



*An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy*

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT ◀

Greetings parents!

I hope you and your family enjoyed a relaxing Thanksgiving. As we begin this Advent Season, we find special ways to pause and reflect on our spiritual journey and the many blessings of our NDA sisterhood. Each morning one of the girls reads an Advent Prayer over the PA. I have shared one of those prayers with you below. During Advent week we are also celebrating Reconciliation in all Religion classes.

This week I have some important staff updates to share with you. First of all, Athletic Director Myanna Webster will be on maternity leave from December 11, 2014 through January 23, 2015. During her absence Ms. Nancy Winstel will serve as the Interim Athletic Director. Ms. Winstel is a well-known professional in Northern Kentucky athletics. She has served our region for over 30 years, including her long and successful tenure as the head coach of the NKU women's basketball team.

As you may know, Ms. Maggie Perrino was recently appointed the new Theater Director at the Carnegie in Covington. We are sorry to see Ms. Perrino leave NDA, but congratulate her on this new opportunity. We have hired Ms. Caroline Stine to serve as the Theater Director for the remainder of the year. Ms. Stine is an adjunct theater instructor at NKU and has been involved in directing young people in community theater programs for the last seven years.

Regarding the Principal position, some of you may have seen the recent ad in The Messenger. When I was appointed President last year, there was limited time to find a new Principal and this process was postponed to the current year. Since 2006, NDA has embraced the President/Principal model as the most effective form of leadership for our school. I look forward to hiring a Principal to join me in the leading NDA beginning in the 2015-16 school year. We will provide updates on the process as it progresses.

The end of the quarter is approaching quickly. Exams will be held on December 17-19. The exam schedule will be posted on the website by the end of this week. Students are required to wear their uniforms for exams. The second quarter will end on the last day of exams. The third quarter will begin when we return from Christmas break on January 5. Students should have all work for the 2nd quarter completed prior to our Christmas vacation.

I hope you can attend our Christmas Season Fine Arts events. The NDA and CCH performing arts students and teachers are working hard to make these enjoyable - filled with the Christmas spirit. These performances include:

|                |                                      |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| The Nutcracker | December 6 (1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.) |
|                | December 7 (1:00 p.m.)               |
| Choral Concert | December 12 (7:00 p.m.)              |
| Band Concert   | December 14 (4:00 p.m.)              |

Finally, a special little girl needs our prayers. The Pandas are joining with others in our community to pray for and support Grace White and her family as Grace battles a rare form of brain cancer. Please see the important information below.

I hope you are having a blessed Advent Season.

May you know God's goodness each day,

Dr. Laura Koehl

### Advent Prayer

God, I sense that all your creation is being drawn back toward your loving heart. Help me to be a person of peace, to speak about it in an uneasy world, and to live it among the people you have put into my every day life. Light in me the desire to prepare for your coming, to stand in the darkness, waiting, eager and filled with joy. Amen.

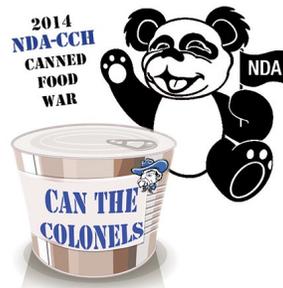
# STUDENT LIFE

## PANDAS CAN THE COLONELS ◀

Congratulations to the NDA Pandas and their amazing effort in collecting canned goods for the 2014 NDA/CCH Canned Food War. This year, the NDA Pandas pulled out all of the stops collecting 14, 468 canned goods. That is more than double the amount collected by the Colonels.

While winning the canned food war and having the CCH boys come to NDA to clean up lunch for a day was a great incentive, it certainly was not the most important reward of this project. "The NDA/CCH Canned Food War was a great way for us to come together as a community and make a difference in the lives of others," said Claire Suetholz, NDA senior and Student Council Secretary. "It's amazing to think that between the our two schools we collected over 20,000 canned goods. That will go a long way in helping those in need this winter."

The war is over for this year and NDA students are thrilled with their victory and the thought of making a difference in the lives of others. The canned goods collected at NDA will be distributed throughout the St. Vincent de Paul food pantries of Northern Kentucky.



### Hygiene Drive

Just a reminder to bring in PERSONAL ITEMS on Thursday for the NDA Hygiene Drive to benefit Be Concerned. Items such as deodorant, toilet paper, hand soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and mouthwash are all considered personal. Drop your items in the grade level bins in the foyer and be sure to check in with the teacher for your grade level so you are listed as participating in the drive. Remember 90% participation gets everyone a half-day on January 9!



Please pray the rosary for

## PANDAS PRAY ROSARY FOR GRACE WHITE ◀

We invite all past, present and future Pandas to join us in praying the rosary for Grace White. Grace is the daughter of NDA alum Amy Cobble White '94 and Covington Catholic alum Scott White '93. Grace was recently diagnosed with DIPG, a very rare form of brain cancer and she is currently undergoing radiation and chemotherapy.

As a school dedicated to Our Lady, the community of Notre Dame Academy believes in the power of praying the rosary. Each morning before school begins, former NDA art teacher, Sr. Mary Reina makes her way to the chapel at NDA to lead students, faculty and staff in a decade of the rosary. During the month of December, we will pray each day with the intention of Grace White and her family.

We ask all Notre Dame Academy students, faculty, staff, parents, alumnae and friends to join us in praying the rosary for Grace White and her family during this most difficult time in their lives. In an effort to support the White family, rosaries will be sold in NDA's Bambootique and through the Alumnae Department for \$5 each with all proceeds going to Operation Grace White.

As Catholics, we do not merely believe, we know, that the rosary is the most powerful recitation we can make when we desire a miracle or some other grace from God. Sister Lucia of Fatima told us that "There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot solve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary. With the Holy Rosary we will save ourselves. We will sanctify ourselves. We will console Our Lord and obtain the salvation of many souls."

For more information on how you can join the NDA community in support of the White family, contact NDA Alumnae Coordinator Emily Berling at 859.292.1852 or at [berlinge@ndapandas.org](mailto:berlinge@ndapandas.org).

## VOTE FOR ABBY THELEN ◀

NDA's Abby Thelen has been nominated for LaRosa's MVP of the Week. Show your school spirit by voting for Abby today! The winner will be announced on December 16. [CLICK HERE](#) to vote.



## 2014 FRUIT SALE ◀

GAA Parents & Athletes - If you have not signed up to work the fruit sale weekend, please take a moment to do it now. You can also sign up to pick up your fruit. Saturday you can pick up from 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. All fruit needs to be picked up either Saturday or Sunday at the times indicated. We need to have the school in order for classes Monday morning.

There are spots open to work on Friday, 12/12 for counting money. That is the day all fruit money is due.

The site to go to sign up :

<http://www.timetosignup.com/ndafruitsale/>

All exchanges and extra purchases need to be done by Thursday, 12/11. Return the bad fruit in a plastic bag and send a clean bag to take the good fruit home. I am at school 7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. each day.

Thank you for your cooperation,

J. Schmidt

## Calling All Freshman Moms...

Now that daughter is settling into NDA, we would like to get to know you better! Sometimes it is hard to meet other parents in high school, so the NDA Parent Teacher Organization would like to invite you to a special gathering for all Freshman Moms.



**Cookies and Cocktails**  
**Thursday, December 4, 2014**  
**7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**  
in NDA's  
**Alumnae Hall**



Bring a dozen of your favorite Christmas Cookies, or your favorite recipe to share. Some of the NDA Faculty will be in attendance, and would love to meet you and answer any questions you may have about Notre Dame Academy.

We will have a trivia contest that will make you a Notre Dame Academy know it all. Yes, there will be a prize!

The Bambootique will also be open, if you need to purchase any Christmas presents for your Pandas.

We hope you can attend to meet some new friends and leave with some yummy treats!

## COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



### Scheduling for next school year:

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

Wednesday, January 14 - Current junior meeting for students and parents. Review of the schedule and PSAT.

Wednesday, 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.

### ACT Bootcamp Info

Torch Prep Boot Camp: The ACT Bootcamp will be offered in February as a Weekend Warrior option (longer weekend times but no weekday times). Here are the times the class will be held:

Four Total Sessions:

Saturday, 1/24: 9AM – 4:30PM

Sunday, 1/25: 9AM – 4:30PM

Saturday, 1/31: 9AM – 4:30PM

Sunday, 2/1: 9AM – 4:30PM

Weekend Warrior Early Registration Deadline: 1/20/2015

SIGN UP HERE: [www.torchprep.com](http://www.torchprep.com) | 888.382.8174 | [Info@torchprep.com](mailto:Info@torchprep.com)

### GSE & GSA DEADLINES:



**Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors** interested in applying for the Kentucky Governor's School for Entrepreneurs - the deadline of December 12 is quickly approaching! The application consists of a 2-minute video, an application form, and two recommendations. (The recommendations may come from teachers, coaches, counselors, or other adult leaders of a club or activity in which you are involved.) All information is available on the GSE website: <http://kentuckygse.com/index.php/student-application>. All parts of the application are due by December 12.



**Sophomores and Juniors** applying for the Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts have until December 31 to submit applications. All students who apply receive an interview. See the GSA website for information and details: <http://www.kentuckygsa.org/students-parents-teachers/summer-program-application-process/summer-program-online-application>

### Career Fair:

The students will participate in a Career Fair on March 19, 2015. It is the same day as The Women Making a Difference Luncheon and will be a half day of school. We need parent volunteers to talk about various careers. Please contact Mrs. Chrissy Monohan at [monohanc@ndapandas.org](mailto:monohanc@ndapandas.org) if you are interested in sharing your career at the Career Fair.

## NDA ART PANDAS SELECTED TO EXHIBIT WORK ◀

Thanks to all of the Art students who have submitted work to be juried to show in the Xavier University Juried High School Art Exhibition and the Thomas More College High School Juried Art Exhibition. NDA's Art Program is always well represented due to the hard work and all of the efforts put forth by the artists.

Congratulations to the Gina Erardi (who earned Honorable Mention), Annalise Stegman, Maria Topmiller, and Hope Thelen for getting their work selected to show in the Xavier Art Show. And Claire Cerimele (who earned Scholarship Runner Up), Hannah Deters (who earned a Juried Excellence Award), Hannah Good, and Rachel Peavler for getting their work selected to show in the Thomas More College Art Show.

These are very competitive shows where hundreds of pieces are submitted and few are selected to show and each year NDA's students always put up a good showing. Congratulations and thanks for representing Notre Dame's Art Program!!!



*Rachel Peavler and Hannah Good at the opening at Thomas More*



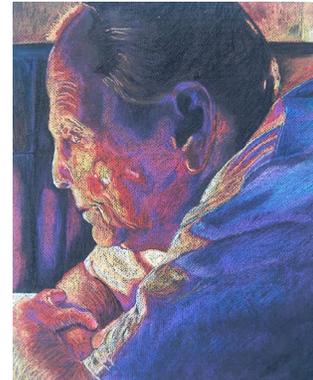
*Annalise Stegman*



*Hope Thelen*



*Gina Erardi  
(Honorable Mention)*



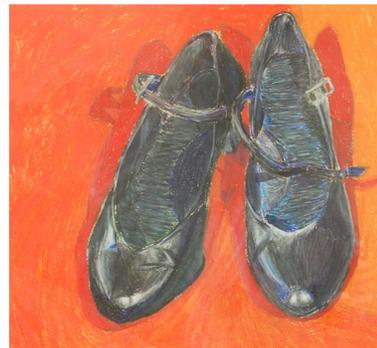
*Maria Topmiller*



*Claire Cerimele  
(Scholarship Runner Up)*



*Hannah Good*



*Rachel Peavler*



*Hannah Deters  
(Juried Excellence Award)*

## BAMBOOTIQUE HOLIDAY SHOPPING HOURS ◀

It's holiday shopping time and Santa loves to deliver NDA spirit wear! The Bambootique has special holiday hours to serve you:

|                 |                    |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Thursday</b> | <b>December 4</b>  | <b>2:30-5:30pm</b> |
| <b>Friday</b>   | <b>December 5</b>  | <b>2:30-7pm</b>    |
| <b>Saturday</b> | <b>December 6</b>  | <b>9-12:30pm</b>   |
| <b>Tuesday</b>  | <b>December 9</b>  | <b>2:30-5:30pm</b> |
| <b>Thursday</b> | <b>December 11</b> | <b>2:30-5:30pm</b> |
| <b>Saturday</b> | <b>December 13</b> | <b>9-12:30pm</b>   |
| <b>Tuesday</b>  | <b>December 16</b> | <b>5-7pm</b>       |
| <b>Thursday</b> | <b>December 18</b> | <b>5-7pm</b>       |
| <b>Saturday</b> | <b>December 20</b> | <b>9-12:30pm</b>   |



Order your **NDA ORNAMENTS** through the Bambootique! For order form and more information [CLICK HERE](#).  
**Holiday Cookies** will be available for just **\$1** on December 4, 5, 9, and 11!

### ▶ Important dates:

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| December 3              | Hygiene Drive - Laundry Detergent<br>7:00 p.m. - Science Research Parent Meeting  |
| December 4              | Hygiene Drive - Personal Items: deodorant, toilet paper, hand soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, mouthwash etc.<br>7:00 p.m. Cookies and Cocktails Gathering for Freshman Moms                             |
| December 5              | Fruit Sale Delivery   |
| December 6              | Fruit Sale Pick-Up - 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.<br>1:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m. Christmas Play - The Nutcracker<br>NDA Basketball Grade School Night 4:30 p.m. - Freshman<br>6:00 p.m. - JV and 7:30 p.m. - Varsity |
| December 7              | Fruit Sale Pick-Up - 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.<br>1:00 p.m. Christmas Play - The Nutcracker   |
| December 8              | No School - Immaculate Conception   |
| December 10             | College Financial Aid Presentation for Juniors and Seniors  |
| December 12             | Choral Christmas Concert 7:00 p.m.  |
| December 13             | HSPT/ACT  |
| December 14             | NDA/CCH Band Concert 4:00 p.m.  |
| December 17-19          | Exams   |
| December 20 - January 4 | Christmas Break   |

## COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

St. Agnes Ladies' Night Out

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

Pure Fashion

Streetsmartz

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

