

Dear Parents,

Today we begin our Lenten journey, a traditional time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. This morning we celebrated with our annual Ash Wednesday Liturgy; praying as a school community that our hearts and minds can be open in a special way to God's presence in our lives during this holy season. We have much planned in the days to come to prepare ourselves for the gift of the risen Christ on Easter. It is important for us to remember that Lent is a special time offering each of us an opportunity to deepen our relationship with the God who loves us. It is our chance to take time out of our busy schedules to reflect on our lives and reach out to those in need. May this Lent be a special time of renewal of our faith!



I hope you are planning to join us for this year's Women Making A Differ-

ence Luncheon on March 7 at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center. This event is a wonderful celebration of our mission and a great opportunity to hear the extraordinary experiences of some of our alumnae. You can click **HERE** to learn more about our 2024 recipients and make your reservations for the event.

I encourage you to read the follow up letter below from our Academic Administrative team. We certainly appreciate the feedback you provided as it enables support our students' academic and spiritual growth.

As we navigate through these upcoming weeks, let us remain steadfast in our faith and dedicated to spiritual growth this Lenten season. Please know that you are in our prayers throughout this sacred season.

In Notre Dame.

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



Ash Wednesday









Academic Life

FOLLOW UP

PARENT SURVEY

Dear Parents,

We want to extend our sincere gratitude to all who participated in the recent parent survey. Your valuable feedback helps us continuously improve our school community and better support our students' academic and faith journey. There were certain themes that emerged in our analysis of the responses, including questions about the scheduling process, and we wanted to follow up on these themes.

The results indicated that most participants feel that NDA provides sufficient resources to support student learning, and we were encouraged to learn that most students do not regularly require parent engagement with their homework to be successful. However, we recognize that students and families have diverse needs, and if you or your daughter wish to receive more support with a particular class, please contact your daughter's teacher in the appropriate content area. We are happy to share an overview for those curious about the scheduling process. In the first phase of the process, students are provided with information about the classes offered (both graduation requirements and elective courses) through teacher-created videos and the curriculum guide, which is also available on the website. Teachers then met with students individually to determine each student's most appropriate placement for the upcoming academic year. At this point, the student's tentative schedule is built with the core courses and electives that best suit her unique interests and needs. If there are any schedule conflicts, the academic counselors work with students individually to finalize their schedule.

At Notre Dame Academy, we strive to empower students to take ownership of their learning journey, and the scheduling process is a specific opportunity for students to exercise this ownership. However, we understand that you may have specific questions about placements. If so, please contact your daughter's teacher for further guidance and support. At this stage, teachers and students have all collaborated on optimal placements for the upcoming academic year. In the coming weeks, our dedicated counseling staff will work with students individually to reconcile conflicts that may exist in their schedules.

If you have any academic concerns that are specific to your daughter, please contact her teacher in the class or our academic counselors: Ms. Chrissy Monohan (9th-11th grade) at monohanc@ndapandas.org or Ms. Erin Stanley (12th grade) at stanley@ndapandas.org or Ms. Erin Maggard at maggarde@ndapandas.org or Ms. Erin Maggard at maggarde@ndapandas.org or Ms. Erin Maggard at maggarde@ndapandas.org.

Once again, thank you for your invaluable input. Together, we will continue to foster a nurturing and enriching educational environment where students can continue to develop the skills necessary to become the women making a difference that God calls them to be.

Jack VonHandorf Principal Lisa Timmerding
Assistant Principal for Student Life

Molly Proudfit Assistant Principal for Academics Nationally Board Certified Teacher

Student Life



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). Please send in your items over the course of the next two weeks. There will be bins in the lobby for items this week. The flyers found HERE provide more details regarding what they need.



HOPE WEEK

SPREADING HOPE

We are very fortunate to have a Hope Squad who promotes positive thoughts, feelings of hope, and various tools / strategies to overcome challenging times. This week is designated as HOPE Week. The Hope Squad worked very hard to start off our week full of hope and positive thoughts. They started our week by playing uplifting music as students entered school on Monday. Hope bracelets were given out as well. The Freshmen students were able to nominate their peers to become members of the HOPE Squad. They were told to nominate students who show concern for others, are good listeners, and someone who would always be a friend. Throughout the week, they read messages on the announcements to encourage our students to be mindful and positive. There was a great focus on positive affirmations and spreading kindness. How perfect that this is at the start of the Lenten season and Valentine's Day! The week will conclude with an out of uniform day to benefit Ethan's Purpose (an organization which focuses on positive mental health and suicide prevention).



PANDA SPIRIT WEAR!

BAMBOOTIQUE

There are all kinds of great deals in the Bambootique! Shop at the online Bambootique **HERE**.



RED CARPET

PROM/AFTER PROM NEWS

We are excited for the 2024 Prom, which will be held on Friday, March 22 from 7:30-11:30 p.m. at Music Hall. The theme for this year's Prom is the Red Carpet. The cost for Prom this year is \$75 and includes dinner, dancing, the shuttle bus (must register in advance), and After Prom. The After Prom will be held from 11:15pm-1:30 a.m. at NKU's Recreation Center. All students MUST turn in the After Prom Form indicating whether or not they will be attending After Prom. The registration documents needed will be sent out to students this week and starting next week they can choose their table assignment if they have completed all of the other steps. This was all shared with students, along with dress code expectations at a meeting on Monday. If a student needs to arrive late or leave early for Prom or After Prom a written note from a parent would be required in advance. Again, we are looking forward to a great event this year. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Mrs. Lisa Timmerding at timmerdingl@ndapandas. org. If you would like to help with the after prom, a committee has been formed as well.



2024-25

CALENDAR NEWS

The academic calendar for next year will be finalized this week during various meetings with departments and committees of faculty and staff. An overview of the calendar will be shared next week in the PPW. The No School Calendar will be shared as we know that many families are already working on plans for next year. If you have specific questions, feel free to contact the office staff.



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**.



2024-25

PEP RALLY FUN

Thank you to our GAA officers who put together a great pep rally for our winter sports teams on Friday. We were able to celebrate all of the successes of each team and recognize all of the seniors on each team. It was a great way to end the week and honor our successful athletes.

Rolling Into Action: ACTION:

PEDAL-POWERED PHILANTHROPY

ROLLING INTO ACTION: NDA BIKE DRIVE

Join the Notre Dame Academy Peer Ministers, led by Josie Bozeman, as they gear up to make a difference in the lives of their neighbors. Partnering with Catholic Charities' Pickett's Corner ministry, the students are collecting bikes to provide essential transportation for those in need.

Your donation of a bike, no matter its condition, can change a life. Pickett's Corner ministry repairs and donates used bikes to Parish Kitchen guests who rely on them to get to work, medical appointments and social services. Last year alone, over 250 bikes were given to neighbors in need, thanks to generous contributions.

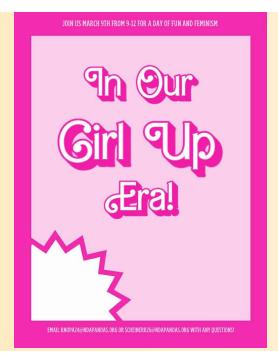
But the wheels don't stop there. Notre Dame Academy aims to collect 25 bikes this year.

Don't have a bike to donate? You can still pedal towards change by making a monetary contribution. Every donation helps purchase spare parts, tools, and locks to secure bikes, ensuring they're road-ready for those who need them most.

This initiative is kicking off on today and is a great way to practice almsgiving this Lenten season. You can fill out the attached form below to donate a bike or make a monetary donation.

Ready to join the ride? Let's spin the wheels of generosity and make a meaningful impact in our community, one bike at a time!

DONATE A BIKE OR MAKE A DONATION HERE



SPREAD THE WORD

GIRL UP DAY

Come to NDA for the annual Girl Up Day! We invite young people grades 4-8 to join us for a day of fun activities, from making bracelets to scavenger hunt puzzles. The day focuses on confidence, leadership, and teamwork, as well as getting familiar with their community. Part of the global Girl Up mission of women's empowerment, we hope you join us on March 9 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (noon) for learning and lasting friendships.

REGISTRATION LINK

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.



DELICIOUS NEWS

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

You can find NDA's lunch menu below and on our website HERE.



CSW VOLLEYBALL GAME

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

NDA and CCH came together during their annual Catholic Schools Week volleyball game with a shared purpose beyond the competition. Through their spirited rivalry, both schools united in a remarkable display of generosity, raising an impressive \$2,646.43 for the Emergency Shelter of Northern Kentucky. This collaborative effort exemplifies the core values of compassion and community service instilled in the students of NDA and CCH. Their dedication to supporting those in need extends far beyond the volleyball court, leaving a lasting impact on the local community and embodying the spirit of giving central to their Catholic education.



GO PANDAS!

VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

Kate Resing is up for Cincinnati.com's Girls Basketball Player of the Week! She had team highs with 13 points and six rebounds as the Pandas beat Grant County.

Please vote for her HERE.

CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS



DEADLINE REMINDER

SERVICE INFORMATION

On Saturday, Feb 10 - 15 NDA students volunteered at the DAV (Disabled Veterans of America) packing disaster relief bags and assembling hundreds of poppies to be used for their annual fundraising efforts. Thanks to these young ladies for making a difference in our community! Photo Credit: Dawn Hopkins who served with them.



DEADLINE REMINDER

SERVICE INFORMATION

Service work for all Freshmen, Sophomores and Seniors is due on March 8. Specifics about the service requirements can be found HERE. Upcoming opportunities and local agency information can be found linked to the student padlet each week.



REMINDER FOR SENIOR PARENTS

MISSION RETREAT LETTERS DUE FEBRUARY 16

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

Archery -

Congratulations to the Archery Pandas for a successful performance at the Mary Queen of Heaven Tournament this past weekend. The Pandas were led by Ava Boertlein at 275 (6th high school girl), Lea Youtsey at 274 (9th high school girl), Morgan Russell at 261, Kara Dugan at 258, and Lucy Siegert and Savannah Bien who each shot 252. 17 Pandas beat their season average score and 6 beat their season high as well as their season average (Megan Ahern, Anna Barczak, Maya Collins, Kara Dugan, Ivy Mullins and Maddie Rawe. Also Seniors - Megan Ahern, Lea Youtsey and Mack Zemter will be honored during halftime of the NDA vs Ryle basketball game tonight. Archery Pandas Rock!



Looking for a dedicated coach with at least high school-level experience to join our staff for the 2024 volleyball season. The freshman volleyball team has practices and matches Monday-Thursday (Fridays at coaches' discretion) and there are 2 Saturday commitments with the farthest travel being in Louisville, KY and Ohio. The season begins in mid-July and ends in mid-October. All coaches must undergo KH-SAA and Diocese onboarding and training. If you are interested, please send in your letter of interest and resume to ndahr@ndapandas.org. go paNDAs!

NDA Volleyball Freshman Assistant Coach -

Looking for a dedicated coach to assist in developing our younger student-athletes for the 2024 season. High school-level experience is preferred. The freshman volleyball team has practices and matches Monday-Thursday (Fridays at coaches' discretion) and there are 2 Saturday commitments with the farthest travel being in Louisville, KY and Ohio. The season begins in mid-July and ends in mid-October. All coaches must undergo KHSAA and Diocese onboarding and training. If you are interested, please send in your letter of interest and resume to ndahr@ndapandas.org. go paNDAs!





COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES





MEET NDA ALUMNA PAIGE DONNELLY

LEARN ABOUT ALL THINGS EF GAP

At EF Gap Year, our programs are designed to give students the space and tools to learn about themselves and thrive in an ever-changing world. Students get to live in multiple destinations around the globe while participating in language immersion, service, and internship opportunities. Whether you're a student, parent, or counselor, this session is for you!

Virtual meeting Wednesday, February 21st at 6:30 pm. Audio & visual off for attendees, so very low pressure. Join just to learn more!

In this 30-minute webinar, you can:

- Hear from Gap & Notre Dame alumni Paige Donnelly
- Learn about the life-changing benefits of gap programs
- Hear how our semester and year programs work
- Ask any questions you might have

Learn more **HERE**.



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.

A Special Education Program Designed for Youth and their Families

Family Education Day **Depression/Anxiety**

In collaboration with Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, join 1N5 and MindPeace for the second annual education day for adolescents and <u>young adults living with depression/anxiety and their caregivers.</u> During this event, experts will present on a range of topics relevant to adolescents and young adults. This program will also include Q & A expert panels, a session just for teens and a session for young adults.

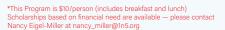
Graduate Hotel 151 Goodman Street Cincinnati, OH 45219

Sunday Feb 25th, 2024 9:00AM-4:00PM

Breakfast, Lunch, Keynote Speaker, Breakout Sessions, Information Fair, Networking, Q&A Panels, and more!

Keynote Speaker Sessions

- Depression and Anxiety: How They Co-Exist and Treatment Approaches Genetic Pharmacology and Treatment of Chronic Depression
- The Whole-Person Approach to Depression Treatment Latest Treatments for Resistant Depression
- Depression and the Role of the Family in Treatment
- Managing Your Care











In Partnership with







FOR YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES

FAMILY EDUCATION DAY

In collaboration with Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, join 1N5 and MindPeace for the second annual education day for adolescents and young adults living with depression/anxiety and their caregivers. During this event, experts will present on a range of topics relevant to adolescents and young adults. This program will also include Q&A expert panels, a session just for teens and a session for young adults.

Sunday, February 25, 2024 – 9:00 am – 4:00 pm Graduate Hotel, 151 Goodman Street, Cincinnati, OH 45219

You can register **HERE**.



COVINGTON LATIN SCHOOL

COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR

Covington Latin School is hosting a College and Career Fair on Tuesday, April 23, 2024 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. All are welcome!

ADVANCING THE MISSION



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 <u>HERE</u>. For more information, please contact Notre Dame Academy's Director of Alumnae Relations, Lisa Willenbrink Mosley '95 at <u>mosleyL@ndapandas.org</u> or 859,292,1852.



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 <u>HERE</u>! If you have any questions, email Myanna Webster at <u>websterm@ndapandas.org</u>.



SHARING OUR

Community News

You can find a complete list of community news **HERE**.

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

Important dates

February 16 Mass in Chapel 7:20 a.m. - ALL ARE WELCOME!

February 19 President's Day - NO SCHOOL

February 26-28 Senior Retreat #3

March 7 Career Day

Women Making a Difference Luncheon

February 20 Textiles Class - Field Trip to JoAnn Fabrics

February 21 JETS Team competition

March 8 End of Third Quarter

March 9 8th Grade Conferences

March 12 Super Day - Freshman/Soph. Cert test,

Junior - ACT, Senior Mission Retreat

Sophomore- Ring Ceremony

March 13 National Latin Exams

March 16 8th Grade Conference

March 22 Prom