



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

Happy Super Wednesday! It's been a full day of all sorts of activities for us at NDA. Our seniors visited a Mosque this morning and attended a presentation in the afternoon at St. Joseph Heights. Our juniors and sophomores took the PSAT, and half of our freshmen went out into the community to do service and the other half spent their day on retreat. I would like to thank our faculty and staff members who worked very hard to make it a productive and meaningful day for our students.

I encourage you to go see our NDA theatre students this weekend in their first performance of the school year. NDA Theatre Director Caroline Stine and her students have been diligently preparing the last couple of months for *The Crucible*. Performances will be held this Friday and Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon. There is more information below on show times and how you can purchase tickets.

On November 7, NDA will hold Student/Parent Teacher Conferences from 2:30 - 8:30 p.m. Student/Parent Teacher Conferences are a wonderful opportunity for our students to take ownership of their education and I encourage you and your daughter to attend teacher conferences this year. While this is optional and may not have been common practice in the past, every student can greatly benefit from a personal conversation with her teachers. We are blessed with very qualified and dedicated faculty members at NDA who are invested in making each student's educational experience at NDA the best it can be. Please encourage your daughter to take advantage of this great opportunity, to be responsible for her education, and attend this year's Student/Parent Teacher Conferences.

Students will fill out a form prior to November 7 that will help them prepare and actively participate in the conference. You can view the form [HERE](#). Also, online sign-ups for conferences will be open beginning today through November 2. You can sign up for this year's Student/Parent Teacher Conferences [HERE](#).

Finally, thank you to all of our parents who give of themselves and their time at NDA. You help out in many different ways doing many different jobs. Thank you for all being great representatives of the Panda Parent Club. I truly appreciate all that you do to support our school!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

Autumn Prayer

God of all seasons, we thank you for Autumn.

We thank you

for the touch of coolness in the air that gives us a new burst of energy,
for the coloring of trees that shows the creativity of the Divine Artist,
for the falling leaves that reveal the strength of the branches,
for the hues of fields that bring peace to our souls,
for the smiles on pumpkins that bring joy to children,
for the fall harvest which that brings us gratitude for the bounty of our land,
for this change of seasons that reveals the circle of life.

God of all seasons, as you transform the earth, transform us by your Spirit.

Amen



- Doug Leonhardt, S.J.



WEDNESDAY at NDA





STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

Freshmen Homeroom Elections are this Friday! Good luck to all of our candidates!

Senior Graduate Services

This Friday during long homeroom, the senior class will attend an informational session with Graduate Services. During the session, the Class of 2017 will receive information about graduation preparations including how to order invitations, caps and gowns.

Ghosting from the desk of Meghan Greenwell, Junior Class Co-President

This Halloween, Student Council has put together a fun activity called ghosting! Ghosting is when someone mysteriously leaves candy and a paper ghost at your door. We are doing this by homeroom. Once your homeroom has been ghosted you are able to choose another homeroom to ghost! Each homeroom also decorates a ghost to place on their door to show that they have been ghosted!

Halloween Festivities

On Monday, October 31, students are encouraged to participate in the Halloween fun by wearing costumes to school. Students should keep in mind that masks, gore, weapons, face/body paint are not permitted; moreover, costumes should provide proper coverage as outlined in our school's dress code.

WELCOME FR. HENNIGAN! ◀

Msgr. Cleves has resigned as our Chaplain so that he can attend to the many duties as the Pastor of Holy Spirit Parish and numerous other duties in our Diocese. We thank him for his years of service to NDA. Fr. Michael Hennigan has been assigned to serve as our new Chaplain. He was previously assigned to lead the first senior retreat which is next week. We look forward to welcoming Fr. Hennigan to our NDA community!



Notre Dame Academy Respects Life! ◀

NDA's LIFE Club strives to support and uphold the dignity of every human life at every age and stage but there are many other ways NDA promotes LIFE through other clubs. Every Friday NDA students faithfully recycle and our Environmental Club also educates and makes our school more environmentally conscientious as well as making NDA a greener, cleaner place.

Also, recently in many of our Religion classes, our students have completed a fact sheet on the presidential candidates followed by some really great discussions about policies and how they uphold or negate the dignity of self, others, and community. This has been a very powerful assignment for our students!

JOIN US IN PRAYER

On Sept. 29, a building in Covington collapsed on the chaperones of a field trip with Immaculate Heart of Mary students. One of the chaperones, Valerie McNamara is still in the ICU recovering from a spinal cord injury, severe head trauma and multiple fractures from head to toe. On Thursday, Oct. 20 (tomorrow) at 7:35 a.m. we will dedicate our morning decade of the rosary and Healing Prayer to Valerie and her family. All are welcome to join us in chapel as we raise our collective prayer for her healing.



INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY UPDATE ◀

SWAT Team Does It All!

Mr. Vonhandorf looks on as Ashley Wright repairs an iPad screen in SWAT.

Ashley and another junior, Jessica Beirl, took an iPad repair

course this past summer at Gateway College and are now assisting in repairs for the SWAT team!



NDA AND CCH PRESENT



THE CRUCIBLE

OCTOBER 21ST AND 22ND AT 7PM
AND OCTOBER 23RD AT 2PM

TICKETS ARE 10 FOR ADULTS AND 5 FOR STUDENTS

Tickets can be purchased online at
<http://www.ndapandas.org/arts/performing-arts-center/ticket-information.aspx>
Or at the box office 30 minutes before a show

NDA and CCH PRESENT ◀

This weekend is our first performance of the school year - The Crucible - don't miss it!

Friday, October 21 - 7 p.m.
Saturday, October 21 - 7 p.m.
Sunday, October 22 - 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids. Due to the subject matter, this play is not recommended for children under the age of 12. Tickets are on sale online [HERE](#).

The Crucible is a 1953 play by American playwright Arthur Miller. It is a dramatized and partially fictionalized story of the Salem Witch Trials that took place in the Massachusetts Bay Colony during 1692-93. Miller wrote the play as an allegory of McCarthyism, when the U.S. government blacklisted accused communists. The play remains relevant today, providing a voice for all peoples who find themselves oppressed/accused without proof and the frightening power of mob mentality.



BECOMING WELL-INFORMED CITIZENS ◀

On Friday, October 14, Mrs. Nancy Stratman's US Government class listened to a presentation by Ms. Kim Glenn, Vice-Chairman of the Kenton County Democratic Executive Committee. During her presentation, she talked about the Democratic Party platform, structure of the party and ways to get involved. She also handed out sample ballots and explained the voting process for new voters and the registration process for those students who will be eligible to vote during the coming year.

Having received insights from the Republican Party a couple of weeks ago, these students are on their way to becoming well-informed citizens!

CALLING ALL ARTISTIC PANDAS! ◀

Is your child a star in Creative Writing, Dance, Instrumental Music, Theatre, Visual Art, or Vocal Music? The Overture Awards program is one that recognizes, encourages, and rewards excellence in the arts among Greater Cincinnati students grades 9-12. Its mission is to encourage arts education as an integral part of a student's academic experience and to create an environment that encourages training in, and appreciation of, the arts. If you are interested in entering, please email Ms. Stine (stinec@ndapandas.org). Deadline for registration is November 18, 2016.



ENROLLMENT DEADLINE EXTENDED ◀

Don't miss the 2017 Summer Trip to the Eastern Seaboard!

Did you need just a little more time to think about attending the 2017 Summer Trip? Well, you're in luck! The Enrollment Deadline for the 2017 Summer Trip to the Eastern Seaboard has been extended through October 31, 2016. So enroll today and explore Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Washington D.C. with us this summer. It's a trip you will never forget accompanied by experiences of a lifetime. So gather your panda sisters and enroll today. If you need any additional information about the trip, please don't hesitate to email Mrs. Theresa Van Auken (vanaukent@ndapandas.org) or Ms. Hillary Johnson (johnson@ndapandas.org). We look forward to traveling along the Eastern Seaboard with you this summer!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

STUDENT/PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

WHEN: Monday, November 7, 2016 | 2:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: NDA Students with their Parents

HOW TO SIGN UP: You can sign up online [HERE](#) from now through November 2

HOW TO PREPARE: Students should fill out [THIS FORM](#) prior to the conferences

Every student can benefit from a Student/Parent Teacher Conference!



TO COMPETE, OR NOT TO COMPETE, THAT IS THE QUESTION ◀

ESU Competition - Does your child have a love of Shakespeare? Consider entering the English Speaking Union Cincinnati Shakespeare Competition! A competition rooted in developing the skills needed for and a love of Shakespeare, his dramatic and poetic art, his universality, and his use of the English Language. Deadline to register will be November 1. School competition will be held in January.

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



CERT testing

This year we will be using the [CERT \(College Equipped Readiness Testing\)](#)

for our sophomores and freshmen. This is an online standardized test that is modeled after the ACT. The students will receive grade level appropriate tests to help them prepare for the ACT. There are many things that the students can do with this test after they take it. There are online tutorials and plans that can be set up to help the student prepare for the ACT. The freshmen will be taking the CERT on 2/28/17 and the sophomores will be taking it on 11/21/16 and 2/28/17. We will be looking at the data after the test to help with curriculum and assisting the students with being ready for these types of tests.

GRANDPARENTS CONFERENCE

A Grandparents as Parents Conference will be offered by Children Inc. on Friday, October 21 at the Life Learning Center in Covington, from 8:30am-2:00pm; cost is \$5.00. Attendees will receive information from guest speakers on child development and toxic stress, the parent-grandparent-child dynamic, drug abuse and family issues, and how relative caregivers can nurture their own health. Representatives from various local organizations will be present as resources for our guests. Completely FREE, private legal consults will also be available upon request. For more information, Click [HERE](#).

Seniors & Senior Parents - FAFSA opens October 1

The Financial Aid Application (the FAFSA) opened October 1. It is recommended that families complete the FAFSA in the first 2-3 weeks of October. For information on completing the FAFSA and helpful resources, visit the College Financial Aid page on NDA's website: "College Financial Aid" If you have any questions about College Financial Aid, contact Ms. Burgei at burgeik@ndapandas.org

Drug Free Club Membership Still Available:

Notre Dame Academy currently has **62%** of our total student body enrolled in Drug Free Club! This is a huge increase from last year! Applications remain open until Thanksgiving.

NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ◀

NDA HALL OF FAME

NDA is pleased to announce that the next Hall of Fame Induction will be March 9, 2017. If you know any former NDA athletes, coaches or supporters please take a moment to nominate them here: [NDA Athletic Hall of Fame Nomination Form](#)
Nominations are due December 10, 2016. Questions? Contact NDA AD, Myanna Webster at websterm@ndapandas.org.

SOCCER

Congratulations to our Soccer Pandas on their win over Ryle (5-2) Tuesday evening with Maya Decker, Maddie Wilhoite, and Mary Tierney all scoring for the Pandas. Come cheer them on tonight in regional semi-finals as they take on NCC at Highlands!

VOLLEYBALL

NDA Volleyball Pandas compete in district finals tomorrow against Beechwood at NDA. Go Pandas!

CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday was an exciting day for the Pandas at the Lex Cath meet! The Cross Country Pandas were led by Elly Piatt who placed 12th overall with a new PR in 19:31! Freshman Allie Weidinger placed 32nd. Erika Nageleisen placed 45th, Kate Williams placed 52nd, and Manon Stovik ran a strong 5th for NDA, helping the team achieve a great top 5 average of 20:37. This performance now puts NDA in the Top-10 state rankings this year, placing 8th overall.

FORMER VOLLEYBALL PANDAS FACE OFF ◀

Former NDA Volleyball Pandas face off this Friday at 3:00 p.m. at Xavier University when the Xavier Women's Volleyball team takes on Seton Hall's Women's Volleyball team! Former NDA players Abby Thelen and Madison Salkowski both play for Seton Hall while former Panda Meredith Klare plays for Xavier. Good luck to all of our former Pandas!



vs.



ARCHERY PRESEASON MEETING ◀

The NDA Archery preseason meeting will be TOMORROW - October 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. Athletes and parents are encouraged to come. Please email Coach Lander at landern@ndapandas.org for more information about NDA Archery.



MOTHER DAUGHTER 2016 ◀

Mother Daughter is coming up on Friday November 11, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Receptions. It is a western theme this year so start getting your costumes together! More information will be coming.

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS ◀

Parents, did you know that NDA's daily announcements are posted each day on our website? You can find them [HERE](#).

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEND A HELPING HAND? ◀

Do you have just one day a month to volunteer for two hours in the NDA cafeteria? Helping out is neither difficult nor time-consuming and our current volunteers have fun visiting the school and seeing their daughters, granddaughters and friends. Volunteers are also welcome to stick around after their two-hour shift for lunch with "the crew". Grandparents in particular seem to love this job, so please consider asking your daughter's grandparents if they would like to help out. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Karen Brungs at 859.292.1856 or brungsk@ndapandas.org. The schedule is online and you can sign up [HERE](#).



2016-17 College Rep Visits at NDA

Throughout the school year many college representatives visit NDA to speak with students during lunch mods (M/T/Th/F 10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. - Wednesdays 11:12 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.) Below is a list of upcoming visits.

OCTOBER 20 **Transylvania University**



Thomas More College



University of Kentucky



October 21 **University of Tennessee**



October 24 **Ohio Northern University**



October 31 **St. Louis University**



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
Educating Women to Make a Difference



www.ndapandas.org

**OPEN
HOUSE**
Sunday,
November 6
1:00 - 3:30



A National School of Excellence



DO YOU KNOW PROSPECTIVE PANDA PARENT? ◀

Parents are invited to a “sneak peek” at NDA:

Who we are, what we value, and how we will prepare your daughter to make a difference in the world.

Dates and Times:

Friday, November 4, 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.*

*Reservations are required for these events. Please RSVP to Katie Caccavari, Director of Admissions, caccavarik@ndapandas.org, 859-292-1829 at least 24 hours prior to the date you wish to attend.

▶ Important dates

| | |
|---------------|--|
| October 19 | Freshman Retreat |
| | Sophomores/Juniors PSAT |
| | Seniors at the Mosque |
| | Parent Informational Coffee |
| October 19 | Junior College Planning Meeting |
| October 21-23 | Fall Play |
| October 24 | Senior Retreat |
| | Red Ribbon Week Begins |
| October 27 | NHS Induction |
| October 29 | CCH Halloween Bash |
| November 1 | All Saints' Day - No School |
| November 6 | Open House |
| November 7 | Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences |
| November 8 | No School: Election Day |
| November 11 | Remembrance Mass |
| | Mother/Daughter Dance |
| November 14 | Speaker Series - Amy McGrath-Henderson Reception |
| November 15 | Fall Sports Awards |
| November 16 | Freshman Retreat #2 |
| November 18 | Mid-quarter |
| | Panda Funfest for Prospective Pandas! |

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- St. Agnes Youth Group
- Life's 5th Quarter
- Park Hill's Animal Hospital Halloween Pet Fair
- Part-time job opportunity for moms and students
- Now hiring at Chick-fil-A in Fort Wright
- National League of Junior Cottillions

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

