



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World

Panda Press Weekly

December 15, 2021

THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Parents,

I hope your Advent has been filled with peace, hope, joy and the many special blessings of this holy season. Our students, faculty and staff gathered on Monday for our annual Advent Mass. It was a very nice way for everyone to come together as a community of believers to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ this Christmas.

Our students and faculty are just two days away from a well-deserved Christmas break and the completion of semester exams. As the Principal/Interim President of NDA, I am very appreciative of our students' hard work and commitment to their Catholic education. I am also grateful to our faculty and staff for their dedication to keeping our students engaged in meaningful learning. Although we have enjoyed a bit more normalcy this school year, the stress of living during a global pandemic continues to be challenging for all of us. I would like to thank our NDA community for their commitment to our NDA values. They have done an amazing job of reflecting God's light and love to each other and the world.

As we prepare to celebrate with family and friends this holiday season, we cannot help but think about those less fortunate than ourselves, especially those recently affected by devastating tornadoes. As you will see below, we are planning to hold a collection for those affected by the tornadoes when we return from break. In the meantime, I ask that you take time over the next couple of weeks to keep those who lost so much recently, especially those who lost loved ones, in your prayers. Please also pray for the front line workers who continue to be there for all of us when we need them. They have had a rough couple of years.

Christmas is more than simply the celebration of God becoming Man in a historical moment; it is also a reminder to all of us that He continues to be present in our world today. I see God present in our students, our faculty and staff, and in all that we do at Notre Dame Academy. Thank you for your continued support of our community.

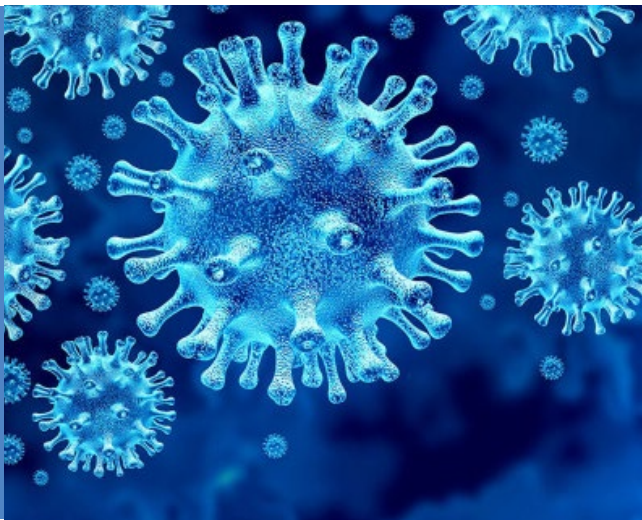
On behalf of the faculty and staff of NDA, I wish you and your family a very blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



Have a great day and make good choices!



WEEKLY UPDATE

COVID-19

As of today, Wednesday, December 15, we have had 0 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 STAY HEALTHY!

Dear Parents,

Please continue to encourage your daughter to stay healthy during exam week. We suggest that students prioritize sleep, eat well, hydrate, minimize stress and exercise to help them feel their best so that they can do their best this week.

In the data released last week, Kenton County was in the **RED ZONE** at 43.7 - High Community Transmission (>25+ per 100K) therefore masks are required at NDA December 13 - 19, 2021. NDA will send an email to all students and parents the week before we come back from Christmas break to communicate the mask protocol for the week of January 3, 2022.

While this year feels different than last and COVID-19 may be less on our radar, we still need to stay diligent in protecting our own health and the health of our loved ones. You can find a link to CDC recommendations for a safer holiday [HERE](#).

We wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!

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

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



PARENT RESOURCE

COVID-19 INFORMATION

There are many important resources for parents and students on NDA's COVID-19 Information page on the website [HERE](#).

- Pandas Return to Campus Plan
- Information from the Nurse's Office
- Daily Personal Assessment questions
- COVID-19 Vaccine information
- Diocesan communications

Student Life

BE A VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS

2022 MARCH FOR LIFE: EQUALITY BEGINS IN THE WOMB

Saving lives, ending abortion and promoting a culture of life is why we march each year in Washington D.C. If your daughter would like to attend this important event on January 21, 2022 and be a voice for the voiceless please have her stop by Mrs. Van Auken's room #254 to pick up permission slip forms. We are taking one bus with 45 student spots so please do not hesitate. Forms and money are due together to secure a spot. If you have any questions please email Mrs. Theresa Van Auken at vanaukent@ndapandas.org.



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!



IT'S SHOW TIME!

CSW TALENT SHOW

Our annual Talent Show is coming up on February 4. Christmas Break is a great time for students and faculty to start working on a routine. Registration forms are due on January 21 and can be found [HERE](#). Some ideas of talents to share include...

- Singing
- Dancing
- Playing an instrument
- Performing a monologue
- Performing a skit
- Juggling
- Comedy Act
- ...and so many more!



We are looking forward to seeing the many talents of our Pandas!

PRAYERS PLEASE

SUPPORT FOR TORNADO VICTIMS

Our hearts and prayers go out to the victims of the tornadoes in western Kentucky. Student Council will be planning a fundraiser to help support those who have been affected after the Christmas break. Stay tuned for more details!



HOLLY JOLLY PARTON

NDA'S OWN ELF ON THE SHELF

Notre Dame Academy has been visited by its own Elf on the Shelf for the month of December! Whoever found Holly Jolly Parton first each day received a candy cane. Each day it was posted on Instagram where she had been that day and a hint for where you could find her the next day. She has given a report to Santa each day so hopefully we will all get presents instead of coal in our stockings!



SPARKING SERVANT LEADERSHIP

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

NDA faculty member Patty Mueller mentioned to some of her students that she was volunteering at Mary Rose Mission over Thanksgiving break. Three seniors volunteered with her and while they were there they bumped into two of Mrs. Mueller's junior students as well as with one of her fellow Class of 1981 graduates, Kelly Hitter. Pandas certainly make a difference in our community!



PANDAS AND PICASSO

CULTURAL APPRECIATION

This past week Spanish 4 Honors students explored the many contributions of artists from the Spanish speaking world throughout the centuries. We learned about many famous painters, their works, and their lives that inspired such masterpieces. We finished with Pablo Picasso, and our students made art inspired by his cubist style!



VISUAL AID EXPERTISE

STUDYING THE NEURON

What is the best way to study the Neuron in Psychology Class? When you have an artist like Senior Cheney Lucas, the answer is simple-draw the neuron and practice labeling it! The neuron on our blackboard was a constant reminder that the Nervous System has a profound impact on our physical & emotional well-being. Thanks to Cheney for sharing her talent with our Psychology Class!



PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

PERSONAL FIANCE STUDENTS STUDY CAREER PATHS

Mrs. Hilbert's Personal Finance class hosted a mini-career day this week and invited several guest to share their experiences with the class. Students met each visitor in small groups and had the opportunity to ask questions about their particular career interests.



TRADITION RETURNS

2021 SILVER BELLS

Our sophomores, juniors and seniors had a wonderful time with their guests at the Silver Bells dance this past weekend at NDA. Thanks to the sophomore class for putting on such a fun and memorable night for everyone!



PLEASE NOTE: Masks protocols were followed at Silver Bells however, students were permitted to remove their masks for photos.

HO HO HO!

HOLIDAY SHOP AT NDA!

NDA's spirit wear shop, the Bambootique, is having a 15% off sale on everything in the store between now and December 17 at 11:59 PM! Remember, the last day to pick up orders is on December 18 by 1:00 p.m. You can shop in person or [shop online](#).

Bambootique Hours:

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

Additional Holiday Hours:

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.



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.

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YEARBOOKS ON SALE!

The 2022 NDA Yearbook, *Make it Count*, is available for pre-order at jostens.com (pick up link if available). The book will cover the entire year through graduation and will arrive in the fall of 2022.

The 2021 NDA Yearbook, *Together*, is still available in limited quantities in the school office. Books are \$70; please make checks payable to NDA.



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT



RIGHT ON TARGET!

NDA PANDA ARCHERY

On December 11, the Archery Pandas competed in the Saint Henry Tournament. The team shot a season high score 3041 which included 88 tens, also a season high. 15 Archers shot a personal season high score. The Pandas were led by Keira Schneider at 285, 3rd overall, Ellie Puglisi at 281, 6th overall, Megan Paolucci at 265, Natalie Lovell at 261 and Ella Weitzel at 260. Next up for the Pandas is the Covington Catholic Tournament on December 29. The Archery Pandas wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

AQUAPANDA NEWS

SWIMMING AND DIVING



Last Saturday 12/11, while the upperclassmen were dancing the night away at Silver Bells, the freshmen swimmers (pictured L-R: Grace Summe, Ali Wells, Andi Carothers, Sadie Hartig, Annie Dierker, and Payton Hatfield) traveled to Louisville to represent NDA in the Eastern Holiday Care-A-Van meet. The team finished in the top 10 with 7 best times. Sadie had two top 8 individual finishes (50 butterfly and 100 freestyle) and the 400 freestyle relay of Payton, Ali, Andi, and Sadie also had a top 8 finish. Great job freshmen!

Over Christmas break, the AquaPandas will be traveling to Louisville on Friday 12/17 to swim in the Girls' Night Out meet and competing in the NKAC Championship swim meet at Keating Natatorium (St. Xavier HS) on Friday 12/18 and dive meet at NKU on Wednesday 12/22. The team heads back to Keating Natatorium on Thursday 12/30 to swim a tri-meet vs. Ursuline and St. Ursula. Good luck girls!



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



REGISTER TODAY

ACT PREP CLASSES

Torchprep will again be hosting some ACT prep classes at NDA starting February 2. The training will be on Thursday and Saturdays and lead up to the March 8 test that all juniors will take in school. For more information see: [Torchprep](https://www.torchprep.com)



PARTNERS
WITH

NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

TO PROVIDE NORTHERN KY'S PREMIER
ACT TEST PREP

SIGN UP HERE

[torchprep.com](https://www.torchprep.com) | info@torchprep.com | 888.382.8174

Thursdays 6pm-9pm	&	Saturdays 10am-2pm
2/3		2/5
2/10		2/12
2/17		2/19
2/24		2/26

LOCATION:
Notre Dame Academy

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 1/24/22

GREAT IDEAS

ENRICHMENT & OPPORTUNITIES:

Check out [OUR LIST](#) for exciting ideas about enrichment and opportunities outside the classroom!



CLEP

COLLEGE BOARD

Did you know that College Board - the same organization that administers high school Advanced Placement (AP) courses - ALSO administers College Level Examination Programs (CLEP), another way for high school students to earn college credits?!! CLEP offers 34 exams that cover introductory level college course material. With a passing score on one CLEP exam, students can earn three or more college credits at 2,900 U.S. colleges and universities. See their [website](#) for more information.

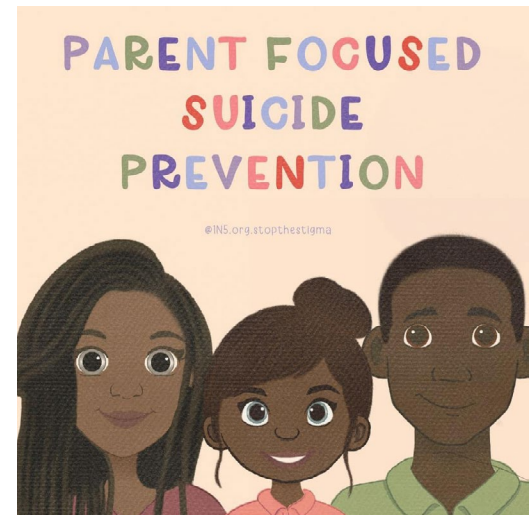


SAVE A LIFE

SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING

1N5 and MindPeace are working together to provide FREE Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Gatekeeper Suicide Prevention training to those in the best position to help save a life. As someone who may be in the best possible position to prevent suicide—parent, caregiver, teacher, coach, mentor—you will find that QPR is designed to help you save a life. By learning QPR, you will come to recognize warning signs, clues, and suicidal communication so you can identify people in trouble and act vigorously to prevent a possible tragedy.

On December 9, 1N5 provided a parent-specific QPR session. If you missed this one, [sign up](#) for the upcoming parent-focused session on January 12!



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

#SUPPORTING OUR PANDAS

FILL THE GAP

Please consider a gift to Notre Dame Academy's Annual Fund as part of your end of the year charitable giving. Every gift will be used to help "fill the gap" and offset the costs not covered by tuition.



Ways to Give:

Check/Cash:

Checks should be made payable to Notre Dame Academy and can be mailed here:
Notre Dame Academy
Attn: Advancement Dept.
1699 Hilton Drive,
Park Hills, KY 40101

Matching Gifts:

A corporate matching gift may double or triple your gift to Notre Dame Academy.
Search [HERE](#) to see if your employer has a matching gift program

Online Donations:

Visit
www.ndapandas.org/support-nda/make-a-donation

Stock Gifts:

Notre Dame Academy
001050992145
Electronic Transfers
Instruct current custodian to deliver to: The Depository Trust Company
Participant Account 2803
For credit to account name and number referenced above

Please have current custodian notify John Lee at 215-761-9380 prior to making the transfer.

VENMO:

@NotreDame-Academy



Important Information for End of the Year Giving

Additional tax benefits and incentives are being offered in 2021. Please consult your financial advisor to determine how these incentives can benefit your charitable giving and Notre Dame Academy.

To qualify as a 2021 tax deduction:

- Gifts delivered in person must be received no later than 12:00 p.m. on December 31
- Gifts received by mail must be post marked by December 31
- Online donations must be completed by December 31
- Stock gifts must be transferred and received no later than December 31

For additional information contact:

- Denise Bowman, Director of Development at 859.292.1849 or bowmand@ndapandas.org
- Nancy Goeke, Director of Major Gifts and Events at 859.292.1851 or goeken@ndpandas.org

KENTUCKY



COMMUNITY NEWS



SHARING OUR Community News

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

- Positions Available at Catholic Schools in the DOC
- St. Joseph Heights Work Study Positions available for Students
- Seeking Lower Tuition Payments?

Important dates

December 15-17

Midterm Exams

December 18

Christmas break begins

ENJOY YOUR CHRISTMAS BREAK!

January 3

School resumes