



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World

Panda Press Weekly

December 1, 2021

THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Parents,

On our Advent Journey we are reminded of the significance of prayer and community in our lives. While time seems to pass even more quickly than usual throughout the holidays, it is important for us to take time out during this busy season to pause and remember the blessings of people and community.

Yesterday, as part of our Giving Tuesday initiative at NDA, our community donated at total of \$21,517.92 to our 2021-22 Annual Fund. We are truly grateful for the continued support of our alumnae, families and friends. I am especially appreciative of our faculty and staff as well as our Board of Directors who were overwhelmingly generous to our Annual Fund on Giving Tuesday. It speaks volumes that those people who already give so much of themselves to our school community support each other and our mission of educating young women to make a difference in the world. As the President/Interim Principal, I am truly humbled by their generosity.

If you have not yet made a donation to our 2021-22 Annual Fund, I ask that you please consider doing so. Your support helps "fill the gap" and allows us to continue to provide a premiere Catholic education to the young women of our community.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is next Wednesday, December 8. On this day we celebrate that Mary, "full of grace" through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception. By giving Mary this grace from the first moment of her conception, God showed us an image of our own destiny. **Due to the Holy Day, school will be closed on Wednesday, December 8.**

I suggest that you encourage your daughter to take some time during this season of Advent for joyful preparation and peaceful reflection of the importance of prayer and community in our lives and the coming of our Lord on Christmas day.

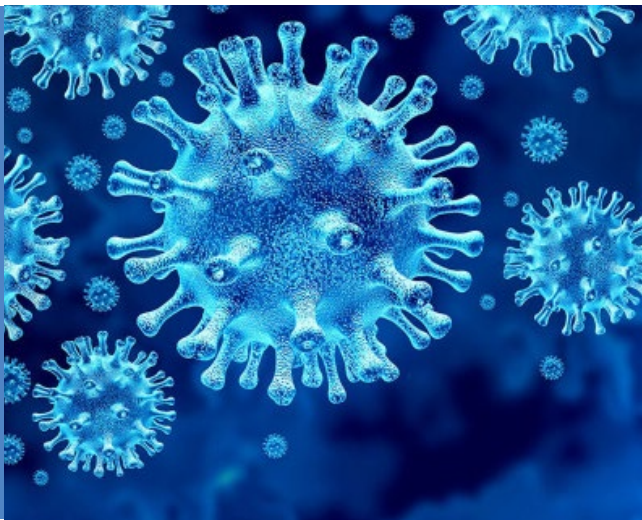
As you begin your Advent journey this week, may God's blessing come upon you and your family!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



Have a great day and make good choices!



WEEKLY UPDATE

COVID-19

As of today, Wednesday, December 1, we have had 2 new reported cases of members of our community testing positive for COVID-19 within the last week. We have had 0 additional members of our community who are currently in quarantine due to a reported exposure to COVID-19.

As we move forward, please keep NDA updated on any COVID-19 related issues involving your family. In the event that someone in your household is being tested for COVID-19 or your daughter is exposed to or tests positive for COVID-19, please contact one of our school nurses, Tina Sizemore, RN. or Melanie Martin, RN., at 859.292.1843 | ndanurse@ndapandas.org.

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSES

UPDATED COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

Dear Parents,

As you know, each Friday we determine the upcoming week's masking protocol at NDA based on the data released by the Kentucky Department of Public Health (KDPH) each Thursday as per the [Diocesan COVID-19 Return to School Requirements](#). You can find this data here: <https://govstatus.egov.com/kycovid19>.

In the data released last week, Kenton County was in the **RED ZONE** at 38 - High Community Transmission (>25+ per 100K) therefore masks are required at NDA NOVEMBER 29 - December 5, 2021. . We will send an email to all students and parents each Friday afternoon to communicate the mask protocol for the following week based on Thursday's data. You can also find NDA's weekly masking protocol in our student bulletin.

Recently we have seen a rise in cases of Influenza A among our students. Infection with the influenza virus causes a sudden onset of fever, chills, dry cough and muscle aches. Other symptoms include headache, fatigue, sore throat and nasal congestion. As per the CDC, "Everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine every season with rare exceptions....Flu vaccination has important benefits. It can reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, and missed work and school due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations and deaths."

If a student is ill, a parent/guardian should call the school office by 8:00 am. If a student is missing from 1st period and a phone call explaining the absence has not been received, a call will be placed to the student's parent or guardian verifying her absence. The student should bring a note upon her return stating the date of the absence and the reason for missing school. Other documentation, such as a doctor's note, is also very helpful but does not excuse the absence unless a student has a chronic condition.

PLEASE NOTE: If a student is ill, she will NOT be permitted to join her classes remotely. If your daughter is sick, we want her to stay home and get the necessary rest and care needed in order for her to return to school healthy. If a student is absent due to possible COVID-19 exposure, diagnosis or contact tracing, if she is well enough, she will be expected to join remotely from home in order to be counted present for class.

We would like to thank you for your patience as we continue to do our best to protect the health and wellbeing of our students, faculty and staff while meeting our responsibility to educate our students and provide them with in-person instruction. We appreciate the cooperation of our NDA community as we respond to the constantly changing situations presented by COVID-19.

Tina Sizemore, RN.
NDA School Nurse
ndanurse@ndapandas.org

Melanie Martin, RN.
NDA School Nurse
ndanurse@ndapandas.org

Student Life

GET EXCITED!

FRESHMEN SEMI FORMAL DANCE

Our Freshmen are looking forward to the semi-formal dance this weekend. Freshmen and their guests must arrive by 8:30 p.m. and cannot leave earlier than 10:45 p.m. Please arrange transportation accordingly. Registration closed this afternoon. Some reminders regarding dress code. Dance attire must:

- Masks are required for this weekend's Freshman Dance.
- Provide proper coverage of the chest area (no cleavage or plunging necklines). Modesty panels could be added to a dress to address this issue.
- Strapless and spaghetti strap dresses are acceptable as long as they meet other dress code expectations.
- Be long enough. The length of the dress should extend below one's fingertips when arms are fully extended at sides. This applies to the shortest hem of the dress (consider an asymmetrical dress).
- An open back is acceptable; however, the open back must not extend below the lower curvature of one's back.
- Cover stomach and midriff areas. Cut-outs are not approved. A mesh layer or material could be added to the dress to cover the exposed areas.

We thank you, parents, for helping your daughter pick just the right dress for their upcoming dance!



2 WORK STUDY POSITIONS AVAILABLE WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

We are moving toward more self-service in the cafeteria as we did prior to COVID-19. Once we have the necessary personnel to staff the cafeteria, we will be adding the salad bar and the use of trays back into our lunchtime routine. **If you are interested in working in NDA's dish room through our Work Study Program, (M,T,H,F: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | W: 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.) please contact our cafeteria manager at ndahr@ndapandas.org.** You can find NDA's lunch menu [HERE](#). Please note: the menu is subject to change as there are many shortages in the food industry.

PARENTS, please check your daughter's lunch account and to pay overdue balance as soon as possible.

REMINDER: Due to the Holy Day, school will be closed on Wednesday, December 8.

ATTENTION PANDA PARENTS

SILVER BELLS CHAPERONES NEEDED

We are in need of 3-5 parents willing to chaperone the Silver Bells dance on December 11, from 8 p.m. - 11 p.m. YOU MUST BE VIRTUS TRAINED AND UP TO DATE ON YOUR BULLETINS! Please contact Ms. Madeline Tucker at tuckerm@ndapandas.org by December 3 if you are available and willing to help chaperone this fun event for the sophomores, juniors, and seniors.



WE NEED YOUR HELP

ATTENTION FRESHMAN PARENTS

As you may know, our annual Silver Bells Dance is coming up on Saturday, December 11. Every year we are in need of parents to help with this event and we are asking Freshman parents to help with cleanup. We are looking for 12-15 parents to be there to clean up from 11:00 p.m. - midnight. Please fill out the form found [HERE](#) by Friday, November 19 to let us know if you would be available to help. Thank you for helping us make these kinds of events possible!

HELP WANTED

HO HO HO!

HOLIDAY SHOP AT NDA!

Looking for something special for the Panda in your life? Stop by NDA's spirit wear shop, the Bambootique, for some unique Panda items. In-store hours are listed below or [shop online](#).

Bambootique Hours:

Open Daily (school days) 7 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Additional Holiday Hours:

December 4: 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

December 6: 5-8 p.m.

December 11: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

December 15: 3:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

December 17: 3:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

December 18: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.



EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!

YEARBOOK NEWS

The 2022 NDA yearbook, ***Make it Count***, is available for pre-order now at jostens.com. Order now for the special fall price of \$60.



OUT OF UNIFORM DAY

SERVICE PROJECT FUNDING

Tuesday, December 7 will be an Out of Uniform Day to help fund service projects that a number of our clubs are involved in. It will cost \$3 to dress out of uniform and the proceeds will support the following projects...

- GirlUp- Annual day to empower middle school girls
- Environmental Club - Purchasing additional recycling bins to serve every space in our school
- UgaNDA PaNDAs - Postage to send packages to our sister school in Uganda
- Math Club - Supplies for their tutoring programs
- Teen Leadership Club - Prizes and supplies for their fundraiser supporting GO Pantry

CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS

DEVELOPING SERVANT LEADERS

Junior Service Update

On Monday, Mrs. Price met with the Junior Class to present the adapted Junior Service Program that we hope to operate after Christmas. All paperwork was explained and sent home with the juniors and is due back by Friday, December 3, 2021. If you have any questions after reading through the paperwork, please email Mrs. Price at priceb@ndapandas.org.

*Making a
Difference*

CAMPUS MINISTRY

MORNING MASS

This week we will celebrate Mass in our beautiful *Mary, Mother of the World* Chapel at 7:20 a.m. tomorrow and Friday. All are welcome to join us!



PANDA PRIDE

2023 Synod on Synodality: The Church Wants to Hear From You!

Pope Francis has called for a worldwide discussion leading up to the next meeting of the Synod of Bishops in 2023 on the topic of SYNODALITY. Synodality is "journeying together" - a way of living out our faith that involves shared responsibility, open and honest dialogue, and discernment with the Holy Spirit in addressing the issues facing our Church today. It is speaking and listening to one another and the Holy Spirit. In what ways does our parish journey together? How well do we do it? Are there people or groups that have been left behind on the journey? How can we speak and listen to them? Parishes, institutions, individuals, and small groups across the diocese will have the opportunity to reflect and respond to these and other questions over the next several months. All are invited and encouraged to participate. Input will be compiled and forwarded on to the national and then international levels to help the Bishops prepare for the 2023 Synod in Rome. Look for more information in parish communications, on social media, the diocesan website covidio.org/synod, or visit www.synod.va/en.html.



FINE ARTS



[SIGN UP TODAY](#)

AUDITIONS and TECHNICAL/DESIGNER INTERVIEWS

Sign up to AUDITION or have a TECHNICAL/DESIGNER position for *The Addams Family- A New Musical*.

Audition Times:

- Audition forms due before December 13
- Monday, December 13 from 3:30-6:30 p.m. at NDA (dance, singing, and monologues)
- Tuesday, December 14 at CCH from 3:30-6:30 p.m. (singing and monologues)
- Wednesday, December 15 at NDA (callbacks if needed)

Technical Applications:

- All Technical Crew Applications due before December 7
- Interviews for Designers and Assistant Designers Tuesday, December 7 from 3:30-6:00 p.m.

Fill out the [AUDITION FORM](#)

Select an [AUDITION TIME SLOT](#)

If you are unavailable for any of the time slots (including dance call), please email smithja@ndapandas.org to schedule a different audition option.

For all of the information regarding auditions and technical/designer interviews visit the website [HERE](#).

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Coupon Book Fundraiser Steps

FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW

GET BOOKS

- 01** Pick up and sign for your books during homeroom on **FRI 11/19**

SELL BOOKS

- 02** Sell to family and friends \$25/book.

FILL OUT TALLY SHEET

- 03** Fill out tally sheet here with customer info including check and cash amounts collected

UPLOAD TALLY SHEET

- 04** Upload here MUST be an excel or google sheet.

TURN IN MONEY

- 05** Turn in your money marked with name **BY FRIDAY 12/17**

Questions? Email Myanna or Mrs. Colvin!

PANDA SAVINGS!

COUPON BOOKS

Remember Panda athletes, once you sell our coupon books, please fill out the [tally sheet](#) and upload [here](#) before turning in your money by Friday, December 17.

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



TIME TO STUDY

MID TERM EXAMS

We will be having mid term exams starting Wednesday, December 15 - Friday, December 17. The schedule is linked below for your reference. You will need to reference your daughter's schedule in order to know what class is assigned to each exam slot. Please note that we will get out early each day.

PLEASE NOTE: In preparation for midterm exams, the Pandas are looking forward to some additional Panda Prime Time in the upcoming weeks.

Please refer to the [NDA Student Parent Handbook](#) for more information about exams and NDA exam policy.

[Exam Schedule Fall 2021-22](#)



GSE APPLICATION PROCESS

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR ENTREPRENEURS

[Governor's School for Entrepreneurs.](#) (GSE) applications are NOW open to current Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors through January 24, 2022. Contact Mrs. Hildreth with your questions. GSE still has 4 virtual events via Zoom to showcase the GSE experience and dive into the application process. Find links to register [here](#).



GSA APPLICATION PROCESS

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

ART FORM SPECIFIC WEBINARS

This is a chance for students to interact with faculty members in each art form about what they're looking for in GSA applicants. Q&A included; each session will be recorded and made available afterward on our website. Free, but registration will be required! [Please click here to view the schedule and register!](#)



ADVANCING OUR MISSION



TIME TO SIGN UP

HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST

The High School Placement Test (HSPT) is required as part of the admission process at NDA. All incoming freshman students interested in attending Notre Dame Academy must take the HSPT. The Diocesan-wide testing date for the HSPT is Saturday, December 11. There is a testing fee of \$20.00 that must be paid at the time of test registration. The deadline for registration is December 3, 2021. [2021 HSPT Registration Form](#)

#SUPPORTING OUR PANDAS

THANK YOU!

Yesterday at Notre Dame Academy we joined hundreds of millions of people in celebrating Giving Tuesday, a worldwide day of people making a difference. We would like to thank everyone who joined us yesterday in celebrating excellence at NDA with a donation to NDA's Annual Fund!

We were overwhelmed by the contributions we received from our community. We would especially like to thank our Board of Directors and our faculty and staff for their overwhelming support! Together we made a difference in the lives of our students.

Giving Tuesday has passed but we are still a long way from our goal of \$320,000 for the 2021-22 Annual Fund. Parents, please consider making a gift to this year's Annual Fund to help "fill the gap" and ensure access to Catholic education at NDA for all young women.



PEERLESS
PRINTING & MAILING

"WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING THE PERSONAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE YOU DESERVE."

A special thank you to Peerless Printing for all that they do in support of NDA!

Here at Peerless Printing, we are confident in the quality we deliver. Our state-of-the-art digital pre-press equipment, digital and offset presses, finishing, bindery and in-house mail services, allow us to assist you at any and all levels of your project – from concept ideation to production and mailing, your message will reach your target audience at the right time.





SHARING OUR

Community News

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

- Morning of Reflection
- St. Joseph Heights Work Study Positions available for Students
- Seeking Lower Tuition Payments?

Important dates

December 2	Mass in Chapel 7:20 a.m. HSPT Prep at NDA
December 3	Mass in Chapel 7:20 a.m.
December 4	JR Retreat (2 of 4 options) FR Semi Formal Dance at NDA
December 7	Choral Concert and Dance Pandas
December 8	No School: Feast of the Immaculate Conception
December 10	In School Band and Choral Concert
December 11	HSPT and ACT at NDA Silver Bells Dance
December 12	Band Christmas Concert
December 13	Advent Mass
December 15-17	Midterm Exams
December 18	Christmas break begins
January 3	School resumes