



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT ◀

Greetings parents!

Every year we acknowledge the gifts of Catholic education by celebrating Catholic Schools week. This year's theme is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service." We join other schools in our country and our Diocese in celebrating our Catholic schools and the success of our NDA students and faculty. We have many events planned for the week including a special mass honoring the Sisters of Notre Dame. We are honored and grateful to welcome Bishop Roger Foy to celebrate this special Mass. Our week will also include Faculty Appreciation Day, Student Appreciation Day, our charity volleyball game against CCH and a talent show. Please read more about this special week in the section below.

As we celebrate our NDA Catholic community, please know that we are most grateful for the commitment of our parents to Catholic education. Thank you for choosing a Notre Dame education for your daughter and giving us the opportunity to be a part of her development as a woman who will make a difference in our world. As we celebrate sisterhood this year we include all those in our community who support our mission as a Catholic school sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame.

One of the things we do as a Catholic school is promote the values of the Gospel through our actions in and out of the classroom. This evening, several students, faculty and parents will travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in the March for Life. Please keep all those who are travelling for this important cause in your prayers. May they know God's goodness and provident care in their advocacy for unborn children.

As a Catholic school we define success as using God's gift in the fullest way possible. We have so many students who exemplify that at NDA in academics, service, the arts and athletics. Good luck to our band students who are competing for Honors Band this week. Congratulations to Senior Ellen Kendall who qualified as a semifinalist in the 2015 Intel Science Talent Search. Please read below about Ellen's prestigious acknowledgement that recognizes excellence in original scientific research.

PTO is sponsoring the Father Daughter Dance this Friday night. I am truly grateful to the parents who have worked hard to plan this special event for our students and their dads. Please remember that PTO meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Faculty Room. All are welcome. If you have a question or agenda item you would like discussed, please email one of the grade level representatives. Contact information can be found at the PTO page on our website (<http://www.ndapandas.org/parents/pto-parent-teacher-organization.aspx>).

May you know God's goodness each day,

Dr. Laura Koehl

NDA COMMUNITY STANDS UP FOR LIFE ◀

Every life is a gift...

every life is unique, important and blooming with possibility.

Tonight a large group of NDA students, teachers and parents will leave for Washington D.C. to participate in the 2015 March for Life, the annual pro-life rally protesting abortion, on the anniversary of the United States Supreme Court's decision legalizing abortion in the case Roe v. Wade.

Please keep them in your prayers as they embark on this annual journey of advocacy to promote respect for all life. They will join citizens from around our country to speak out against abortion.

Tomorrow, the day of the Life March, NDA will join other schools in our Diocese in having a special prayer service to commemorate a "Day of Prayer and Penance for Life."



Every
Life is a Gift



INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY UPDATE ◀

In the next few issues of the Panda Press we will feature *The Technology Evolution Series, a Senior Perspective*. Written by some of our NDA seniors, this is a series of descriptions illustrating how technology has changed at Notre Dame Academy during their four years here.

The Technology Evolution Series, a Senior Perspective Week Four: Allison Guess'15

Endless papers, 7 notebooks, writer's cramp from note taking, 15 pounds of textbook. Fast forward simply three years later. One paperless iPad, that is all. As a 2015 senior, I have been able to witness both sides of the learning spectrum; one with paper and one with technology. My sophomore year of high school was the year learning was changed for the better with the advancement of technology and gaining of iPads. Going to school with both the traditional paper method and iPad method, I am able to strongly testify to the brilliance of the iPad.

The use of iPads in the classrooms accommodates many types of learning through adaptations for each individual student. Personally being a visual learner, I am able to insert pictures, outline my notes in endless colors, and insert audio clips. When a teacher puts a diagram on the board you can simply take a picture and insert it into your notes rather than spending tedious time attempting to draw it into your notebook. The opportunities for learning are endless as the iPad is capable of keeping up with the ever-changing world of learning and technology.

Having a mentally handicapped sister has shown me a whole separate world for the opportunities on the iPad. With the lack of speech and fine motor skills, Emily is able to navigate her iPad without trouble. With the touch of a fingertip she is able to express her mind in the form of words, something she has never been able to do. She proves the fact that the iPad is adaptable to each individual person. It helps her to stimulate her mind and promote learning.

As a senior heading off to the new world of college next year, I feel more than prepared in fields further than that of academics. Mrs. Mullee has given me the skills to communicate with businesses, collaborate with peers, and innovate new studies. My mind has been trained to think outside of the box and answer questions for itself. As I embark on new adventures, I have the confidence to use the technology given to me to further my success.

Catholic Schools Week -- Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service

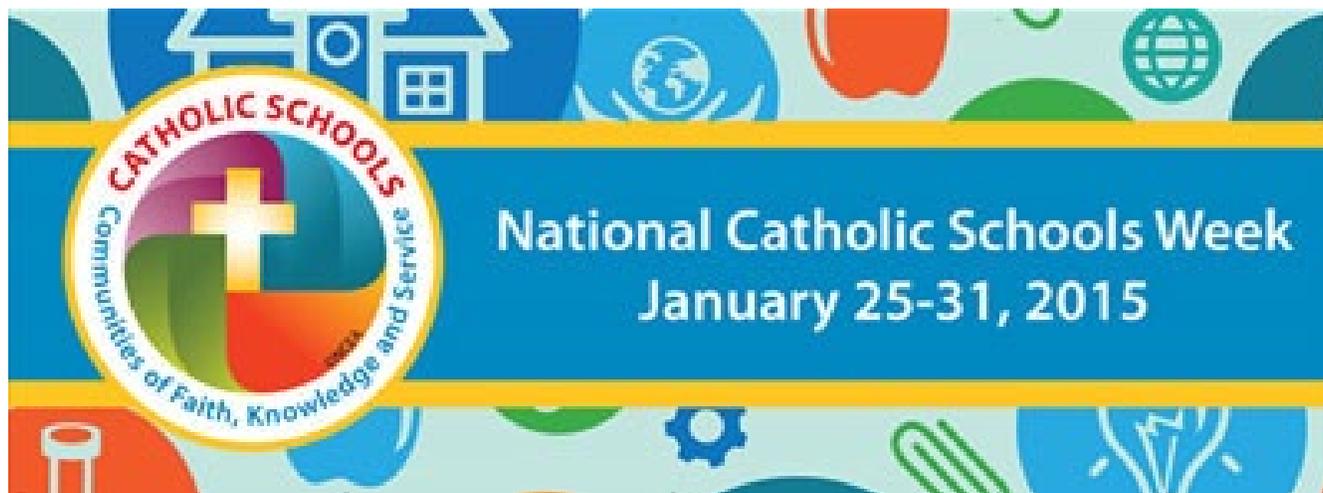
On **Monday**, we celebrate the Sisters of Notre Dame and the heritage of our great school. The Sisters will be invited to an afternoon Mass celebrated with Bishop Foys and followed by a light reception. Thank you to the Sisters for providing sundaes for our students at lunch!

Tuesday is Pajama Day and students are encouraged to wear Pajamas and celebrate in our sisterhood and sleepovers past and present. Pajama Day encourages us to think about our sisterhood with one another and the bond that unites us as women of Notre Dame.

On **Wednesday** students will recognize the faculty, staff and administration for all they do to provide an exemplary Catholic education. Their efforts and dedication do not go unnoticed! To prepare for the charity volleyball game Wednesday evening, students are invited to dress as boys during the day. Student Council will begin selling tickets next week for the volleyball game against Cov Cath. Proceeds will be given to the Northern Kentucky Emergency Shelter, and last year we were able to donate over \$2500! Let's exceed this amount this year! Join us for the game next Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. in NDA's gym.

Students are asked to dust off that elementary school uniform because they are welcome to wear these on **Thursday** – Student Appreciation Day. A little something else will be as a surprise to the students on this day.

We will wrap up Catholic Schools Week on **Friday** with a celebration of the decades, NDA traditions and our students' talents. Students will indulge in Skyline for lunch and watch the annual Talent Show in the afternoon.



COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES

IMPORTANT SCHEDULING INFORMATION FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR:

We began the scheduling process for next year with parent meetings. The meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

Tonight, January 21 - Current sophomore meeting for students and parents. Review of the schedule, PSAT and Plan.

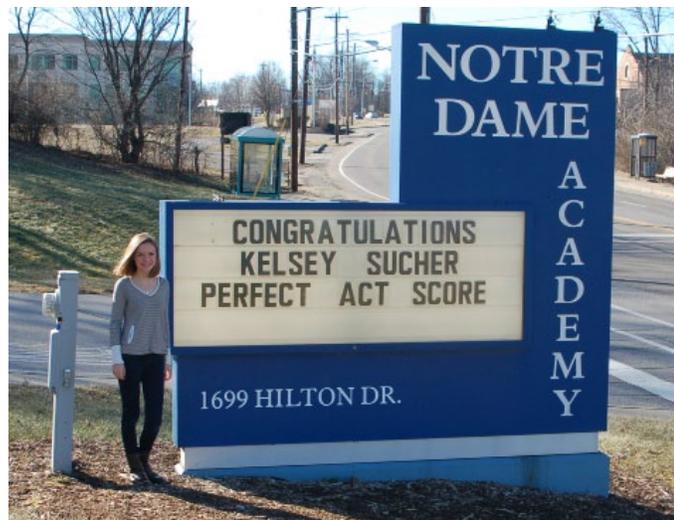
Thursday, February 5 - Current freshmen meeting for students and parents. Review of the scheduling process.



CONGRATULATIONS!

NDA JUNIOR RECEIVES PERFECT ACT SCORE ◀

Kelsey Sucher achieved the ultimate goal for anyone taking the ACT college entrance exam: a perfect composite score of 36! Kelsey, a junior at Notre Dame Academy, became one of the few elite students across the nation to accomplish this impressive feat after taking the test in December. Her accomplishment is significant and rare. On average, less than one-tenth of 1 percent of all test takers earns the top score. Congratulations Kelsey!



ELLEN KENDALL NAMED SEMIFINALIST ◀

Congratulations to NDA senior Ellen Kendall who is one of two Kentucky semifinalists recognized recently in the 2015 Intel Science Talent Search. Annually, students entering the Intel STS compete for more than \$1.6 million in awards. Only 300 students are announced as semifinalists each year. From this select pool, 40 finalists are then invited to Washington, DC in March to participate in final judging, display their work to the public, meet with notable scientists, and compete for three top awards of \$150,000 each.

NDA STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN HONORS BAND ◀

Good luck to the NDA students who are performing this Saturday at NKU's Greaves Hall for Honors Band:

Mia Shelton	Bass Clarinet
Mika Sun	Flute
Emily Walter	Trombone
Claire Cerimele	Tenor Saxophone
Rachel Cerimele	Flute
Isaac Boldery	Alto Saxophone

HONOR ROLL AT NDA ◀

Congratulations to the many NDA students who made the NDA Honor Roll for the second quarter of the 2014-15 school year. For the complete list [CLICK HERE](#).



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World

Class of 2019

**PRIORITY APPLICATION PERIOD
JANUARY 7 - FEBRUARY 13, 2015**

to be eligible for scholarship consideration and iPad drawing

CLICK HERE FOR ONLINE APPLICATION



The Notre Dame Life

Building confidence, celebrating excellence, and enabling a future without boundaries.



NDA ALUMNA GIVES STUDENTS A SNAPSHOT PHOTOJOURNALIST'S LIFE ◀

By Katie Stratman
NDA Junior, Vice President of the Photography Club

Carrie Cochran, an alumna of Notre Dame Academy class of 1997, came to talk to the Photography Club, Monday, January 12. She is a video journalist working for the Cincinnati Enquirer. A biology major at the University of Cincinnati, Carrie changed her life around when she joined the college's newspaper staff. From then on, she has been taking both pictures and videos around the city. "My heart really goes into telling other people's stories – mostly regular people who don't get much media attention," she states on her website.

From her presentation, a few things stuck out. These days, to be in the photojournalist department, you need to be familiar with making and editing videos. Also, photojournalists tell a story through their pictures. You may need to take hundreds of photos until you get the one that tells the story the most. Ms. Cochran said that when she's out doing a story, she just pushes herself out of her comfort zone. "I'm more of a shy person," she says, "and being a photojournalist, you can't be shy."

Carrie Cochran has offered to help the photography club with a project that she could collaborate on with our members. Instead of taking photos based on a theme, we could create a documentary of something happening in our school. She would help us edit the documentary and give us tips on how to make it better.

Thank you Carrie Cochran for speaking to the photography club and giving your help to us in the future. Thank you also to Mr. Rory Glynn for contacting Ms. Cochran for us.



NDA LACROSSE ◀

Interested in participating in an exciting, fast-paced sport that combines skills seen in soccer, basketball, even hockey all wrapped into one? The fastest growing women's sport in the country, lacrosse, is now offered as a Varsity and Junior Varsity sport at Notre Dame Academy. An informational meeting will be held January 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria for all students and parents that would like to learn more about this up and coming sport and our plans for the spring season! Please contact head coach Jimmy Marshall (marshallj@ndapandas.org) with any questions.

UNIFORM ADDITION ◀

NDA School Fleece - For those of you who have seen the new school fleece and are now wanting one, they are still available! Order forms can be found in the school office or in the Bambootique. Orders will be placed at week's end and will take approximately 10-14 days to be filled. If you have any questions, please email Aimee Dickhaus at ddickhaus@yahoo.com.



▶ Important dates:

January 21	Class of 2017 Scheduling Information (Parents) - 7:00 p.m.
January 22	March for Life (Washington, D.C.) Prayer Service
January 23	8:45 Long Homeroom Scheduling Meeting - Juniors Father Daughter Dance - 7:00 p.m.
January 26	Catholic Schools Week begins Mass
January 27	LaCrosse Informational Meeting 6:30 p.m. in cafeteria
January 28	Charity Volleyball Game at NDA
January 30	Talent Show
February 5	Class of 2018 Scheduling Information (Parents) - 7:00 p.m.
February 6-8	Annual Showcase

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

Ash Wednesday Day of Recollection

St. Charles Community is now hiring

Class forming for new drivers with Streetsmartz

Are you caring for an aging parent or grandparent? St. Charles can help!

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

