



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

*Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World*

# Panda Press Weekly

October 1, 2025

THE *nda* LIFE

## Dear Panda Families,

What an extraordinary week at Notre Dame Academy! Today, we celebrate Foundation Day — the 175th anniversary of the Sisters of Notre Dame, our beloved sponsors. Their courage, faith and vision continue to guide everything we do at NDA, and we are filled with gratitude for their legacy.

We also mark this Foundation Day with great joy as we formally install Ms. Lauren Hitron as the fifth President of Notre Dame Academy. Surrounded by Bishop Iffert, the Sisters, our faculty, staff, students, alumnae and friends, we gave thanks for Ms. Hitron's leadership and pledged our prayers and support as she guides our community forward. It was a beautiful, faith-filled moment that will be remembered for years to come.

Adding to the celebration, today is also our annual Giving Day. In honor of 120 years of educating young women to make a difference, our goal is to raise \$120,000 for the Annual Fund. Your support makes a direct impact in the lives of our students — thank you for all you do to keep NDA strong. If you haven't already made a donation, you can do so [here](#).

This week has been full of opportunities to connect and celebrate. Parent Mini Night gave families the chance to walk in their daughters' shoes, and our students gathered for Common Reader Day this afternoon to share in thoughtful conversation about *The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom. Tomorrow we will welcome prospective Pandas and their families to campus for Information Night, and on Saturday evening we'll gather for our biggest fundraiser of the year — Light the Night for NDA. I hope to see many of you there as we share an evening of fun, faith and generosity. Finally, on Sunday, we are honored to host our Golden Girls alumnae for a special celebration of sisterhood.

It is weeks like this that remind me of the incredible spirit of Panda Nation — a spirit rooted in faith, tradition and community. Thank you for walking this journey with us and for helping us live the mission of Notre Dame Academy every day!

Walk in Faith,

*Mrs. Lisa Ruwe Timmerding*

Mrs. Lisa Ruwe Timmerding '97

**SISTERS IN MISSION:**

**Walk Humbly.**

**Serve Boldly.**

**Shine with Grace.**

**Walk in Faith!**



# OCTOBER 1, 2025

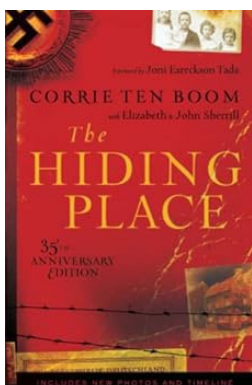
FOUNDATION  
DAY  
OCTOBER 1ST

Honoring the Sisters of Notre Dame

120  
Years of More



THE INSTALLATION  
OF  
MS. LAUREN HITRON



Common  
Reader  
Day  
2025



# FOUNDATION DAY!



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

OCTOBER 1, 2025

## FOUNDATION DAY

*Honoring the Sisters of Notre Dame*



*Years of More*

### CELEBRATE WITH US! FOUNDATION DAY

Today, October 1, we celebrate Foundation Day for the Sisters of Notre Dame and 120 years of Notre Dame Academy. In honor of this milestone, our goal is to raise the Annual Fund to \$120,000 today.

The Annual Fund is what helps keep tuition affordable for all families while also providing tuition assistance and supporting the faith-filled, transformative education your daughter's experience each day. We invite you to honor 120 years of More by making a gift today [HERE](#).

**More than just an education, a transformation.**

**More than just a classroom, a community of faith.**

**More than just preparation for college, a formation for life.**



# LIGHT THE NIGHT FOR NDA

## TAKE A CHANCE RAFFLES

Take your chance to win a \$500 Amazon gift card, Dyson Airwrap or this great Bourbon run, including EH Taylor Small Batch, Eagle Rare 10 Year, Sazerac Rye, Green Weller Special Reserve, Buffalo Trace and Blanton's N! Chances are **\$25 each** and only 100 chances sold for each raffle.

Get your raffle chances now [online](#) or simply Venmo @NotreDame-Academy memo (the raffle you want).



## ONLY 100 TICKETS AVAILABLE! FIRST CHOICE

First choice tickets for Light the Night for NDA are on sale now! Only 100 tickets are available at **\$50** each. The lucky winner will get to choose **an item from the silent auction list**, excluding luxury items, before the event on Saturday October 4, 2025. We have some great silent auction items this year, from a party bus, Hamilton tickets to a Tee Higgins signed photograph and amazing spa packages. You can snag it first with a first choice win!

Get your first choice chances now [online](#) or simply Venmo @NotreDame-Academy memo first choice

## GOING LIVE! SILENT AUCTION

Our Silent Auction goes live this evening, and you won't want to miss it! From unique experiences to must-have items, there is something for everyone. Browse the auction and place your bids [here!](#)



THANK YOU!

## A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO OUR LIGHT THE NIGHT SPONSORS

We are just days away from Light the Night for NDA 2025, and we are grateful to the many sponsors who make this event possible. From our title sponsor, Performance Lexus of Northern Kentucky, to our dinner, auction and event sponsors and our corporate partners, your generosity helps us light the night in support of every Panda.

Thank you for believing in the mission of Notre Dame Academy and for helping us educate young women to make a difference in the world. We cannot wait to celebrate with you Saturday.

### A Special Thank You to our Light the Night for NDA Sponsors!

#### Title Event Sponsor



#### Dinner Event Sponsors



STERLING  
CUT GLASS



#### Auction Event Sponsor



The Yung Family

#### Panda Event Sponsors

Todd & PJ Berling

The Hail Family



#### Fourth Floor Event Sponsors

Donna & Steve Ammerman

NDA Board of Directors

Sarah Beckham

The Clifton Family

The Coupe Family

Dunkin - One Holland Group

Karen & Chris Kleman

Kevin & Miranda Kleman

The Edmondson Family

St. Agnes Moffit Invitational

Joel & Meg Piatt

Jenny Schneider

Paul and Julie Spellman

The Woods Family

#### Diamond Corporate Partner



#### Platinum Corporate Partners



#### Gold Corporate Partners



#### Silver Corporate Partners



# FAITH IN ACTION



## FAITH FORMATION

### UPCOMING LITURGIES

We will celebrate mass in the chapel at 7:20 a.m. on Friday, October 3. Fr. Kunath will be on retreat with the priests of our diocese all next week - so we will not celebrate Mass in our chapel October 6-10.

We will pray a decade of the Rosary at 7:45 a.m. on October 2, 6 and 7. All are welcome to join us.



## STRENGTHENING FAITH AND COMMUNITY RETREATS

Freshmen Retreat will take place on Tuesday, October 14 from 8:00-12:30 p.m. They will be dismissed from school at 12:30 - please arrange rides accordingly. All Freshmen are required to make this retreat. More information will be shared with the Freshmen next week.

The first Senior Retreat will take place October 22-24. An email will be sent on Monday, October 6, to the parents of the seniors who have been assigned to this retreat. If your daughter is scheduled to be on the October retreat and you do not receive this email - please reach out to [Mrs. Price](#). The Seniors on this retreat will meet with Mrs. Price during PPT on Tuesday, October 7.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE SERVICE

There are lots of upcoming service opportunities that have been called in from the community. Students have access to [this list](#) on the Padlet every week. Encourage your daughter to be working on her service requirement all throughout the school year!

### Gold Service Opportunities

- Notre Dame Urban Education Center - Volunteers needed each week!
- Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

### Blue Service Opportunities

- City of Erlanger Halloween Carnival and Movie night
- City of Edgewood Spooky Sunday
- Park Hills Civic Association Pumpkin Parade





# Student Life



## SAVE THE DATE

### MOTHER-DAUGHTER

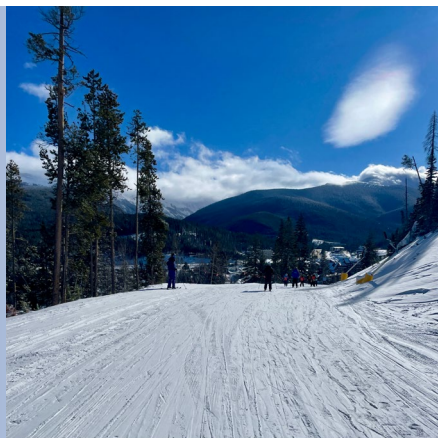
We are excited to begin planning this year's **Mother-Daughter Event** and would love for you to be a part of it! This cherished tradition brings our community together in a meaningful and memorable way—and we need your creativity, ideas, and support to make it extra special.

If you are interested in serving on the **Mother-Daughter Planning Committee**, please join us! It's a wonderful way to get involved, meet other parents, and help shape an event that our students and families look forward to every year.

We hope you'll consider joining us as we plan a beautiful celebration of the bond between mothers and daughters at Notre Dame.

Come and see us on Tuesday, October 7 @ 6:00 p.m. at school.

Sign up on [this link](#) to let us know you are coming.



## PANDAS HIT THE SLOPES!

### 2026 COLORADO TRIP

Registration is open for the 2026 Ski & Snowboard Trip to Winter Park, Colorado! This unforgettable adventure will take place February 12-16, 2026 and promises breathtaking mountain views, fresh powder and memories to last a lifetime. Students attending will receive two excused absences from school. Spots are limited, so don't wait and secure your student's place today [HERE](#)!

**NDA Family Event**  
*Halloween Party*  
Hosted by the NDA Freshmen,  
Class of 2029

*Bring your little ones for  
Halloween fun!*

Friday, October 24, 2025  
5:30-7:30 p.m.  
in the NDA Auditorium



Click the link to register or visit  
[www.ndapandas.org/alumnae/events](http://www.ndapandas.org/alumnae/events)

## NDA FRESHMEN HOST

### HALLOWEEN PARTY

Join us for a night of Halloween fun at NDA's Family Halloween Party, hosted by the freshmen Class of 2029. Bring your little ones in costume for games, treats and plenty of Panda spirit.

**Friday, October 24, 2025**

**5:30-7:30 p.m.**

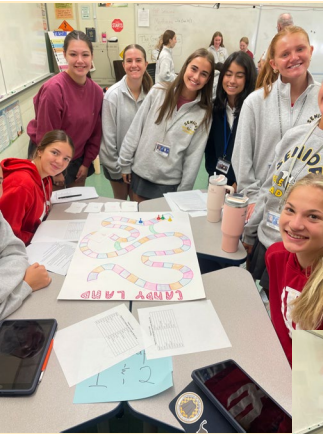
**NDA Auditorium**

Click [HERE](#) to register.



## TOGETHER IN FAITH LATIN CLASS MASS

Last Thursday afternoon, NDA hosted its first Latin class Mass, celebrated by our very own Father Kunath in a full Mary, Mother of the World chapel. This Mass was a long time in the making. All the Latin classes attended, as well as many student parents and grandparents, and some of the Sisters and members of faculty and staff. Students prepared by learning an assortment of key vocabulary and phrases excerpted from the Latin Mass and practicing reciting the responses together. At the Mass, seniors Morgan Maselli, Melissa Geiman, Megan Fedor, and Katie Ahern traded off reading the petitions in Latin beautifully. Father Kunath's swift and flawless Latin was inspiring and even poetic, while his homily (in English) reflected on the mystery, wonder, and awe of both religion and the Latin Mass. Suffice it to say, it was a memorable time together of faith, beauty, and language, and we hope it can become a new tradition at NDA. Thank you to our campus Minister, Mrs. Price, and Father Kunath, for their hard work putting the Mass together and support of this vision, and to the Latin students, who made Ms. Barnes so proud!



## GAME ON IN AP LANGUAGE STUDENTS TURN VOCABULARY REVIEW INTO A LIVELY AND COMPETITIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Our AP Language and Composition students turned studying into playtime this week! After being assigned the most important vocabulary words, the girls designed their very own game boards. Monday, they teamed up to play each other's creations, turning review into a lively competition. The activity gave them three layers of practice: building their games, running them for others, and then playing a peer's game. A fun—and effective—way to master challenging words!





## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### UNIFORM SKIRT REMINDER

We want our students to take pride in their uniforms and in representing our school well. At this time, we are noticing that many uniform skirts are far too short and not in compliance with our dress code policy. Rolling skirts or leaving hems unadjusted has become a common issue, and we are asking for parent support in helping us correct this. Please check your daughter's uniform skirt and ensure that it meets the required length. Taking pride in a neat, appropriate uniform helps create a positive and respectful school environment for all. Students not in compliance will continue to receive warnings, and further action may follow if adjustments are not made.

#### Uniform Expectations from Student/Parent Handbook

The handbook states - (page 25)

*The bottom of the skirt should not be higher than the mid-thigh and should be of an acceptable and tasteful length. \*This is at the discretion of the female staff and administration.*



## NDA'S PERFECT NORTH CLUB STORE DISCOUNT

### PERFECT NORTH SLOPES (PNS) SEASON PASSES

Winter is almost here, and Perfect North Slopes is the place to be! Season passes are now available through NDA's PNS Club Store with an exclusive **30% discount**. Even better, this discount extends to family and friends when purchased through our link. The offer ends November 3, so make sure to take advantage before it's gone.

To purchase passes:

- Visit NDA's PNS Club Store [HERE](#)
- Username: **notredame**
- Password: **panda**

If you have any issues completing your purchase, Perfect North's team will be happy to help. For NDA related questions, email Ms. Dooling at [doolingm@ndapandas.org](mailto:doolingm@ndapandas.org).

## NDA'S PERFECT NORTH CLUB STORE DISCOUNT

### SKI CLUB BUS PASS REGISTRATION

Skip the hassle of transportation and let us do the driving! We're offering a round-trip bus pass for all Perfect North outings so students can travel safely and easily with their peers. Register [HERE](#) for the bus to PNS and back.

## NDA BAMBOOTIQUE

### PANDA SPIRIT WEAR

Show your Panda pride and stock up on the latest NDA spiritwear at the Bambootique. From sweatshirts and T-shirts to accessories and gifts, the Bambootique has everything you need to cheer on Panda Nation in style. Visit us 8 a.m. - 11 a.m. on school days or shop online [HERE](#).



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY  
Bambootique



## SHADOWING AT NDA

# FUTURE PANDAS VISIT CAMPUS

Recently we welcomed the 8th graders from St. Agnes and Prince of Peace to Notre Dame Academy! These Future Pandas jumped right into the NDA experience, exploring Latin with Ms. Barnes, getting creative in textiles with Mrs. Ammerman, and heading to the lab with Mr. Stamm for exciting STEM learning — from extracting DNA from strawberries to observing a live combustion experiment. Their day was filled with curiosity, energy and plenty of smiles.

A special highlight of the day was a warm welcome from our principal, Mrs. Lisa Ruwe Timmerding, and assistant principal, Mrs. Stacey Gilliam Turner — both proud St. Agnes alumnae. Moments like these remind us of the strong bonds that connect generations of Pandas.

We are so grateful for their visit and look forward to welcoming these bright young women back to campus soon!



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

# PICTURE RETAKE DAY

Please note: Picture Retake day is Friday, October 17.



## DELICIOUS NEWS!

# WEEKLY 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.

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](mailto:attendance@ndapandas.org). Remember you can always call the school office with any questions 859-261-4300.

## PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

# VIRTUS TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Diocese of Covington has released the updated schedule of VIRTUS trainings through the end of 2025. Sessions are offered at various schools and diocesan locations, including one here at NDA.

For the full list of training dates and locations, visit [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org). For questions, contact Marylu Steffen, Safe Environment Database Coordinator and VIRTUS Administrator, at [msteffen@covdio.org](mailto:msteffen@covdio.org) or 859-392-1565.

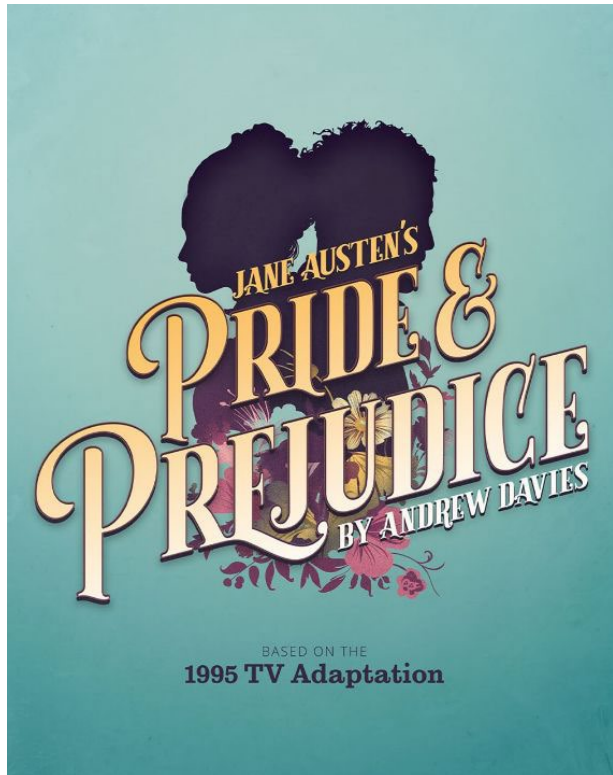
A PROGRAM AND SERVICE OF  
THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC RISK RETENTION GROUP, INC.



**VIRTUS**® Online



# FINE ARTS



NDA AND CCH PRESENTS...

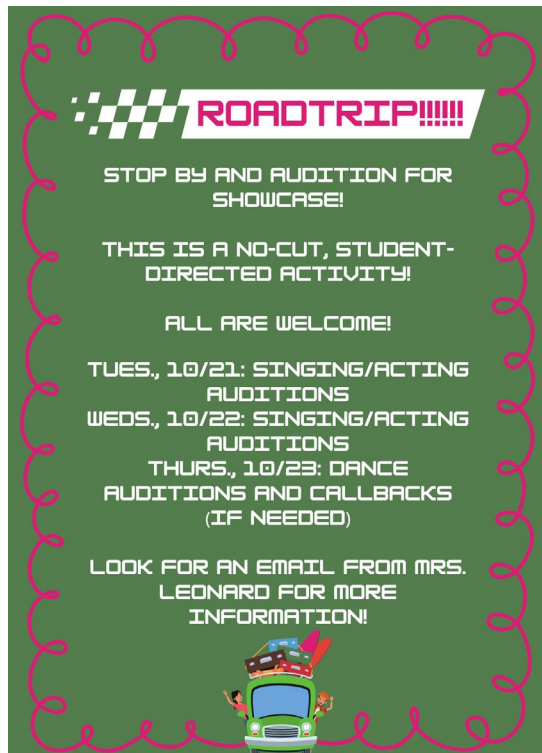
## PRIDE AND PREJUDICE TAKES THE STAGE

The stage is set, and anticipation is building as Notre Dame Academy and Covington Catholic students prepare to bring Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* to life. Based on the beloved 1995 TV adaptation by Andrew Davies, this production blends the wit and charm of Austen's classic with the energy and talent of our students.

From quick banter to elegant ballroom scenes, our cast has been working hard to polish every detail — even their dancing steps — and trust us, Mr. Darcy would be impressed. This show promises to be a highlight of the fall, showcasing the creativity, collaboration and dedication of our NDA and CCH theater programs.

Curtain call is October 17-19. Make plans now to experience this unforgettable production!

Get your tickets [HERE](#).



STUDENT-DIRECTED PRODUCTION

## ROAD TRIP SHOWCASE AUDITIONS

Notre Dame Academy students are invited to audition for this year's student-directed showcase, Road Trip. This no-cut activity is open to everyone and offers students the opportunity to share their talents in singing, acting, and dance.

Auditions will take place in October:

Tuesday, Oct. 21: Singing/acting auditions

Wednesday, Oct. 22: Singing/acting auditions

Thursday, Oct. 23: Dance auditions and callbacks, if needed

All are welcome to participate. Students are encouraged to watch for an email from Mrs. Leonard with more information about the process.

This annual showcase highlights the creativity, dedication, and collaboration of our students and is a favorite event for the NDA community.

# ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

FROM THE DESK OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

## PANDA ATHLETICS

### Volleyball

Thursday 9/25: Pandas faced off at Home against North Oldham while we honor our faculty and staff! Went away with two wins, Freshman won, JV lost and Varsity won

This week Pandas faced off against Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy on Monday 9/29. We walked away with two wins for JV and Varsity teams. On Thursday, the Varsity travels to Chicago for the ASICS Challenge hosted by Mother McAuley!



Playing for a Purpose ticket link - Sat, Oct 11, 2025 at 4:30 PM

You must purchase your ticket online ahead of game day: [Get tickets here.](#)

### Golf

Congratulations to the Golf Pandas for placing 5th in the State tournament on Monday September 29 at Pendleton Hills golf course. Congratulations also to **Maria Penaranda** for advancing as an individual to the state finals next week in Bowling Green! Go Pandas!!!

### Soccer

The Pandas are continuing their winning way on the soccer field. Last week they took down state ranked Region 9 foe, Conner Cougars with a score of 2-1. Goals were scored by Senior, Sadie Yapp, and Freshman, Sophie Reedy. The assists came from Ellie Heyob and Taylor Murphy.

On Monday, the Pandas took control early against #21 Campbell County. They outscored the Camels, 7-1. Sadie Yapp and Addi Frondorf both got 2 goals on the night, and Taylor Murphy, Sophie Reedy, and Gabi Vinson all got 1. Taylor Murphy also had 2 assists, with Gabi Vinson, Ellie Heyob, and Ava Spaulding also providing assistance.

The Pandas round out their Regular season this Wednesday @ Holy Cross, and then Districts start up on October 6th or 8th depending on how NDA is seeded.

### Cross Country

PaNDA's Light Up PR'ville - The XC PaNDA's made the most of their big night race in PR'ville, showing confidence and calm at the starting line and speed at the finish. The results were outstanding: 13 new personal records and 16 more season bests. The varsity team capped the night with an impressive 5th place finish in a very strong, nationally competitive field, proving they belong among the best! It was a night of belief, teamwork, and memories the team will carry into the final stretch of the season!



## CELEBRATING OUR STUDENT ATHLETES!

# FALL SPORTS PEP RALLY

Our Fall Sports Pep Rally was the perfect way to celebrate our student-athletes and their incredible seasons! The afternoon was filled with school spirit as we cheered on soccer, volleyball, golf, and cross country. The GAA brought plenty of entertainment, and the school band kept the energy high with lively music. The rally wrapped up with a high-energy relay race that had the whole gym on their feet—congratulations to the Purple family for taking the win! With just a few games and matches left, our athletes are fired up and ready to finish their fall seasons strong.



# COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### 2026 KENTUCKY GOVERNOR'S PROGRAMS INFORMATION



The Kentucky Governor's Scholars Program, Governor's School for the Arts and Governor's School for Entrepreneurs are amazing, competitive opportunities for high school students. **We highly encourage our NDA students to consider applying for these programs and are happy to support them in the process.** [To learn more about each program, please follow this link to view a chart with more information and see the information below:](#)

The application for the **Kentucky Governor's Scholars Program** is now available on the [KY GSP website!](#) Current Juniors interested in the program met after school for an information session earlier this month and have been added to the GSP Google Classroom for support. If your Junior would still like to be added or has questions, please ask her to contact Mrs. Slone at [slonem@ndapandas.org](mailto:slonem@ndapandas.org) or stop by her office. This program has a school level selection process.

The application for the **Governor's School for the Arts** will open **October 10, 2025** on the [GSA website at this link.](#) Students apply directly through the GSA website but there will be an optional information session scheduled for interested students once the application opens.

The application for the **Governor's School for Entrepreneurs** will open later this Fall. The application will be posted [online at this link.](#) Students apply directly through the GSE website but there will be an optional information session scheduled for interested students once the application opens.

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.





## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

# RECENT COUNSELING EVENTS

Last Wednesday, a lot of unique learning happened across multiple grade levels.

Our Seniors had the opportunity to work with the women from the Thrive Empowerment Center. The seniors learned about how to be Campus Ready and keep themselves safe when they enter new environments next year.

The Freshmen, Sophomores, and Seniors all learned about suicide prevention from 1N5. (The juniors got this information the prior week from 1N5). Additionally, the Freshmen were able to gather wisdom from 8 seniors who shared about some best practices on topics from academics to friendships. We hope everyone took away some new knowledge to help make their lives better.



Attention Freshmen Families - Halloween Dance is Coming Up! Here is the link for 10/18 Halloween Dance tickets

<https://payit.nelnet.net/form/r0ce9JVI>

Seniors routinely talk about how much fun they had at this dance so don't miss out! Only NDA and CCH freshmen are allowed to attend. Tickets are \$5 each. The dance starts at 8:00 and ends at 10:30 (arrive by 8:30 and must stay until 10:30 unless a note from your parent says otherwise).



JOIN TODAY!

## SIGN UP FOR DRUG FREE CLUB!

At NDA, the majority of students are members, and we celebrate their commitment with rewards like gift cards, goody bags, hot chocolate mornings, and more. Freshmen can sign up for all four years and receive senior year free. NDA also subsidizes the cost, making membership just \$25 per year. To sign up, please visit [this link here](#). Questions? Contact Mrs. Maggard at [maggarde@ndapandas.org](mailto:maggarde@ndapandas.org).



## SHARING OUR Community News

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

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

## Important dates

October 2	Information Night for Prospective Panda Families!  Adoration in the Chapel
October 4	Light the Night for NDA!
October 5	Golden Girls Mass and Luncheon
October 7	NHS Induction Ceremony
October 9	No School - Faculty Professional Development
October 10	No School - Faculty Professional Development
October 13	Non-Feeder School Shadow Day
October 14	Super Day - Frosh/Retreat, Soph & Jr/PSAT, SR/ACT or College Day
October 17	End of First Quarter  Picture Retake Day
October 17-19	Pride and Prejudice Show
October 18	Freshman Halloween Dance
October 21	Information Night for Prospective Panda Families!
October 22	Senior Retreat #1
October 28	Parent/Teacher Conferences
October 31	Halloween Fun at the end of the day!
November 3	Remembrance Mass