



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

Although it feels like spring, January is in full swing at NDA and we have many important upcoming events.

This past Friday evening, our students and their dads had a wonderful time at our annual Father/Daughter Dance. Many of them were dressed for the event in their disco attire. A special thanks to our Panda Parent Club for sponsoring this special event again this year.

On Monday, we had the day off school in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. I hope you and your family took the time to celebrate Dr. King's life and his example. We talk a great deal about 21st Century educating at NDA. There are many facets of 21st Century learning, one being the education of students to work effectively in a diverse and multicultural society. In order to be effective leaders and to promote justice for everyone in our society, students need to understand and appreciate the world's wide range of people and cultures.

Congratulations to our Student of the Month - Jay Mullaguru! Jay is the perfect example of a young woman making a difference. In addition to being one of our school's co-presidents, Jay is very involved in many other clubs and programs at NDA. She is a friend to everyone in the NDA community and we congratulate her on being the January Student of the Month.

We welcome two new student teachers to Notre Dame Academy this semester - Laura Greife Heidrich and Greg Warner. You can read more about each of them below.

Electronic report cards will be available to students today and a physical report card will be given to students tomorrow in homeroom.

We are ready to begin our scheduling process for the 2017-18 academic year. This includes meetings with parents as listed in the information below. We have also met with each class during long homerooms to review the process and course options. I suggest you take some time to discuss your daughter's thoughts on what options she is interested in pursuing next school year.

This Friday, January 20, we will hold our annual Silver Bells Dance sponsored by the sophomore class. **Please remember that we will dismiss at 2:00 p.m. this Friday and students planning to attend the dance are expected to be in attendance until dismissal.** The theme for the dance is Frozen in Time. It is a fun-filled evening for sophomores through seniors. There is further information about the dance and tickets in the Student Life section below. Students typically dress up for this dance and have been informed that anyone who is not dressed appropriately will not be admitted to the dance. If you and your daughter are not sure about the choice of attire, feel free to email a picture to Assistant Principal Mrs. Grayson ([graysona@ndapandas.org](mailto:graysona@ndapandas.org)) and she will provide her feedback. Our dress code reinforces what is appropriate for a social function at a Catholic school and demonstrates respect for self and others. We appreciate your support of this policy.

At Notre Dame Academy, we strive to be a community enriched by our differences. By expanding our students' knowledge and understanding of the diversity in our world, we encourage an awareness of the global community. Thanks for your continued support of our mission. Please know I am grateful to partner with you in this important work!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

*The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.*

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

# STUDENT LIFE

## STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

### Silver Bells Dance: Frozen in Time

Today was the final day for sophomores and seniors to purchase tickets for the Silver Bells dance. The dance begins at 8:00 p.m. this Friday and ends at 11:00 p.m. **School will dismiss at 2:00 p.m on this day, and students planning to attend the dance are expected to be in attendance until dismissal.**

### ALICE Training

This Thursday, Notre Dame Academy will hold an ALICE training session during homeroom. The ALICE program defines response options during active shooter situations and mentally prepares our school community to respond in ways that will increase chances of survival. ALICE is one part of our school's comprehensive safety program.

### Sophomore Class Ring Information Session

On Friday, Sophomores will learn about ordering class rings from a Herff Jones representative who will visit during long homeroom.



## JOIN US ◀

Please join us this Friday, January 20 at 7:15 a.m. as we celebrate the Eucharist at Mass in the Chapel. All are welcome!

## WELCOME STUDENT TEACHERS ◀

NDA is pleased to welcome **Laura Greife Heidrich '05** back to NDA! Mrs. Heidrich will be student teaching 3 senior classes (US Government, Current Issues and Women's History) as well as 2 junior classes (Honors US History) with Nancy Stratman. And yes, Mrs. Heidrich is the daughter of longtime NDA faculty members Ron and Mary Ann Greife!

Welcome also to **Greg Warner** who is student teaching with Ron Greife and Barb Hahn. He is from Thomas More College getting a degree in History and Secondary Education and attended St. Xavier High School in Cincinnati. The classes he will be teaching are Geography, World Civ. Honors and College Prep World Civ. In his free time he enjoys writing.



## IMPORTANT FINANCIAL INFORMATION ◀

### Financial Aid Applications:

Financial aid applications are now open and will remain open until April 15th. If you are in need of financial assistance OR are looking to do work study the application with FACTS must be completed before anything else. Financial assistance requests increase each year we cannot stress enough the importance of getting your application in early. Late applications run the risk of financial aid funding being exhausted. You can access the Financial Assistance page of the website [HERE](#).



## JAY MULLAGURU

JANUARY STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Notre Dame Academy Senior, Jay Mullaguru who has been named January's Student of the Month. Described as positive, engaged, thoughtful, attentive, intelligent and solution-oriented, Jay is an "excellent example of a 21st century student," says Mrs.

Mullee, SWAT teacher. We celebrate all Jay has contributed to Notre Dame Academy and look forward to seeing what she accomplishes at the University of Kentucky and beyond.

### SOMETHING ABOUT JAY



When not at NDA, Jay enjoys spending time with her friends and "making something fun out of nothing."

Jay, Student Council School Co-President, has been on Student Council since she was a freshman. Student Council Faculty Moderator, Mrs. Wagner says, Jay "exhibits enthusiasm for our school and possesses a true Panda Spirit. Jay works hard to make things happen and never expects recognition for her work. She exemplifies what it means to be a servant leader."

Jay's favorite part of Student Council is taking others' input and making it happen. It is important to her that all voices be heard.



In addition to Student Council, Jay is a member of the Northern Kentucky Youth Advisory Board, SWAT, National Honor Society, Environmental Club, Kickball Club and Cross Country. She encourages all Pandas to get involved as much as possible. As a Senior, she now understands just how quickly the time passes!

### BEADS OF FRIENDSHIP ◀

The Uganda Pandas Club recently made friendship bracelets for their pen pals, who are students at the Notre Dame mission in Uganda!



## PARENTS - WE NEED YOUR HELP ◀

### Catholic Schools Week Volunteers

We need two Parent Volunteers on Friday, February 3 to help serve a special Skyline lunch for Catholic Schools Week. It will only take a couple of hours and it will be a fun day to be on campus enjoying all of the CSW energy! If you are interested, please contact Karen Brungs at [brungsk@ndapandas.org](mailto:brungsk@ndapandas.org).



### PPC NEWS ◀

**PPC Meetings** are always the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the teachers lounge. All are welcome!

**Father/ Daughter Dance** thanks Cherie Zieleniewski (PPC Vice President) and all of the other volunteers who made this year's Father/Daughter Dance such a wonderful evening!

### NDA and CCH Present...

#### Nights of Student-Directed One-Acts ◀

Join our students for two nights of one-acts, monologues, and scenes on February 3-4 at 6 and 8 p.m. ! All will be student directed and some are student-written, showcasing our students' talents in leadership and creativity. Please come and support the efforts of our students as they stretch their wings to become leaders and directors in their own right. Tickets are \$5/child \$10/adult and you can purchase tickets [HERE](#).



### COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀

#### Parent Meetings for Scheduling and PSAT overview:

We will have the parent meetings for current freshmen, sophomores and juniors in the NDA Theatre at 6:30 p.m. on the following dates:

- Freshmen: Tuesday, February 7**
- Sophomore: Thursday, February 2**
- Junior: Thursday, February 9**



We will review the scheduling process for the upcoming school year, and relevant grade level information including results of standardized testing for sophomores and juniors. Although we would love to have parents and students attend, it is not mandatory and follow up emails will give out presentation information and materials.

#### Junior ACT on February 28:

All juniors will be taking the ACT during the school day, on Tuesday, February 28. We will help them with registering on paper during the school day for this District Test. There is no need to register for this test. We will ask the students to bring the fee of \$39.50 to school eventually for the test. If a student has trouble with that fee, please let Mrs. Monohan know. All high schools in the Diocese will be taking the ACT on that day. We will ask students to arrive at 7:45 that day to get ready to start by 8 a.m. More details and reminders will follow in an email to students and parents.

The [KY Lieutenant Governor's Entrepreneurship Challenge](#) is a tiered business pitch competition for Kentucky high school students in Grades 9-12, intended to introduce students to a realistic competitive business environment, as well as to promote business ownership and lifelong learning. Deadline for Intent to Compete is February 1, 2017. See their website for more information!

## ▶ Important dates

January 18	Talent Show Registrations Due
January 20	Mass at 7:15 a.m. in Chapel - All are welcome!  Junior Scheduling Meeting in Theatre 8:45 a.m.  Sophomore Ring ordering informational session in Auditorium 8:45 a.m.  TLC members into Freshmen homerooms (NDUEC snack drive) 8:45 a.m.  Early dismissal at 2:00 p.m.  Silver Bells Dance at NDA - 8:00 - 11:00 p.m.
January 23-26	Senior Retreat
January 30	Catholic Schools Week Begins - Mass with Sisters and Bishop Foy
February 1	Diocesan Mass for Catholic Schools Week  NDA vs. CCH Volleyball Game
February 2	Sophomore Parent Scheduling Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in NDA Theatre
February 3	Mid quarter  Talent Show
February 3-4	Night of Student One Acts 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
February 7	Freshman Parent Scheduling Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in NDA Theatre
February 9	Junior Parent Scheduling Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in NDA Theatre
March 9	NDA Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

## COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

Check out the **Community News** section of NDA's website for news about...

- Part-time job opportunity for moms and students
- National League of Junior Cottillions

For a complete list of community news [CLICK HERE](#).

