pics of you and Dad (or the special man in your life you are bringing with you) - can be from during your high school years or all the years growing up

\* can be any color, can add stickers, or whatever makes it unique and personal to you

\*\*\* Please bring your completed posters to school office by Noon on Friday, February 2

If any questions, please feel free to email [ocean1313@yahoo.com](mailto:ocean1313@yahoo.com).

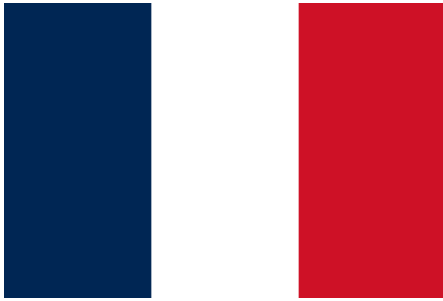
# Host a Student!



## 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](mailto: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.



## LES PANDAS VOYAGEURS

### MEETING FOR 2024 FRANCE TRIP

Madame Otto has scheduled the 1st of 3 mandatory meetings for the students enrolled and going on the 2024 France trip (no longer taking any travelers, as trip is full). The first meeting will be: Friday, February 9, at 3:30 in Room, 203. Students and at least one parent need to attend.



## MEMORIES FOR LIFE

### ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK TODAY

NDA's 2024 yearbook, 24 hOURS, is on sale now! 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. You can purchase it online here: [jostens.com](https://jostens.com).



## PANDA SPIRIT WEAR!

### BAMBOOTIQUE

Winter Sports t-shirts - \$5 and NDA Valentine's Day shirt \$10! Shop at the online Bambootique [HERE](#).



## DELICIOUS NEWS

### WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

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

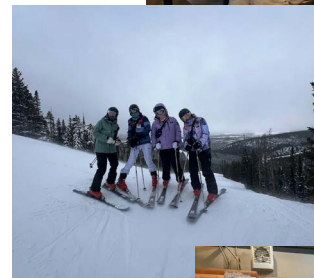
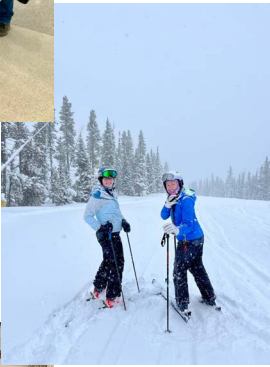
**Parents, please check your daughter's lunch account balance. We have many overdue accounts and some are quite large.**

# PANDAS HIT THE SLOPES

## THRILLS ON THE SLOPES

## NDA'S SUCCESSFUL THIRD SKI TRIP TO COLORADO!

NDA's third Ski Trip to Colorado was a success! All 23 girls who attended had a great time skiing for 3 days in Winter Park! We even got a bonus day in Winter Park thanks to an avalanche closing the Berthoud Pass. Huge thank you to Ms. Meghan Dooling for planning the trip and coordinating the travel changes for 27 people as a result of the avalanche as well as Mrs. Tina Conradi, Madame Erica Otto and Mr. John Lonneman for chaperoning and keeping the girls safe.



# ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

## GO PANDAS!



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

### Swimming & Diving

Northern Kentucky Athletic Conference (NKAC) Championships...

This past weekend, the AquaPandas competed in the NKAC meet at the Kenton County Aquatic Center (Scott HS), finishing 2nd (out of 9 teams) in Division 1. The team competed well and lots of girls won their heat despite having slower seed times. Top 8 individual finishers included:

- Savannah Bien (2nd: 1-meter diving)
- Andi Carothers (5th: 100 free)
- Reagan Connelly (4th: 200 IM and 100 breast)
- Elsie Hanks (2nd: 100 fly; 3rd: 500 free)
- Brooke Hollenkamp (8th: 1-meter diving)
- Marisa Kent (5th: 200 IM; 6th: 100 back)
- Aryanah McCowan (7th: 500 free)
- Sammie Poulos (3rd: 200 IM; 4th: 100 back)
- Peyton Quinn (4th: 50 free; 7th: 100 breast)
- Marlee Reynolds (5th: 200 free; 3rd: 100 fly)
- Mary Reynolds (8th: 50 free)
- Grace Summe (6th: 100 fly)
- Nora VonBokern (6th: 500 free)
- Liv Wallace (1st: 100 free; 2nd: 100 back)

The 400 free relay team of Poulos, Hanks, Carothers, and Wallace finished 3rd.

The team now turns its sights to the Region 7 Championships beginning Friday, February 2. Swimming prelims are Friday morning at the Kenton County Aquatic Center (Scott HS). Swimming finals are the following afternoon. Diving will be contested at the Ralph Wright Natatorium (University of Louisville) the evening of Tuesday, February 6. Good luck AquaPandas!

## VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

NDA sophomore, Liv Wallace, is up for NKY swimmer of the week! Please vote [HERE](#). You can vote once per hour!



### Track and Field -

The Track and Field team is in their Indoor Season and they're working hard. Upwards of 40-50 girls have been practicing during this non-mandatory time. The team had a fun team building joint practice with Covington Catholic's team which allowed the girls to be tested in a 30 meter sprint, broad jump, 1600 meter and a mixed 4x400 relay with Covington Catholic. The team has their first official Indoor Meet at Cedarville University this Saturday February 3. This will be their first opportunity to qualify for the Class AAA Indoor State Championship on March 2. The top 24 competitors in the State in each event qualify for the State Meet.



### Archery -

The Archery Pandas shot a season high 3073 which included 144 tens at the Summit View Academy Tournament this past weekend. A special congratulations to Ava Boertlein who scored 288 and was 1st Overall High School Girl Archer. Rounding out our top five were Sarah Beckham at 267, Reagan Carman at 265, Lea Youtsey at 262 and Savannah Bien at 261. Three other Pandas shot over 250: Jade Wachs at 257, Morgan Russell at 256 and Lauren Agriesti at 250. Six Pandas shot their season best scores: Sarah Beckham, Savannah Bien, Ava Boertlein, Kara Dugan and Ivy Mullins. Also Lauren Agriesti, Katie Ahern and Reagan Carman tied their season best scores. Next up for the Pandas is the Highlands High School Tournament this Saturday. ARCHERY PANDAS ROCK!

# COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



## MAKE DREAMS COME TRUE

### PROM DRESS ASSISTANCE WITH CINDERELLA'S CLOSET

Cinderella's Closet is a local organization that provides prom dresses for Junior and Senior students who would otherwise not be able to afford to attend. They are a wonderful organization that treat attendees with very special care and attention on the day they attend. NDA students who have used them in the past have had wonderful experiences. Not only do they provide you with a prom dress, they provide the shoes, accessories, and small alterations as needed at no cost to the student. They will have appointment times available on March 14, 15, and 16. If you and your junior or senior student are in a challenging financial position, please reach out to counselor Erin Maggard at [maggard@ndapandas.org](mailto:maggard@ndapandas.org). To learn more about Cinderella's closet check out the link here to see informational videos.



## 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.



## NEEDED:

### CAREER FAIR PARTICIPANTS

NDA will be hosting a Career Fair on March 7 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. We are in need of parents who would like to come and talk about their careers/career journey. If you would be willing to talk to our students and have some time available on this morning, we would love to have you. Please contact Chrissy Monohan ([monohanc@ndapandas.org](mailto:monohanc@ndapandas.org)) to let her know if you could help or you may know someone that may be willing to participate.



UNLEASH YOUR POTENTIAL

## COMMONWEALTH HONORS ACADEMY SUMMER ENRICHMENT AT MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY!

Commonwealth Honors Academy is a 3-week summer academic enrichment experience held on the campus of Murray State University. The Academy will bring together 90 rising high school seniors in an interdisciplinary learning environment June 8 - June 29. Students live on campus while taking college-level honors classes and participating in fun activities and seminars. Students earn 6 hours of university credit and opportunities for scholarship. **Application deadline is March 1, 2024.** For application and more information, click [HERE](#).



## RESOURCES TO UNDERSTAND & HELP TEENAGE GIRLS NDA PARENT TOOLBOX

NDA's counselors have put together some very useful tools for our parents [HERE](#).

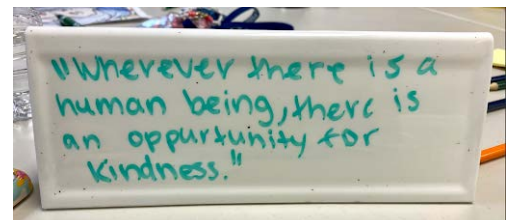


PANDAS EMPOWERED

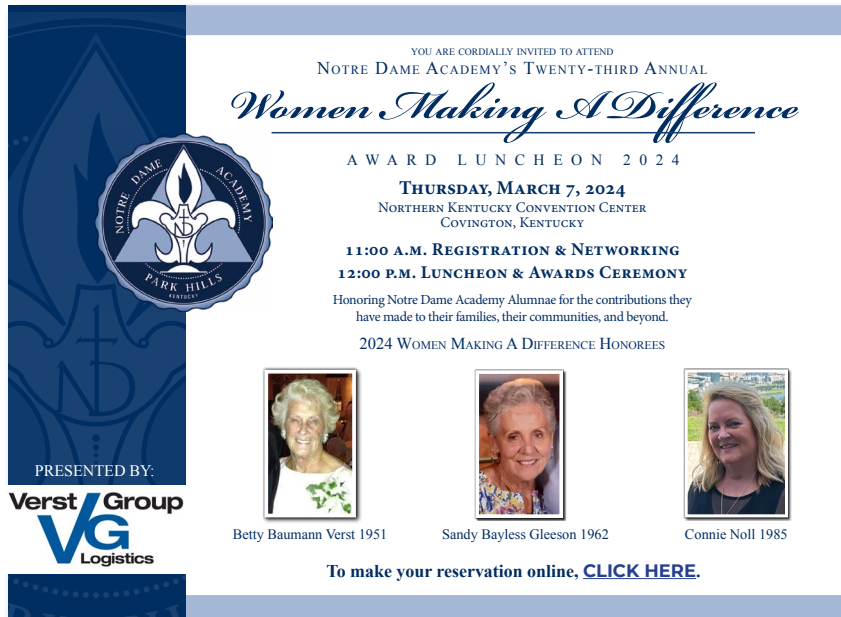
## NDA AND GREEN DOT'S IMPACTFUL BYSTANDER TRAINING




Notre Dame Academy and Green Dot provided an all-day Bystander Training last week for 27 Pandas! They explored what it means to be an active bystander, learned how to recognize when people might be getting hurt, and practiced realistic ways they can stop potential harm from happening by using Direct, Delegate, and Distract strategies. There are currently 101 NDA Pandas who have been through this Bystander Training!

**No one can do everything but everyone can do something!**



# ADVANCING THE MISSION



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND  
NOTRE DAME ACADEMY'S TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL  
*Women Making A Difference*  
AWARD LUNCHEON 2024  
THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2024  
NORTHERN KENTUCKY CONVENTION CENTER  
COVINGTON, KENTUCKY  
11:00 A.M. REGISTRATION & NETWORKING  
12:00 P.M. LUNCHEON & AWARDS CEREMONY  
Honoring Notre Dame Academy Alumnae for the contributions they  
have made to their families, their communities, and beyond.  
2024 WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE HONOREES  
 Betty Baumann Verst 1951  
 Sandy Bayless Gleeson 1962  
 Connie Noll 1985  
To make your reservation online, [CLICK HERE](#).

PRESENTED BY:  
**Verst Group**  
**VG**  
Logistics

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](mailto:mosleyL@ndapandas.org) or 859.292.1852.



**OrthoCincy**  
Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine  
**NOTRE DAME ACADEMY**  
  
**26TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING**  
SAVE THE DATE  
JUNE 7, 2024  
KENTON COUNTY GOLF COURSE  
18-HOLE, 8:00 A.M. SHOTGUN  
9-HOLE FUN SOCIAL, 10:30 A.M.

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 7 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](mailto:websterm@ndapandas.org).



# Sips & Stems



**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024**  
**7:00 - 8:30 p.m.**  
**NDA ALUMNAE HALL**

**ATTENTION NDA MOMS!**

## **GALENTINE'S SIPS & STEMS**

NDA moms, join us for our Alumnae Galentine's Sips & Stems special event on Thursday, February 8 from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in NDA's Alumnae Hall! Your \$40 ticket includes drinks, a light snack and all supplies and the demonstration for a beautiful flower arrangement.

Make your reservation now to spend the evening with your best gals including your friends, sisters, mom and aunts for a fun evening together with NDA Alumna Emily Ryan '13 who will show us how to make a special flower arrangement to take home.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Willenbrink Mosley '95, Director of Alumnae Relations at [MosleyL@ndapandas.org](mailto:MosleyL@ndapandas.org) or 859.292.1852.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to RSVP before this Friday!



## SHARING OUR Community News

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

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

## Important dates

January 31	Faculty/Staff Appreciation Day - Neon Day
	CSW Mass at Cathedral
	CSW Volleyball Game 6:30 p.m.
February 1	Holiay Dress
February 2	NDA's Got Talent
	Father/Daughter Dance
February 8	Alumnae Rosary 12:50 in the Chapel
	Sips and Stem- Alumnae Event
February 9	Winter Sports Pep Rally
	France 2024 Meeting
February 10	ACT at NDA
	Junior Retreat #3
February 12	HOPE Week Begins
February 14	Ash Wednesday Mass - Auditorium
February 19	President's Day - NO SCHOOL
February 26-28	Senior Retreat #3