



THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this message finds you and your family well as we continue moving through the school year. There's always something exciting happening at Notre Dame Academy, and I want to take a moment to share some updates with you.

Tomorrow we will be conducting a test of our emergency messaging system to ensure we are fully prepared in the event of any emergency. Please keep an eye out for more information on this below and don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

I'm also happy to report that we are making great strides with our strategic planning process, which will guide the future direction of our school over the next five years. Your input, along with that of students, faculty, and alumnae, is critical to ensuring we meet the needs of our community as we move forward.

As you will read below, Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for October 22. We encourage you to sign up through MyConferencetime to meet with your daughter's teachers. These conferences are a valuable opportunity to discuss her progress and how we can work together to help her thrive.

Finally, as a reminder, students will be dismissed by 11:30 a.m. this Thursday and Friday due to professional development that will occur for our faculty.

Thank you again for your ongoing support of Notre Dame Academy. Together, we are creating an environment where each student is empowered to excel academically, grow spiritually and embrace the values of service and leadership.

Wishing you a blessed week ahead.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf





NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Educating Women to Make a Difference

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Last week, we sent out surveys to parents, students, faculty and staff as part of our efforts to gather important feedback for Notre Dame Academy's five-year strategic plan and reaccreditation process. This week, alumnae and friends of NDA are also receiving similar surveys. Your input is vital as we work to shape the future of NDA and ensure these initiatives reflect the values and needs of our entire community.

If you haven't yet had the chance to complete the surveys, we encourage you to do so now. The links are provided below, and the surveys will remain open until September 25, 2024:

Here are the links for the surveys in English:

[Family Survey – English](#)

[Catholic Identity Survey – English](#)

Here are the links for the surveys in Spanish:

[Family Survey – Spanish \(Encuesta para la Familia\)](#)

[Catholic Identity Survey – Spanish \(Características definitorias de la identidad Católica: Encuesta para padres y comunidad\)](#)

We've received some questions regarding the wording of certain survey questions and we'd like to offer some context. Many of the questions were designed by Cognia, our accrediting organization, specifically for the reaccreditation process, while others were developed by our consulting firm to guide our strategic planning. This combination of sources may explain why some of the phrasing feels unfamiliar or slightly different from what you might expect. Rest assured, each question is carefully chosen to help us gather the necessary insights to improve our programs and advance the mission of Notre Dame Academy.

Your participation is crucial in helping us create a strategic plan and accreditation process that will support NDA's mission of empowering young women. We greatly appreciate your time and thoughtful feedback—your voice truly matters!

Thank you for being an essential part of the Notre Dame Academy faith community.

In Notre Dame,

Jane Kleier

Interim President/CCO

CAMPUS MINISTRY



EXPLORING GLOBAL POVERTY & ETHICAL SOLUTIONS CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Last week in Catholic Social Teaching we explored the topic of Global Poverty. Students watched clips from Poverty, Inc. and discussed the best practices for addressing global poverty in ways that truly benefit the people in developing countries. We also had the opportunity to connect virtually with Mr. Joseph Stazzone of the Cafe Kreyol company in Virginia. His business engages in Direct Trade with farmers in Haiti, Dominican Republic, Columbia and several other countries. He spoke with the girls about seeing a problem and taking the risk to address it, by listening to the needs of the people first hand and then working WITH them to come up with solutions.



JUNIOR Retreat

GATHER · CONNECT · REVIVE



EXPLORING FAITH THROUGH ART AND PRAYER JUNIOR CLASS PILGRIMAGE RETREAT

On Saturday, September 14, 34 members of the junior class took part in the Pilgrimage Retreat. This retreat focuses on exploring the beauty of the Catholic Church through art, architecture and different prayer forms. Students began in our *Mary, Mother of the World Chapel* and then traveled by bus (and some walking) to St. John the Evangelist Church in Covington, Mother of God Church in Covington, Sts. Boniface and James Church in Ludlow. We ended the day in the chapel at St. Joseph Heights. We were blessed with great weather and great company on our journey.



JOIN US FAITH FORMATION

September 19: Rosary in Chapel 7:45 a.m.

September 20: Mass in Chapel 7:20 a.m.

Student Life



Parent/ Teacher Conferences

October
22

SAVE THE DATE: OCTOBER 22

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

We are pleased to announce that Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on October 22 from 4:00-8:00 p.m. via Zoom. This is a great opportunity to connect with your daughter's teachers and discuss her academic progress.

Sign-up details will be available through MyConferenceTime starting next week. We look forward to meeting with you and working together to support your daughter's success.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 at 4:00 P.M.

EMERGENCY MESSENGER SYSTEM TEST

On Thursday, September 19, at 4:00 p.m., NDA will be testing our emergency messaging system, PowerSchool School Messenger Communicate, via phone, email and text. The text messages will appear from the short code 67587. This test is essential in ensuring that our emergency communication system is functioning properly.

If you do not receive these messages at 4:00 p.m. tomorrow, please contact the school office or email Mr. Schlosser at schlosserr@nda-pandas.org to ensure your contact information is up to date.

Thank you for helping us maintain effective communication in case of an emergency.



EARLY DISMISSAL THIS THURSDAY AND FRIDAY ADJUSTED SCHEDULES COMING UP

On September 19 and September 20, the students will be dismissed by 11:30 a.m. due to professional development that will occur for our faculty. More information will come regarding specifics, but as you plan for the following weeks, be sure to note this change.

**PARENT
SURVEYS
TAKE TODAY**



EXCITING INITIATIVES

YOUR INPUT MATTERS!

We are thrilled to share that this school year is filled with exciting momentum and several important initiatives here at Notre Dame Academy. Among these are the creation of a comprehensive five-year strategic plan and our accreditation engagement review process. To ensure these efforts reflect the needs and values of our entire community, we've developed surveys for our key constituents - including parents, students, alumnae, faculty, staff and benefactors of NDA.

Your voice, as parents, is incredibly important to us. We value your unique perspective and want to ensure your feedback helps shape the future direction of NDA over the next three to five years. Earlier this week, students, faculty and staff were sent links to their surveys, and now it's your turn.

Here are the links for the surveys in English:

[Family Survey – English](#)

[Catholic Identity Survey – English](#)

Here are the links for the surveys in Spanish:

[Family Survey – Spanish \(Encuesta para la Familia\)](#)

[Catholic Identity Survey – Spanish \(Características definitorias de la identidad Católica: Encuesta para padres y comunidad\)](#)

Thank you for being such an integral part of the Notre Dame Academy community.



PANDA SPIRIT WEAR!

BAMBOOTIQUE

Get the best deals on Panda t-shirts in the Bambootique! Take a look and shop online [HERE](#).



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

WEEKLY LUNCH MENU

A hot lunch and salad bar will be available for purchase each day at our NDA cafeteria. You can find a menu price sheet as well as this week's lunch menu [HERE](#).



THIRD-ANNUAL MOSAIC BEAN PROJECT LATIN STUDENTS CELEBRATE ROMAN ART

Some of the Latin classes recently completed our third-annual bean mosaic activity. It has become a fun tradition for the Latin classes and a great way for students to gain an appreciation for the determination and artistry involved in mosaic-making, a very common and important Roman art form used extensively on floors and walls of homes as decoration, and on the floors of bath houses and other public buildings and large outdoor spaces such as markets, seaports, and more. The Romans made their mosaics out of small pieces of glass or colored pebbles or stones and they often depicted marine wildlife and sea-themed designs, scenes from mythology, animals, food, or abstract designs. Countless stretches and portions of still in-tact Roman mosaics have been uncovered over the centuries, all around Italy, England, Israel, and other countries that were once the Roman Empire, and more continue to be discovered daily, often after having been hidden away for thousands of years under fields, farms, or modern-day roads, buildings, and houses.

The Latin students replicated this process with Elmer's glue, small cardboard squares as their foundation, and a range of colored beans, lentils, corn, and chickpeas to carefully execute their designs and did an excellent job! Bene factum, discipulae!



SHADOW DAY BLESSED SACRAMENTS 'S 8TH GRADERS EXPERIENCE NDA LIFE

On September 12, 8th grade students from Blessed Sacrament School had the opportunity to experience "The NDA Life" during their shadow day, where they explored campus, participated in classes, and got a firsthand look at what it's like to be a Panda.





CELEBRATING GENEROSITY 14TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP BREAKFAST AT NDA

This morning at Notre Dame Academy, we hosted our 14th Annual Scholarship Breakfast. This cherished event brings together our generous scholarship benefactors and student recipients to celebrate the impact of Catholic education at NDA. Over 88 students received scholarships this year, with a total of approximately \$192,000 awarded—an essential contribution toward the nearly \$870,000 in financial aid distributed to a quarter of our students. We are grateful to our benefactors for making an NDA education possible for so many young women and empowering them to make a difference in the world. Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

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.

EXCITING NEWS HELP US REACH 50 DONORS!

If we can reach a total of **50 donors by October 27**, NDA will receive a \$500 grant! Every donation counts, whether it's at our school or any Hoxworth location. We are still eligible for this Hoxworth grant, so please spread the word and encourage others to donate. Let's work together to meet this goal and secure valuable funds for NDA.

Let's continue to make a positive impact and help save even more lives in our community!

Schedule Donation

hoxworth.org | (513) 451-0910



EDUCATIONAL
CHANGE

RECOGNIZES
PARENTS'
RESPONSIBILITY
AS THE "PRIMARY
TEACHER"



SUPPORT SCHOOL CHOICE VOTE YES ON AMENDMENT 2 THIS NOVEMBER

There will be an important piece of legislation on the ballot in November supported by the Bishops of Kentucky, a state constitutional amendment – Vote YES on Amendment 2.

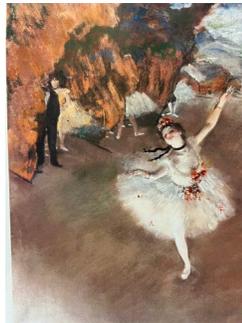
For many years Ky. families have been advocating for school choice to no avail. This may be Kentucky's last chance to join the rest of the nation! Read more and volunteer to help us with grassroots efforts at <https://covdio.org/YesOnTwo>.

FINE ARTS

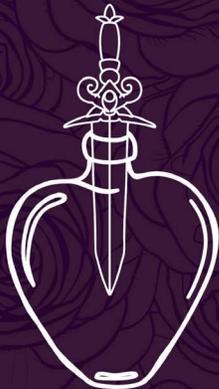


ART 3 STUDENT SHOWCASE PROGRESSIVE PAINTING TECHNIQUE

Our Art 3 students trying painting an image that started off as just a blur of colors. Every other day they received a new image that became clearer, they also received a brush that was smaller. The idea is to become more painterly, layering colors and painting what they see. Day by day as the image gave them more information, they painted their canvas with more detail. If you would like to see their finished artworks they will be on display in Alumnae Hall throughout the month of September.



NDA & CCH Theatre Department Presents



William Shakespeare's
ROMEO & JULIET

October 18th at 7pm, October 19th at 7pm, & October 20th at 2pm

Student & Staff Tickets \$5
General Admission \$12 Online and \$15 at the Door



NDA AND CCH PRESENT SHAKESPEARE'S ROMEO AND JULIET

An age-old vendetta between two powerful families erupts into bloodshed. A group of masked Montagues risk further conflict by gatecrashing a Capulet party. A young lovesick Romeo Montague falls instantly in love with Juliet Capulet, who is due to marry her father's choice, the Count Paris. With the help of Juliet's nurse, the women arrange for the couple to marry the next day, but Romeo's attempt to halt a street fight leads to the death of Juliet's own cousin, Tybalt, for which Romeo is banished. In a desperate attempt to be reunited with Romeo, Juliet follows the Friar's plot and fakes her own death. After a series of misfortunes and woe, the pair of star-crossed lovers take their lives.

Friday, October 18 at 7 p.m.
Saturday, October 19 at 7 p.m.
Sunday, October 20 at 2 p.m.

[BUY TICKETS HERE](#) - \$5 student tickets

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

PLEASE NOTE!

FROM THE DESK OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

ATHLETIC DISCOUNT CARDS

Anyone selling Athletic discount cards has a mandatory meeting on Sunday Sept. 22nd from 3 - 4. All students have received an email with instructions on what they need to do for the meeting.



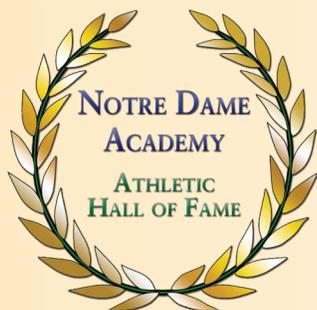
HUDL

We are no longer viewing home athletic events on the NFHS cameras. We are now on Hudl. You can find the information for our school at the following link: <https://fan.hudl.com/usa/ky/park-hills/organization/63576/notre-dame-academy>



P4P T-SHIRTS

Anyone who missed purchasing a Playing For A Purpose t-shirt, we are opening the link up for one more week. We will open the store on Wednesday Sept. 25th and it closes on Wednesday Sept. 25th. Here is the link: http://stores.inksoft.com/nda_p4p_



NOMINATION TIME ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Please submit any nominations for our 2025 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony [HERE](#) by October 31. We'll announce the inductees in mid-November 2024, and the Hall of Fame ceremony will take place in the first week of February. Stay tuned for more details!

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



STAY INFORMED WITH THE PPC

JOIN THE NDA PANDA PARENT CLUB TO SUPPORT AND CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

The Notre Dame Academy Panda Parent Club (PPC) is an opportunity for parents, organized by the Student Services Department, to learn more about topics and information to support families in navigating pressures and concerns our students face daily. It is designed to help enhance communication between parents and the Student Services Department and to occasionally coordinate volunteering opportunities and community events to provide support for the school's educational goals. Meetings will be bi-monthly and information regarding presenters and topics can be found here.

Upcoming meetings:

September 26, 2024 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall -

Erin Stanley will be presenting on The Effects of Drugs and Alcohol on the Teenage Brain and Legal Consequences. Our Diocesan SRO Ted Edgington and the Commonwealth Attorney Rob Sanders will also be presenting at this meeting.

November 21, 2024 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall -

Debbie Zegarra from Ethan's Purpose will be presenting on suicide prevention and parents will be trained in QPR (think CPR but for mental health emergencies). See the flyer to the left.

We want to hear more from you about topics you, as a parent, would be interested in learning more about. Please complete the brief survey [HERE](#) to help us better support you!

ETHAN'S PURPOSE;
MY STORY ISN'T OVER YET

SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING
QUESTION PERSUADE REFER
Three steps anyone can learn to save a life!

OBJECTIVE
QPR is an evidenced-based training providing practical and proven suicide prevention strategies for work, school, at home and in your community. Upon request, our QPR trained associates will schedule a presentation to provide certified training at your school or workplace.

WHAT TO EXPECT
Through lecture, slide presentations and videos, you will learn:

- suicide prevention data and needs;
- how to recognize the warning signs for someone at risk for suicide;
- to increase knowledge of intervention skills and how to question a person about suicidal thoughts;
- referral resources and services
- how to persuade someone to get help and how to refer the person for help;
- common myths of suicide.

BENEFITS

- Reduce suicide;
- Offer HOPE to someone in crisis;
- Early recognition of warning signs to avoid a crisis situation;
- Help save a life!
- Certification

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT GOOD MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION!
To schedule a training presentation contact patty@ethanspurpose.org

There is hope.



988 SUICIDE & CRISIS
LIFELINE

PEP22-08-03-011
33377A

SEPTEMBER

SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

Many parents may not know what to do or what to say if they are concerned about their child's mental health. Read [this article](#) from the Child Mind Institute on what to do if you are worried about suicide or suicidal thoughts with your teen.

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.






SCAN HERE TO APPLY:

Applications open 9/15-10/4!



NaviGo is an organization of  learning grove



HEALTHCARE CAREERS IN A DAY

INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE WITH A WIDE RANGE OF
HIGH DEMAND HEALTHCARE CAREERS

For high school juniors & seniors interested
in learning more about healthcare careers.

Students will engage in problem-based
learning by analyzing case studies that
reflect real-world patient experiences in the
healthcare field. Students will work in
groups throughout the day with a NaviGo
Coach. Lunch will be provided.

SEEKING JUNIORS & SENIORS WITH:

- Passion for helping others
- Compassion and dedication
- Interest in Math and Science
- Strong communication skills, including collaboration with other healthcare workers
- Focus on outcomes and attention to detail

SCHEDULE:

- 2 different Saturdays to choose from: 10/26 or 11/16 (choose one)
- 8:30am-2:00pm
- Held at St. Elizabeth Training and Education Center (SETEC) in Erlanger, KY

In collaboration with:



Questions? Please contact Jennie LaMothe
at jlamothe@learning-grove.org

WAY TO GO PANDAS!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NAVIGO SCHOLARS

NaviGO Scholars is partnering with St. Elizabeth to offer 1-day healthcare career exposure opportunities. These are "one and done" experiences that will allow more students to be exposed to the healthcare industry throughout the year. Right now, there are 2 fall dates to choose from, only open to juniors and seniors. Flyer for fall attached! The application includes a requirement for a 150-word essay prompt. They will get the prompt within the application, and then will email the essay to jlamothe@learning-grove.org. Applications are open 9/15-10/4. See Mrs. Stanley for more details.

DRUG FREE CLUB - JOIN TODAY!

"MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE EASY"

The time is NOW to sign up for Drug Free Clubs of America (DFCA). Drug Free Club is the largest club at Notre Dame Academy, with over 400 members last year. It offers confidential drug testing, education, school and community rewards, positive reinforcement, student leadership opportunities, parent support, and a safety net when dealing with drug situations by saying, "I can't, I might be tested." Parents can obtain more information and complete online applications on the Drug Free Club website found [here](#). For more information about how Drug Free Club works at Notre Dame Academy, please reach out to school counselor Erin Maggard at maggarde@ndapandas.org.



ADVANCING THE MISSION



11.16.24 | 6:30-10:30 PM | The Grand Ballroom

You're Invited!

Cocktail Hour | Dinner | Open Bar | Auction & Raffles

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Did you miss your grade level Gift Gathering Party?

Shop our

amazon  **Wishlist**

HERE





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

- YES on 2
- Hero Night

Important dates

September 19	Rosary in Chapel 7:45 a.m. Early Dismissal due to faculty PD 11:30 a.m.
September 20	Mass in Chapel 7:45 Super Day - Dismissal 11:30 a.m.
September 24	St. Pius X Shadow Day
September 26	St. Agnes/Prince of Peace Shadow Day Panda Parent Club Meeting 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
September 27	Club Orientation
October 1	Foundation Day Mass and Accreditation Celebration
October 3	Green Dot Bystander Training NDA Information Night for Potential students
October 6	Golden Girls Mass and Luncheon
October 7	Non-Feeder Shadow Day
October 8	NHS Induction Ceremony
October 9	Super Day
October 11	NO SCHOOL - PD -Faculty/Staff Service project NDA/CCH Frosh Halloween Dance
October 14-16	Senior Retreat
October 18-20	Romeo and Juliet
October 22	Parent/Teacher Conferences via Zoom NDA Information Night for Potential students
October 23	Alumnae Coffee Shop
November 1	NO SCHOOL - All Saints' Day
November 5	NO SCHOOL - Election Day
November 10	Open House
November 16	Light the Night for NDA
November 27	NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day
November 28-29	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break