



THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Parents,

As we continue our journey through the season of Lent, I am reminded of the many opportunities we have to deepen our faith and serve others in our community here at NDA. Lent is a time of reflection, prayer and acts of charity and I am proud to share with you some of the ways our students are embracing these values here at Notre Dame Academy.

Our students have taken the call of almsgiving to heart by actively engaging in acts of charity this Lenten season. As you will see on the following two pages, our students are collecting bicycles for Catholic Charities Pickett's Corner Ministries and gathering prom dresses and accessories for Cinderella's Closet. These initiatives exemplify the spirit of almsgiving and provide meaningful support to those in need within our community. I encourage you to support these efforts by considering donating bicycles or gently used prom attire if you are able to do so. Your generosity will make a significant difference in the lives of others during this Lenten season.

Additionally, I am continually impressed by the dedication and achievements of our students across all areas of academic and co-curricular activities. From the innovative projects in biology and engineering classes to the commitment to health and wellness demonstrated by our students, their hard work and passion are evident in every activity. I am very proud of the well-rounded individuals our students are becoming and I look forward to celebrating their continued successes in the weeks and months ahead.

As we continue our Lenten journey, let us remain steadfast in our commitment to prayer, fasting and almsgiving. May this season be a time of spiritual growth and renewal for each of us

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



Rolling Into Action:



NDA BIKE DRIVE

Change a life by donating a bike!

Do you have a gently used bike gathering dust in your garage?

Put it to good use by donating it to NDA's bike drive!

NDA is partnering with Catholic Charities' Pickett's Corner Ministry to provide transportation to those in need!

Here is how you can help...

Drop off your used bikes at NDA

**Monday - Friday between February 14 and March 1
OR**

on Saturday, March 2, from 9 a .m. - 12 p.m.

Please note: Bikes can be dropped off at the garage doors by the tennis courts.

Also, please fill out a donation form to donate a bike or make a monetary donation by scanning this QR code:
or clicking [HERE](#).



Thank you for making a difference!

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.

Formal Dresses

New or Gently Used prom dresses – less than 3 years old and in excellent condition.



Formal Shoes

New or Gently Used formal shoes in metallic or black.



Formal Jewelry

Sparkly necklaces, earrings (post/clip), and bracelets. The more Bling the Better!



Monetary Donations

Make a secure online donation via PayPal by scanning this QR code.



NKY Donations Sites

Soul Unique Consignment & Boutique
8537 US 42
Florence, KY 41042

Aunt Kathy's Childcare & Preschool
4 Hidden Valley Drive
Highland Heights, KY 41076

CURRENT NEEDS FOR MARCH 2024

PLEASE DONATE BY MARCH 1

Student Life

Cincinnati Enquirer:

Student of the Week

VOTE!
VOTE!
VOTE!



NEW ADDITION

THE ENQUIRER STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Three of our students have been nominated for “Students of the Week” through The Cincinnati Enquirer.

[Vote Here for this week’s students!](#)

Academic Excellence

Megan McKeown – McKeown works hard at everything she does, particularly her schoolwork. She is an excellent student who does not shy away from a challenge. McKeown is taking multiple AP courses while juggling after school activities and service work. She is a leader in the classroom sharing her insight or simply modeling by example with determination and hard work. She has a bright future!

Art and Soul Award

Brooke Donaldson – Donaldson demonstrates exceptional leadership for the students in the NDA/CCH band. Not only does she shine through her amazing character and kindness, but her skill level makes her stand out as well. She excels at playing the electric bass, the trombone, and she is also a student conductor. She has made a lasting impact on the band program and fine arts department at NDA.

Spirit Award

Sammie Poulos - Poulos is not only an exceptional student, but she also goes out of her way for other people to make them feel included and comfortable. She has gone above and beyond in the classroom and out. She has been running the Textile Club since last year teaching students her talents. She always has a smile on her face and has kind words to say. Poulos has a warm and sincere heart and is a really good person.

This is similar to the Player/Athlete of the Week so vote from your phones and vote every hour until 4 on Friday.

GO PANDAS!

VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

In addition, please vote for Sadie Hartig as our Cincinnati Enquirer “Athlete of the Week” – Sadie won the 500-yard freestyle state championship with a time of 4:56.46, a time that gives her All-American consideration. The junior also finished fourth in the 200-yard freestyle and anchored the third-place 400-yard freestyle relay. [Vote Here!](#)



“NO SCHOOL” DATES in 2024-25

August 15	Feast of the Assumption
September 2	Labor Day
October 4	PD Day
November 1	All Saints’ Day
November 5	Election Day
November 27-29	Thanksgiving Break
December 23 - January 3	Christmas Break
January 20	MLK Day
February 17	Presidents’ Day
March 14	PD Day
April 17-25	Spring Break

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2024-25 CALENDAR NEWS

The academic calendar for next year has been finalized and will be shared with the departments this week. The “No School” calendar is located in the blue table to the left. If you have specific questions, feel free to contact the office staff.

2024 - 2025 - Summer Dates / Back to School Dates

Incoming Freshmen Activities:



Week of July 29 - iPad Orientation

August 6 (morning) - Freshmen Orientation

August 6 (afternoon) - Freshmen Bridge

August 7 (afternoon) - Freshmen Bridge

August 8 (afternoon) - Freshmen Bridge

August 9 (TBD a.m./p.m.) - Freshmen Bridge

First Day of School - August 12

Last Day of School - May 22

Graduation - May 23



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
Bambootique

PANDA SPIRIT WEAR!

BAMBOOTIQUE

There are a lot of new arrivals in the Bambootique! Shop at the online Bambootique [HERE](#).

PRINCIPAL SEARCH PARENT AND STUDENT SURVEYS

PLEASE

PARENT AND STUDENT SURVEYS RE: PRINCIPAL SEARCH

Please take a few moments to complete either the [PARENT SURVEY](#) or the [STUDENT SURVEY](#) you received from Mrs. Miller yesterday regarding our search for a new Principal at Notre Dame Academy starting July 1, 2024. Your input and insight into the qualities and characteristics you believe are important in our next school leader are invaluable to us. We have prepared a brief survey to gather your thoughts, preferences and expectations for our next principal. Your responses will be anonymous and will help inform the development of the principal search prospectus.

Please complete the survey by Monday, March 4, to ensure that your voice is heard in this important process. Your participation is crucial as we strive to identify and select the best candidate to lead Notre Dame Academy into the future.



DELICIOUS NEWS

WHAT’S FOR LUNCH?

You can find NDA’s lunch menu below and on our website [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 11:15 p.m. - 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.

[Prom Cover Letter / After Prom Form / NKU Waiver](#)

[Google Form for Registration](#)

Students should be sure to read everything thoroughly so that they know what they need to have completed in order to choose their seating arrangements. Mr. Strickley and/or Mrs. Phillips will be in the lobby Tuesday - Thursday mornings for the next few weeks if students have any questions or want to begin requesting seats. This was all shared with students, along with dress code expectations at a meeting two weeks ago. 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.

THE DEADLINE FOR PURCHASING PROM TICKETS AND SIGNING UP FOR TABLES IS TUESDAY, MARCH 5.

PLEASE NOTE! →

PLEASE NOTE

ATTENDANCE EMAIL

If your daughter is going to be late, out for the day or if she is leaving early, please contact the office through is attendance@ndapandas.org or call the main phone line 859-261-4300.

YEARBOOK

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.

**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION
PLEASE READ**

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.



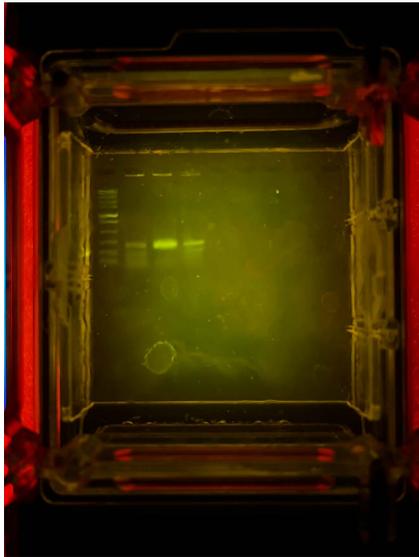
EXPLORING THE GENETIC PALETTE

CONFIRMING PHENOTYPE WITH GENOTYPE

Students in Mrs. Proudfit's AP Biology class recently explored how small genetic changes can change our ability to perceive the world around us. In a captivating exploration of genetics and taste perception, students focused on the TAS2R38 taste receptor gene and learned how it can confer the phenotype of the ability to taste the chemical phenylthiocarbamide (PTC) and other bitter flavors. In this hands-on lesson, students had the opportunity to test their own TAS2R38 taste receptor gene to determine whether they possessed taster or non-taster alleles (Version) of the gene.

They used the Polymerase Chain Reaction to copy their DNA samples and Gel Electrophoresis to analyze their DNA. Through this lab, students gained insight into the correlation between genotype (DNA) and taste perception. They explored how variations in the TAS2R38 gene can influence a person's ability to taste bitter flavors such as broccoli.

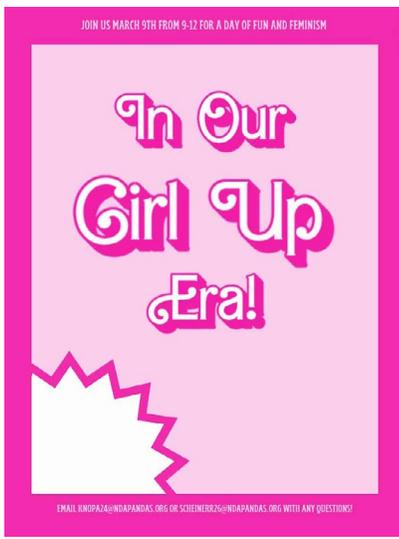
Students truly enjoyed learning about genetics and its impact on our everyday lives and they certainly were enthusiastic about using micro-pipettes as well!



MEMORIES PRESERVED

JUNIOR SERVICE PROJECT AT MADONNA MANOR

Our juniors who serve at Madonna Manor for their Junior Service Project have been working with the Kenton County Library to complete oral history interviews with the residents. They students have been trained how to conduct and record their interviews. The library will then archive these history interviews and make them available to the residents who participated and their families. What a great way to give back by spending time with the residents and honoring their past!



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](#)



HEALTHY PANDAS PILATES IN PE

Last week in Mrs. Tucker's physical education classes, the students were exposed to pilates, a form of exercise focused on precise movements and specific breathing techniques. The students continue to be exposed to various ways to remain active and strive for a healthy lifestyle. Thank you to Mrs. Tucker for providing various opportunities to our students.



JETS NEWS STUDENTS SHOWCASE THEIR ENGINEERING TALENTS

We are excited to offer the JETS club to our students. JETS stands for - Junior Engineering Technical Society. Technology Student Association, TSA, hosts the annual TEAMS (Test of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics and Science) Competition, a nationwide engineering competition for students in high school. The students are encouraged to practically apply their engineering knowledge to solve various problems in a 80 question Multiple Choice test. Then, they have a problem solving session to design and build to their designs. This past Wednesday, they were asked to design a collapsible building with a door that opens completely by pulleys. These products and their solutions were videotaped and entered into a contest. Each groups' results will be shared in May. By utilizing their problem solving skills and applying their knowledge, students are already working towards making a difference in the world.



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

Spring sports are in full swing! Lacrosse plays their first game on Saturday March 2nd.

Be on the lookout for our Spring and summer camps dates and information on our website too!



Archery -

Archery Pandas competed at Calvary Christian Academy this past weekend. We shot 3078 which included 149 tens and were led by Sarah Beckham at 272, Lucy Siegert at 268, Lea Youtsey at 267 and Maya Collins at 262. 23 Archers beat their season average: Lauren Agriesti, Katie Ahern, Anna Barczak, Sarah Beckham, Anna Bramlage, Maya Collins, Kara Dugan, Emma Lange, Morgan Maselli, Caitlin Minning, Clara Moore, Ivy Mullins, Lauren Pence, Maddie Rawe, Audrey Rose, Bailey Russell, Lucy Siegert, Kara Smalls, Jade Wachs, Kathryn Weber, Laney Wolfe, Lea Youtsey and Mack Zemter. Savannah Bien and Reagan Carman tied their season average score. 5 Pandas beat both their season high score as well as their career high: Anna Bramlage, Maya Collins, Caitlin Minning, Kara Smalls and Laney Wolfe.





Basketball -

Basketball has started their postseason play in their District Championship Tournament with a win over Beechwood on Tuesday. They will play Holy Cross on Thursday Feb. 29 at 7:00 p.m. for the District 35 Championship. Their next game will be the first round of Region 9 championship on Sunday March 3rd at Northern Kentucky University.



Track and Field -

The Inaugural KHSAA Indoor Track and Field Championship takes place on Saturday March 2. We have numerous pandas competing this weekend!

Swimming and Diving -

We are very proud of our Aqua Pandas with their outstanding 4th place finish at the KHSAA State Championship! In addition to the great team performance, Sadie Hartig is our newest State Champion! Sadie won the 500M freestyle race with an All-American time. We had several Pandas with top 10 finishes!

Congratulations to Aqua PaNDA, Sadie Hartig!



Congratulations



AQUA PANDAS TAKE 4TH AT STATE!

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



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.

DRUGS ON THE BRAIN WITH MRS. STANLEY



Rihanna Anti Deluxe Album Cover

STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND STAFF PLEASE COME TO
LEARN ABOUT HOW DRUGS EFFECT YOUR BRAIN

MARCH 13 AT 8AM
ALUMNAE HALL
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

IMPORTANT PRESENTATION HOW DRUGS AFFECT YOUR BRAIN

Drug Free Club is offering this excellent presentation to anyone in our community (students, Parents, faculty, staff) who would like to attend!



Congressman Thomas Massie 4th District of Kentucky

Proudly hosts

U.S. Service Academy Day

Saturday, April 20, 2024

10:00am – 11:00am – Registration / Academy
Representative displays
11:00am – 12:30pm – Program

Cincinnati Airport Marriott
2395 Progress Dr, Hebron, KY 41048

U.S. Service Academy Representatives will be in attendance to provide information and answer questions

West Point



Navy



Air Force



Coast Guard



Merchant Marines



Learn about the outstanding educational and leadership opportunities

For more information or to pre-register visit:

<https://massie.house.gov/services/us-service-academy-nominations>

Or contact Congressman Massie's NKY District office: 859-426-0080

OPPORTUNITIES IN LEADERSHIP

U.S. SERVICE ACADEMY DAY

Congressman Massie's 2023 U.S. Service Academy Day date will take place on Saturday, April 20, 2024, at the Marriott Cincinnati Airport, 2395 Progress Drive, Hebron, KY 41048. Registration is from 10:00 AM-11:00 AM. The program runs from 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM.



Are you interested in experiencing what the College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP) is all about with a hands-on afternoon of "DAAP Experience"?

High school students are invited to participate at DAAP on:

Saturday, March 2nd, 2024

1:00pm – 4:00pm

(Complimentary but requires pre-registration through the QR code below)

The College of DAAP

University of Cincinnati campus

342 Clifton Court

Cincinnati, OH

What will you EXPERIENCE?

- Learn what majors are at DAAP and what careers and type of work come from them
- Meet current students, see portfolios of their work, and gain insights from their perspective
- Participate in hands-on activities
- Tour the college
- Get your questions answered about DAAP and our majors
- Connect with other high school students interested in the possibility of a creative future
- Learn about DAAP camps coming this summer and find out how to register
- **There will also be an Art Show happening in the college that you may enjoy before or after our event

DAAP Experience Day is completely complimentary. We welcome all interested students however, space is limited, therefore, you will need to respond below so we may reserve a space for you and be sure we have adequate supplies, etc. Register by 5:00pm, Tuesday, February 27th utilizing the QR code below. We encourage you to register early so you will not miss out on this opportunity! Arrival details and directions will be provided to those who register.

REGISTER HERE FOR "DAAP Experience Day"!



UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

DAAP EXPERIENCE DAY

Learn about DAAP and all that it has to offer, Saturday, March 2, 2024 from 1 - 4 p.m.

ADVANCING THE MISSION



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World



1699 Hilton Drive, Park Hills, KY 41011 | 859.292.1829 | www.ndapandas.org

Panda Preview Night March 19 | 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Attention 6th and 7th graders!

This is your chance to get a head start on the 8th grade! Learn about NDA life and how to get ready for high school.

Attention 8th graders!

Come and take another look at all that Notre Dame Academy has to offer!

Reservations are required for this event.

You can register by scanning this QR code to the right:
(Deadline: March 15)



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.



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 26-28	Senior Retreat #3
March 4	School Officer Elections during Homeroom
March 7	Career Day
	Women Making a Difference Luncheon
March 8	End of Third Quarter
March 9	8th Grade Conferences
	Girl Up Event
March 12	Super Day - Freshman/Soph. Cert test, Junior - ACT, Senior Mission Retreat
	Sophomore- Ring Ceremony
March 15	National Latin Exams
March 16	8th Grade Conference
March 19	Panda Preview Night
March 22	Prom
March 28	Holy Thursday - NO SCHOOL
March 29	Good Friday - NO SCHOOL
April 1 - 5	Spring Break
April 8	School Resumes
April 11	Athletic Signing
April 19	Food Truck Day
April 19-21	Spring Musical - The Sound of Music
April 22	Grade Level President Elections
April 28	Orange and White