



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World

Panda Press Weekly

November 15, 2023

THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Parents,

Our NDA community had an eventful weekend with our Mother/Daughter Dance on Friday evening and our Light the Night for NDA fall fundraiser on Saturday evening. These annual gatherings truly showcase the strength and warmth of our NDA community and I extend my sincere thanks to all the parents who participated.

I also want to express my gratitude to both students and parents who took part in the Student/Parent Teacher Conferences yesterday. A special thank you goes to our dedicated faculty members whose commitment plays a pivotal role in shaping each student's educational journey at NDA.

Today our students had the privilege of hearing from the esteemed speaker Michael DeLeon. As the founder of Steered Straight, Michael is on a mission to educate youth about the dangers and addictive nature of drugs. To further engage our parents in this important dialogue, a parent information session will be held at CCH tonight at 6:30 p.m. in the gymnasium. We extend this invitation to all parents from both CCH and NDA, urging and encouraging your attendance. You can find more information about this parent information session below.

Our "Clash of Cans" competition is currently underway and will run through November 17. I want to commend our students for their hard work and dedication to supporting those in need this winter. The level of school spirit and enthusiasm displayed by our Pandas in every project is truly remarkable. Their ability to balance friendly competition with a broader understanding of the impact this canned food drive will have on the lives of others is both commendable and inspiring.

Next Wednesday, as we enter Thanksgiving break, there will not be a Panda Press Weekly, therefore I would like to take this opportunity to extend warm wishes from NDA to you and your family for a nice Thanksgiving. Please know that your continued support for NDA is deeply appreciated. As a Catholic community, we are blessed to have the spiritual support from each other to see hope in our world. Together, it remains our collective responsibility to keep the light of Christ burning brightly in our lives and in the lives of those around us.

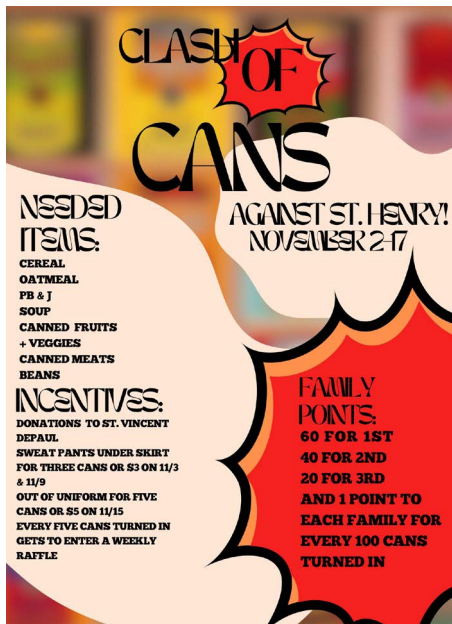
In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



Have a great day and make good choices!

Student Life



MAKING A DIFFERENCE CLASH OF CANS

This Friday marks the end of our service competition against the St. Henry District High School community. Please consider donating cans for our canned food drive. The rumor circulating is that the Crusaders are beating NDA by 500 cans. We definitely want to push hard at the end of this drive so we come out ahead. This will also be a part of an NDA Family Competition where the winning family will be awarded family points. Watch for more information on that!



SILVERBELLS DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY

Student Council will offer Silver Bells for students who are sophomores, juniors and seniors. The event will take place at the Newport Car Barn from 8-11 p.m. on December 8. The cost is \$18 per person. Tickets can be purchased from November 20 until December 4.

WE NEED YOUR HELP AT SILVERBELLS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The preparations have begun for a night of dancing and celebrating with friends at the annual Silver Bells Dance. This dance is planned by the sophomore class and is for all students from the sophomore class and up. We are looking for Virtus trained parents to help give out drinks and snacks during the dance. If you are interested in helping us on December 8 from 7:30 - 11:00 p.m., please contact Lisa Timmerding at timmerdingl@ndapandas.org. Thank you in advance for your help.



ATTENTION FRESHMEN WINTER WONDERLAND DANCE

The Drug Free Club of NDA will offer a semi-formal dance for the freshmen students. The Registration Form for NDA's Winter Wonderland Semi-formal Dance is now open and was sent to students (Registration Form [HERE](#)). It is set for Saturday, December 2 from 8 to 10:30 p.m. at Notre Dame Academy in the Auditorium. The cost is \$15/person.

*The ladies were all informed regarding the appropriate attire required for each dance, so please make sure that your daughter's dress meets the guidelines that were shared this week.

PLEASE NOTE

ATTENTION SOPHOMORES AND SENIORS

CLASS RINGS AND GRADUATION ITEMS

Herff Jones met with the Sophomores on Monday, November 13, during Homeroom to explain the class rings and hand out ordering packets. On Wednesday November 15 from 3-7 p.m., Herff Jones will be in the front foyer to answer any questions that parents may have about the class rings and to take orders. Herff Jones will be here on Thursday, November 16, during lunch to take any remaining ring order and orders for Graduation items (announcements, stationary etc).

PRESENTED BY

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Today our students heard from renowned speaker Michael DeLeon. He is the founder of Steered Straight, an organization committed to educating youth on the dangers and addictive nature of drugs. From their website - "Michael DeLeon is on a mission: A mission to educate youth to stay on the right path when it comes to serious life issues, especially drugs. He has become the #1 booked school presenter in the country and is the nation's leading expert on Vaping and THC.

Michael is the founder and powerhouse behind Steered Straight Inc., a non-profit organization formed in 2007 upon his release from prison and designed to carry an important message to youth on the extreme dangers of drugs, gang involvement and associated criminal activity."

A parent information session will be offered at CCH on tonight at 6:30 p.m. in the gymnasium. All parents from both CCH and NDA are invited and encouraged to attend. Students will receive an out of uniform pass if their parents attend the event. For more information about his organization, visit <https://www.steeredstraight.org/>

FOR *PARENTS:

CURRENT TRENDS + PREVENTION -

VAPING, ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA, FENTANYL, ETC.

Hear from America's
#1 Booked School Presenter:

Michael DeLeon



PARENT ACADEMY

WED. NOVEMBER 15 - 6:30 pm

COVINGTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL GYM

**The three most dangerous words a parent can say are:
"Not My Kid."**

Come, be in the know!

Sponsored by:



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World

Four copies of Table Talks and dashboard conversations will be given as Door Prizes!
All NDA PARENTS will receive a Student ticket for Dress-Down on Monday, Nov. 27



COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

The NDA community wishes all of you a safe and happy Thanksgiving full of gratitude, family time, love and delicious food. Please know how grateful we are that you entrusted the care of your daughters to us. We are very blessed! We hope that you enjoy some quality family time during our days off on November 22 - 24.

EXERCISE IN SAFETY

CRITICAL THINKING!

On Friday December 1, our students will engage in a critical thinking exercise centered around the ALICE protocols. The students will be given hypothetical scenarios and situations that could occur and impact the safety of our school. With groups, the girls will have to determine how to respond to these situations to uphold the safety of themselves and others. ALICE stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. Our students were introduced to ALICE earlier this year and most likely are familiar with it from grade school. Sadly, it is crucial that our girls are prepared for various situations and this activity is a great exercise in doing so.

SCENARIO



MOTHER DAUGHTER 2023

LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!

NDA's annual Mother Daughter Dance was a complete success! Last Friday, the dedicated event planners rolled out the red carpet and transformed the cafeteria and auditorium using glitz and glamour. Mothers and daughters enjoyed dancing, dressing up, posing in the photobooths, and spending time with other mothers and daughters. Many celebrities made appearances at this evening of fun including Bengals, Kardashians, Spice Girls, etc. We thank Mrs. Pohlman for her dedicated planning and her committee members for working with her to make the night such an incredible one for the girls and their mothers. A great deal of work went into this event and it did not go unnoticed. If you did not attend, please plan to join us next year and look for information about Father / Daughter coming up on February 2.





MEMORIES FOR LIFE

ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK TODAY

NDA's 2024 yearbook, 24 hOURS, is on sale now for the early price of \$77 through December 15. Buy now to take advantage of early-bird pricing at the NDA store at jostens.com. 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.

NDA's 2023 yearbook, Finding Our Groove, is on track for fall delivery! Be sure to check the Panda Press for updates and a special '23 graduate welcome back/yearbook pickup event!

PLEASE NOTE

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

There will be no school on Friday, December 8 as the Feast of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception - a holy day of obligation.



PANDA GEAR

BAMBOOTIQUE

Support your Winter Sport Pandas with a t-shirt! You can find them online [HERE](#).

HOLIDAY BAMBOOTIQUE HOURS:

Monday - Friday. 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Saturday hours are 9:30 to 2:00 (dates are below)

November 18

December 9, 16

We are looking for volunteers for the Bambootique. If you can help out, please sign up [HERE](#).



DELICIOUS NEWS

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

You can find NDA's lunch menu below and on our website [HERE](#).

Parents, please check your daughter's lunch account balance. We have many overdue accounts and some are quite large.

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.

PLEASE NOTE!
➡

THUMBS UP FOR AP STATS!

PANDAS AP® STATISTICS CLASS DIVES INTO EARTH'S WATERY MYSTERIES



Pandas AP® Statistics class takes the task of inference to a new level by attempting to predict the percent of the earth's surface that is water. As these globes were tossed the class recorded the location of their right thumb. (Water or Land)

After taking SIX random samples of size 30 each, their results underestimated the true proportion of surface water by 10%, however, their results did show the beginnings of a normal distribution.

Several discussions were had regarding the validity of their sampling technique. The students and their teacher, Mr. Greg Cerimele, decided that by using the right thumb as the marker, they collected data that was biased toward the lower side. Rivers and lakes were too small for a thumb to pick up so they were counted as land.

Their sample indicated that the earth is covered by 60% water when in fact it is covered by 70% water!



MATH MAGIC IN MOTION

NDA'S MATH CLUB AND MU ALPHA THETA EMBARK ON A VIDEO ADVENTURE!

Math Club and Mu Alpha Theta (NDA's Math Honors Society) gathered for their monthly meeting on Monday. The members of Mu Alpha Theta started their work on the required "Math Minutes" video with their chosen groups. Each group will create one video lesson on any secondary math topic. Members of our chapter will vote to nominate 3 videos and these will be submitted to the national contest. The top 8 videos will be ranked and up to \$3,000 will be available to split amongst these entries. Good luck to all members! We can't wait to see what you put together!





HARMONY UNLEASHED

NDA PANDA TONES SHINE AT TRI-STATE HONOR CHOIR WORKSHOP

Five members of the NDA Panda Tones participated in a Tri-State Honor Choir workshop and concert at Northern Kentucky University. At this workshop, the girls worked with choral groups from other high schools, including Covington Catholic, Covington Latin, Holy Cross and many others; they performed with a group of over 180 other high school chorus students; expanded their choral repertoire with difficult college-level pieces; and they performed with the prestigious Chamber Choir from Northern Kentucky University under the direction of the Director of Choral Studies, Mrs. Katie Barton.

*Top Left Pic: Notre Dame Academy students pictured are: (from L to R) Allison Dilbert, Laila Janah, Melissa Geiman, Aran Henderson, & Megan Ahern



AUDITIONS SOUND OF MUSIC

Sign up for the Sound of Music auditions by Monday, December 4 for auditions on Tuesday, December 5 and Wednesday, December 6 after school in NDA's theatre. Callback auditions will be Thursday, December 7 after school. Callbacks may include a brief dance call.

Audition for

The Sound of Music

December 5th & 6th

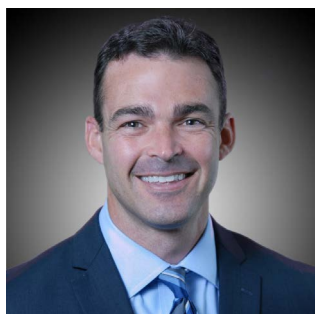
sign up for auditions




Email smithja@ndapandas.org with any questions

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

Track and Field - We are excited to announce the appointment of Matt Hollenkamp as the next Varsity Track Coach for Notre Dame Academy! Matt comes to NDA with an outstanding background in coaching track and field and previous experience with our program. Matt brings with him a wealth of knowledge and the understanding of how all the pieces of a track team fit together to operate as one. He is ready to continue the tradition of success in girls high school track and field at NDA!

Bowling - Panda bowling captures a Conference win over St. Henry 4 - 3 Thursday at Erlanger Strike and spares. The win was secured by awesome bowling from Cami Noris bowling a 120 a 133 , Haley Pelsrings 122 and 128 followed by Sophie Hollenkamps 129 and Ella Webers 107. Great win for the Pandas!

Soccer - Kimmie Woeste has officially signed with the University of Toledo! Kimmie has been a standout player, showcasing incredible skill, dedication and sportsmanship throughout her time with us at NDA. Her journey has been nothing short of inspiring and we couldn't be prouder to see her take this remarkable step forward in her athletic career. Join us in celebrating Kimmie's achievement and wishing her all the success in this new chapter at the University of Toledo!

Swimming and Diving - Our AquaPandas kicked off their season by winning the Boone-Conner Sprint Meet!

Go Pandas! These 6 young women worked greeters and seaters at the Northern Kentucky Athletic Directors Hall of Fame banquet last night! Left to right: Lizzy Larkin, Audrey Dyas, Ava Erpenbeck, Avery Pope, Rylie Pope and Marisa Bloemer



COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



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.

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL
FOR THE ARTS
A PROGRAM OF



KENTUCKY
PERFORMING
ARTS

CHECK IT OUT!

THE KY GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

Creative Writing - Dance - Design - Drama - Instrumental Music - Vocal Music - Musical Theatre - Visual Art - Film + Photography

- GSA is a tuition-free residential summer program for passionate and talented artists from across the Commonwealth.
- GSA Alumni receive access to scholarships at nearly 30 colleges/universities, as well as life-long mentorships and a transformative summer experience.
- Click [HERE](#) for Applicant Guides
- Only two GSA 101 Webinars are left:
- Wednesday, December 6 - 5:00 p.m. Click [here](#) to register!
- **Applications due January 14, 2024.**



YOU'RE INVITED

THE KY GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The [GSP website](#) has applications and information for GSP 2024. Applications for NDA students are due November 20. Contact Mrs. Hildreth with questions.

ADVANCING THE MISSION



2023 ANNUAL FUND

A SPIRIT OF GIVING

The halls of NDA are filled with gratitude and the feeling of giving! From Clash of Cans to Light the Night for NDA, the feeling is contagious.

We want to thank you, as parents and guardians, for entrusting NDA to educate your daughter to make a difference in the world. We passionately believe in the holistic, rigorous and Catholic education provided to the young women of our community that develops their God given gifts and prepares them to be lifelong learners. We invite you to partner with us in our mission. Your contribution to the annual fund directly supports programs, projects and teachers for the 2023-2024 operating budget while also shaping plans for future growth and programming. Your generosity has a meaningful impact on your students' everyday experiences in academics, faith formation and co-curricular activities.

INVEST IN NDA TODAY

THANK YOU!

LIGHT THE NIGHT FOR NDA

Our fall fundraiser, Light the Night for NDA, was a great success! The evening was filled with laughter, friendship and community as we gathered to celebrate Catholic education at Notre Dame Academy. THANK YOU to all of our generous parents who supported this fundraiser. From our gift gathering parties and raffles to our online auctions, our parents certainly showed up to support Notre Dame Academy!

Additionally, local businesses and alumnae supported Light the Night for NDA and we would like to take an opportunity to thank them for their generosity as well. Please take a look at the program from Light the Night for NDA [HERE](#) and help us thank our corporate and event sponsors by supporting their businesses.





SHARING OUR Community News

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

- 2023-24 Thomas More Dual-Credit Information Sessions
- Molly Mayer's Studio of Dance

Important dates

November 17	Panda Funfest
November 20	Thanksgiving Prayer Service
November 22-24	No School - Thanksgiving Break
November 29	Sophomore Retreat
December 3	Junior Retreat #2
December 4	HSPT Prep
December 5-6	Musical Auditions
December 7	In School - Christmas Band & Choral concert
	Musical Auditions Call Backs
December 8	Silver Bells Dance - Newport Car Barn
December 9	HSPT at NDA
December 10	NDA to the Bengals game
	Band and Color Guard Christmas Concert 4:30-5:30
December 11	HSPT Make-up date
December 13	Panda Tones & Dance Pandas Christmas Concert 6:30-7:30
December 14	Quilt show
December 15	College Welcome Back Night - Class of 2023
December 18	Exams begin
December 20	Faculty/Staff Christmas party
	End of 2nd Quarter
December 21- January 2	Christmas Break
January 3	Classes Resume