



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World

Panda Press Weekly

February 18 2026

THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Panda Families,

As we begin the season of Lent, our Notre Dame Academy community gathered today for our Ash Wednesday Mass, marking a time of reflection, prayer, and renewal. This sacred season invites us to deepen our faith and embrace opportunities for growth in service to others, aligning with the mission that guides us each day.

We were delighted to have so many guests attend this mass with us and as always, visitors are always welcome. At the conclusion of our mass, two representatives from the Peer Ministry Club presented about various faith activities that are offered to them during this time of Lent. This was a great segway into the school wide use of the Hallow App, a new resource to support the spiritual lives of our students, faculty, and families. This app will be available to teachers by the end of this week and hopefully for students on Monday, just in time for students to begin the "Pray 40, Lenten Journey."

Additionally, as we have moved through the last few masses, I have been sharing information with the girls about guardian angels and the part they play during mass, specifically at the offertory. St. Padre Pio told his spiritual children, *At the Offertory, send your guardian angel to the altar with your intentions*. This has been an ongoing discussion throughout this year and I will share the full reflection through the PPW before we end the year. It provides a beautiful representation of what is occurring at the mass and how our angels stand beside us always.

It is a pleasure to also share that just within the past week, I have received two incredible compliments regarding the students. One of my goals this year is to celebrate the goodness of the institution which is truly a reflection of the goodness of your daughters. The owner of Better Blends in Fort Mitchell is eager to partner with our students for internships, entrepreneur workshops, etc. We are in the initial planning stages, but his interest and enthusiasm in partnering with NDA is attributed to the goodness of our students. He said, *NDA (both customers and workers) are the most counted on and the best*. That is an amazing testament to our community. In addition, as our bowling team competed in the state competition this year, they also were noticed in such an outstanding and positive way. The coach of Trinity High School in Louisville (and Proprietor of King Pin Lanes where the tournament was held) sent the following message to our bowling coach Mr. Hampton: *I just wanted to let you guys know the way your girls handled themselves was impressive. I have never seen a team take a semi final loss like this. I thought I had advanced the wrong team. It was impressive to see their support for each other*. What a powerful testament to Coach Hampton and our bowling team!!!

Finally, I want to ask for your cooperation in the parking lot. Recently we have had a few incidents reported to us. Each has involved parents, grandparents, or caregivers. We require that the girls leave at our designated staggered dismissal times to allow for an easier transition out of our parking lot. Seniors and those riding with them are dismissed at 2:59. Juniors and those riding with them are dismissed at 3:03. All other students are not dismissed until 3:06. In the beginning of the year, we also reviewed the areas designated for pick up of a student. Please utilize the theatre lot and the first few rows of the parking lot for picking up students. We ask this for the safety of our students and for the efficiency of exiting our parking lot.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our students and our mission. I look forward to all that lies ahead as we journey through this Lenten season together.

Walk in Faith,

Mrs. Lisa Ruwe Timmerding

Mrs. Lisa Ruwe Timmerding '97



Walk in Faith!

FAITH IN ACTION



FAITH FORMATION

UPCOMING LITURGIES

We will celebrate mass in the chapel at 7:20 a.m. on Friday, February 20.

We will pray a decade of the rosary at 7:45 a.m. on Thursday, February 19, Monday, February 23, and Tuesday, February 24.

We will have adoration in the chapel during PPT on Tuesday, February 24.

Reconciliation Services will take place during Religion Classes on February 25 and 27 as well as on March 5.



PRAY, FAST AND GIVE ALMS

LENTEN SEASON OPPORTUNITIES

Students are encouraged to find ways to Pray, Fast and give Alms during the Lenten Season. To help with this, the Peer Ministers have planned several opportunities for students to engage in faith and fellowship. A list of opportunities can be found [here](#).



LETTERS DUE FEBRUARY 20

SENIOR PARENT REMINDER

Just a reminder that Senior Parent Letters are due on Friday, February 20 to the front office. Information was emailed out in January regarding these letters. That information can be found [here](#).



REMINDER AND OPPORTUNITIES

SERVICE HOURS

A reminder that Freshmen and Sophomore Service hours are due on March 31. Students are encouraged to sign up for events early as many schools have service hours coming due soon and agencies are filling up! A list of guidelines and requirements can be found [here](#). A list of upcoming opportunities that the Campus Ministry is aware of can be found [here](#) and are shared weekly on the student Padlet.

Student Life



SEQUINS & SNEAKERS:

FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE

Join us for a magical evening where fathers and daughters shine together! Dress up in your favorite sequins, slip on your coolest sneakers, and enjoy dinner, dancing, and memories that will last a lifetime. This special night is all about celebrating the unique bond between dads and their daughters — NDA style!

[Click HERE to register by March 13!](#)

PANDA PARENT CLUB UPDATE:

MOTHER-DAUGHTER & FATHER-DAUGHTER EVENTS

Beginning in the coming years, the Panda Parent Club will be introducing an exciting new rotation for our beloved Mother-Daughter and Father-Daughter events. These special celebrations will now alternate each year, allowing each event to shine while building anticipation and excitement within our community.

This new schedule will also help support our dedicated parent committees by balancing commitments and ensuring thoughtful planning for each experience.

We are excited to share that this year's Father-Daughter Event will take place on March 20, and we look forward to another wonderful evening of memories, laughter, and connection.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of the Panda Parent Club and our many meaningful events. Your involvement makes these traditions so special for our NDA families.

2026-2027 Mother Daughter Event

2027-2028 Father Daughter Event

2028-2029 Mother Daughter Event





WE NEED YOUR HELP

FATHER/DAUGHTER PLANNING MEETING

Join us for our **Sequins & Sneakers Father-Daughter Dance Planning Meeting on Wednesday, February 25 at 6:00 p.m.**

Come help the Panda Parent Club bring this special night to life! From décor and activities to music and memories, your ideas and energy will help make this an unforgettable evening for our dads and daughters.

All are welcome —new faces and returning volunteers alike. We'd love to have you!



SAVE THE DATE

PROM NIGHT SETS SAIL THIS APRIL

Prom 2026 is heading to the Greek islands! Juniors and Seniors join us for Mamma Mia! Prom Night on Saturday, April 18, 2026 from 7:15–11:00 p.m. aboard BB Riverboats. A night of music, dancing, waterfront views, and unforgettable memories awaits. Grab your tickets now! [Click the link to register by April 10.](#)

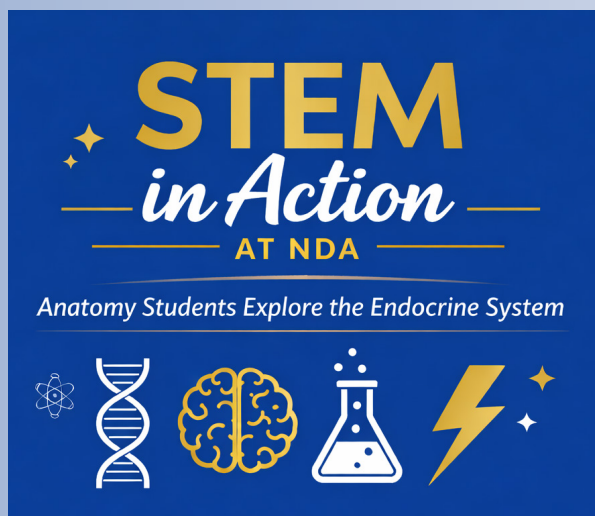


SPIRITED TRADITION

CSW VOLLEYBALL GAME RESCHEDULED

Due to earlier schedule changes, the Catholic Schools Week Volleyball Game has been rescheduled for **Monday, February 23 at 6:30 p.m.**

We invite our NDA community to come out and support this fun and spirited event that celebrates school pride, teamwork, and the joy of making a difference. **All proceeds benefit ESNKY.** Mark your calendars and plan to cheer on our students as we continue this beloved CSW tradition together!



STEM IN ACTION

ANATOMY COMES ALIVE THROUGH HANDS-ON STEM DISCOVERY

Last week Ms. Meese's Anatomy students started a new unit on the Endocrine System, the body system that's involved in producing and releasing Hormones in the human body. Students embarked on an "Endocrine Scavenger Hunt." Teams of students followed a trail of riddles to find ten strategic stations throughout the building—from Mrs. Timmerding's office acting as the body's "control center" (the Hypothalamus) to the gym representing the "fight or flight" response (the Adrenal glands). This interactive mission allowed students to take note of several essential hormones and their functions. This information has driven their ongoing research into how these powerful chemical messengers impact our daily lives!



VALENTAILS

NDA CARES FOR OUR FURRY FRIENDS

The mission of Notre Dame Academy to educate young women to make a difference in the world permeates through our halls and can be witnessed on a daily basis. A recent outreach collection showcases this service in action and love / passion turned into action.

Megan Fedor (a senior student at NDA) approached the administration this year about supporting the Kenton County Animal Shelter at some point this year. Her passion for animals and furry friends prompted her to recognize an issue and lead her community in supporting it. She, along with junior Emily Stewart, spearheaded a collection last week and the outcome speaks volumes about our students, our community and the spirit of service ingrained in our walls by the founding Sisters of Notre Dame.

Kenton County Animal Shelter received the donations over the weekend and was SO thankful! NDA gave them 238 items and \$2,200!!!! This is absolutely incredible. The students and their families visited with the animals which of course made them cry. They are in desperate need of volunteers to walk and play with dogs so maybe more students can serve these furry friends.

Thank you to our community and to Megan and Emily for making this happen!



"By the sweat of your brow you shall eat bread,
Until you return to the ground, from which you were taken;
For you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Genesis 3:19

IMPORTANT REMINDER

2026-2027 FINANCIAL AID, WORK STUDY AND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS



At Notre Dame Academy, we remain committed to partnering with families whose daughters can benefit from an NDA education. During the 2025-2026 school year, NDA provided \$944,297 in financial assistance and tuition allowances, reflecting our dedication to accessibility while continuing to offer a high-quality, mission-driven experience.

To better serve our families and provide award decisions earlier in the enrollment process, **the deadline for 2026-2027 FACTS financial aid and work study applications is Saturday, February 28, 2026.** Applications opened December 15, and families may use their 2024 tax information when applying.

For questions or assistance with financial aid or work study, please contact Chief Financial Officer Mr. Cliff Ludwig at 859-292-1844.

Scholarships for Continuing Students

Several scholarships are available for continuing students. Families are encouraged to carefully review the requirements and apply for any opportunities that may apply. Scholarship applications can be accessed [HERE](#). Please scroll to the section titled Scholarships for Existing Students.

The scholarship application deadline is Monday, March 2, 2026.

Please note that the Saint Julie Billiart application is not yet available. An update will be shared once that application is live on the website.

Questions about scholarships may be directed to [Mrs. Caccavari](#).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT

Thursday, March 12 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 p.m., Notre Dame Academy is hosting a College Information Night available to all NDA and CCH parents. The event will include attending two of three presentations with various topics such as financing post secondary education, connecting with resources, and college preparation. Dan Bisig from College and Beyond will be presenting on "College Affordability", the do's and don'ts of navigating the financial aid world, and what it takes for students to earn merit-based scholarships. Montanna McClain, our Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority representative, will speak to when and how to apply for state and federal funds, including information regarding the FAFSA. Jess Brown and Erin Stanley will be sharing school-specific information about the college application process, what to expect with timelines, deadlines, and how to create a balanced College List. Registration is not required and we hope to see you all there! Please reach out to Erin Stanley at stanleye@ndapandas.org or Jessica Brown at jbrown@covcath.org with questions.

COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT



ORDER TODAY

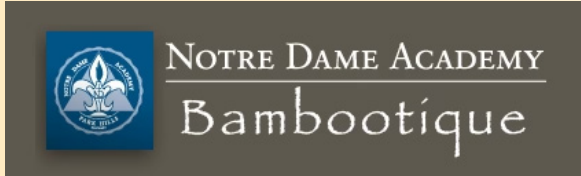
YEARBOOK NEWS

NDA's 2026 yearbook, is available to order at jostens.com. Order now to take advantage of this great opportunity and best price! Our publications classes work hard to make the yearbook and appreciate your support!

GREAT DEAL THIS WEEK!

SHOP THE BAMBOOTIQUE

Enjoy 20% off your entire order this week, including school uniforms and already discounted items! Visit the Bambootique in person or shop [ONLINE](#).



HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

FALL 2026 INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

NDA is once again going to host international students from our sister school in Germany (Liebfrauenschule Vechta) for a portion of the 2026 fall semester. Four students will be experiencing the NDA Life for about 10 weeks. The girls would arrive in Mid-October and depart in the middle of December. 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 Sammie Bezold, Foreign Exchange Program Coordinator, at bezolds@ndapandas.org/859-292-1884, if you would be interested in more information about this opportunity. Your reply is not a commitment.

Looking for a unique, short-term hosting opportunity?

Ms. Tewes from CCH is seeking a few NDA families willing to host a German exchange student for one week in March. There is no cost, and students do not need their own bedroom — just a bed and a welcoming family. Even busy families are a great fit, as students are excited to experience everyday American life. Details [HERE](#).

PLEASE NOTE!

REPORTING ABSENCES

ATTENDANCE POLICY

We have an attendance email for parents to call in a sick child or if a student is leaving early from school. Please use this email if your daughter is sick or needs to leave school early: attendance@ndapandas.org. Remember you can always call the school office with any questions 859-261-4300.



DELICIOUS NEWS LUNCH MENU

This week's lunch menu and the cafeteria price sheet are available [HERE](#) for easy reference. Families are encouraged to check the menu often to help students plan ahead for meals they'll enjoy.



STUDENTS INVITED TO SERVE

NDA'S FIRST-EVER MUSTARD SEED MISSION TRIP

Registration is now open for NDA's first-ever Mustard Seed Mission Trip. Join us for a week of service, community, and spiritual growth as we accompany and serve some of the most vulnerable communities.

Dates: May 30 through June 6, 2026
Location: Moca, Dominican Republic
Cost: \$1,200 (fundraised) plus airfare (approximately \$800)
Sign Up: 2026 Mustard Seed Mission Trip Registration

This opportunity is open to all students 15 and older, including current seniors.

Mustard Seed Communities partners with vulnerable populations around the world, offering hope, support, and practical assistance to those most in need. This experience is more than travel — it is an invitation to make a lasting impact and to encounter God's heart for the vulnerable. Spaces are limited. Please email [Ms. Dooling](#) with any questions.



ADVENTURE AWAITS!

NOTRE DAME ACADEMY IS HEADING TO SPAIN & PORTUGAL IN JUNE 2027

Experience the history, art, and beauty of the Iberian Peninsula with your classmates and NDA faculty chaperones as you journey from Lisbon to Barcelona. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to explore two amazing countries in one unforgettable trip!

Attendance at an info meeting isn't required — everyone's welcome! Click [here](#) to learn more and register. Any questions? Contact [Ms. Dooling](#) for more details.



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

FROM THE DESK OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

PANDA ATHLETICS

REMINDER:

Mandatory Parent Meeting for athletes participating in Spring sports

Monday, March 2 | 5:45–6:30 PM | Theater



Archery

The team had an off weekend and will be back in action this weekend competing in the NKAC Championship. Good luck to our archers as they aim for a strong finish!

Basketball

The Pandas are coming off a tough matchup against one of the top teams in the state, George Rogers Clark High School, falling 55–32.



This week the Pandas take on Campbell County High School on Wednesday at Campbell County. Then on Friday, we host our final home game of the year against another top-ranked opponent, Sacred Heart Academy. JV begins at 5:30 PM, Varsity at 7:00 PM.

Join us Friday as we celebrate Faculty and Volunteer Appreciation Night — come out and support the Pandas!



Swim & Dive

The team has been preparing for the KHSAA State Swimming and Diving Championships, which will be held Saturday, February 21, at the University of Kentucky Natatorium.

The Pandas are coming off last year's State Runner-Up finish and are looking to secure another top finish this season. Additionally, our 1976 KHSAA State Champion Swim Team will be honored during the state finals.

Spring Sports are in full swing. Starting soon is Lacrosse, Softball, Tennis and Outdoor Track and Field!

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



CAREER FAIR

ATTENTION PARENTS!

CAREER FAIR PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

NDA will be hosting the Career Fair this year on Tuesday, March 3. We are looking for any parent that may be willing and able to speak about his or her career. If you are an interested parent and can be available to present to small groups of students from approximately 8:15-10:30 am, please fill out [this Google Form](#). If you have any questions at all, please feel free to email me directly at monohanc@ndapandas.org.

COLLEGE REP VISITS

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.

SUBMIT YOUR ESSAY TODAY!

DRUG FREE CLUB SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY CONTEST



Attention all Drug Free Club Members - the yearly scholarship contest has begun. To be eligible, you must be a member of Drug Free Club and submit a one page, typed essay answering one of the following questions

- How has Drug Free Clubs of America affected or changed your family, school, community, or friends and yourself?
- For multi year members - How do you view the club differently from the beginning to now?

Essays must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on February 23 to Mrs. Maggard. Either digital or hard copy formats are accepted. There is also a brief application that must be filled out and turned in with the essay. Students have all received the application and instructions via their grade level Counseling Google Classroom.

Advancing the Mission



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND
NOTRE DAME ACADEMY'S TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL

Women Making A Difference AWARD LUNCHEON 2026

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

St. Elizabeth Training and Education Center (SETEC)

3861 Olympic Blvd. Erlanger KY, 41018

11:00 A.M. Registration & Networking

12:00 P.M. Luncheon & Awards Ceremony

Honoring NDA Alumnae for the contributions they have made to their families, communities and beyond.

2026 Women Making A Difference Honorees



Sr. Mary Lynette Shelton, SND
1959



Donna Bloemer
1987



Christine Dunn Whelan
1990

Register today!

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Now in its twenty-fifth year, the Women Making a Difference award recognizes the remarkable contributions of Notre Dame Academy alumnae to their families, professions, and communities through leadership, service, and philanthropy. Each honoree exemplifies the mission and values of Notre Dame Academy — living lives rooted in faith and dedicated to making a positive impact in the world. All alumnae, corporate representatives, parents, and friends of Notre Dame Academy are warmly invited to attend. Additional details, ticket information, and sponsorship opportunities can be found [HERE](#).

SUPPORT THE MISSION

BECOME A SPONSOR AT THE WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE LUNCHEON

Our annual Women Making a Difference Luncheon is approaching, and we look forward to gathering as a community to celebrate inspiring alumnae whose leadership and service reflect the very best of Notre Dame Academy. This special lunch honors graduates who continue to live our mission in meaningful ways. Sponsorship opportunities remain for businesses who would like to lend their support and receive recognition at the event. Individual tickets are also still available, and we would be delighted to have you join us for this uplifting celebration. For sponsorship details or to reserve your seat, click [here](#).



SHARING OUR Community News

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

- New Youth Group!
- Mary's Meals, A Simple Solution to World Hunger
- Point Arc Fest 2025
- Diocesan Workshops

Important dates

February 18	Ash Wednesday Mass
	SND Day of Reconciliation Retreat
February 19	Alumnae Rosary
February 20	\$3 out of uniform for Cincinnati Children's Zero Suicide
February 23	CSW Volleyball Game - Gym 6:30
March 3	Career Day
	Women Making A Difference Luncheon
March 7	Incoming Freshman Conferences
March 10	Super Day-Senior Mission Retreat, Sophomore Ring Ceremony
March 12	End of 3rd Quarter
	National Latin Exam
March 13	No School
March 14	Incoming Freshman Conferences
March 19	Panda Preview Night for 6th & 7th Graders
March 26	Alumnae Dinner Theatre
March 27-29	Spring Musical Performances - Cinderella