



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

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Dear Parents,

I hope your Advent has been filled with peace, hope, joy and many special blessings of this holy season. Our students, faculty and staff gathered along with the Diocese on Monday for the celebration of the 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.

While this will be the last Panda Press Weekly newsletter in 2020, it will not be our last communication to you before Christmas. Following new guidelines from the Governor earlier this week and the updated Diocesan Return to School Requirements, we are working on our plan for how we intend to proceed on January 4 following Christmas break. We are consulting with the Diocese and will communicate which plan we will be following from our Pandas Return to Campus Plan once a decision has been reached.

Please know that our goal is to protect the health and wellbeing of our students, faculty and staff while continuing to meet our responsibility to educate our students. Our first choice will always be to follow Plan 1 of our Pandas Return to Campus Plan with students receiving in-person instruction with safety precautions in place. We are very fortunate at Notre Dame Academy to have three viable options and the technology in place to keep our students engaged in gainful learning through each of our three plans. With the continued rise in COVID-19 positivity rates, there are many variables to consider including the comfort level of our student and faculty in regard to in person learning as well as the reliability of the self-reporting within our community. Please be assured that the spiritual, academic, emotional and physical wellbeing of your daughter is at the heart of every decision we make at NDA.

We thank you for your continued support and ask that you keep NDA updated on any COVID-19 related issues involving your family. It will be much easier to facilitate a safe and timely return to in person classes if we have the data we need to fully assess our situation in regard to cases of COVID-19 within our NDA community. Also, if you have travel plans between now and January 4, please review the Travel Advisory Information from our school nurse on the following page. If your recent travel meets any of the criteria listed in the Travel Advisory, please notify our school nurse, Tina Sizemore, RN. at 859.292.1843 or [sizemoret@ndapandas.org](mailto:sizemoret@ndapandas.org).

On behalf of Dr. Laura Koehl, 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



## NDA COVID-19 INFORMATION

[Learn More >>](#)

## NDA COVID-19 INFORMATION ◀

REMEMBER, the [NDA COVID-19 Information page](#) on the website has many important resources for parents and students:

- Pandas Return to Campus Plan
- Question Submission Link
- NDA COVID-19 Response Chart for Students and Staff
- and more!

## FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE ◀

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- **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 our school nurse, Tina Sizemore, RN. at 859.292.1843 or [sizemoret@ndapandas.org](mailto:sizemoret@ndapandas.org) or Mrs. McLeod in the front office 859.292.1821 or [mcleods@ndapandas.org](mailto:mcleods@ndapandas.org).
- It is important that your daughter continues to follow COVID-19 mitigation strategies. **PLEASE DISCOURAGE YOUR DAUGHTER FROM GATHERING WITH FRIENDS DURING THIS TIME.**
- **Travel Advisory Information:** If you are planning to travel anytime throughout the holiday season, please note that travel that meets any of the following criteria will require a mandatory 14 day quarantine:
  - Travel via public transportation such as plane or bus
  - Travel outside of the United States
  - Travel to the states with a positivity testing rate at or above 15%. See latest data [HERE](#).

## MAKE GOOD CHOICES! HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

- Symptom Screenings & Health Precautions
- Contact Tracing
- Cleaning and Sanitizing our Campus
- Hand Sanitizing
- Masks
- Social Distancing
- Safety Barriers



*Together we can Make a Difference!*

As of today, Wednesday, December 16, we have had one reported case of a student testing positive for COVID-19 within the last week. As per our requirements, she is in quarantine. We have also been informed by several of our students who have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Those students are also in quarantine.

We have consulted with the Diocese of Covington about these recent cases. Since we transitioned to Plan 3 of our Pandas Return to School Plan with Remote Learning @ NDA, contact tracing within our NDA community is not necessary. We thank the families involved for reporting this information and helping to keep our school community safe.

**As we move forward, please keep NDA updated on any COVID-19 related issues involving your family. It will be much easier to facilitate a safe and timely return to in person classes if we have the data we need to fully assess our situation in regard to cases of COVID-19 within our NDA community.** 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 our school nurse, Tina Sizemore, RN., at 859.292.1843 or [sizemoret@ndapandas.org](mailto:sizemoret@ndapandas.org).



## REMOTE LEARNING REQUEST FORM ◀

Students currently enrolled as remote learners at NDA must inform NDA of their intentions for the third quarter. In addition, any student electing remote learning for the third quarter must do so by Friday, December 18. [CLICK HERE](#) to inform us of your family's decision for the third quarter.



## CHRISTMAS CAMPUS DRIVE THROUGH ▶

All Pandas are asked to drive by campus for a special gift from NDA and Santa Claus this Friday, December 18 between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Let's celebrate the end of the second quarter, the start of Christmas break and each of you which makes Notre Dame Academy such a special place! Upon your arrival to campus, pull up to each marked station to receive your special Christmas gifts. Roll down your window and school personnel will hand them to you!

Mask wearing and social distancing practices are expected, so you are reminded to arrive with only one Panda per car (unless living in the same household). Family members are welcome to join in on the fun!



*Therefore the Lord Himself  
will give you a sign:  
Behold, a virgin will be  
with child and bear a son,  
and she will call  
His name Immanuel.*

Isaiah 7:14

WISHING YOU A VERY BLESSED  
CHRISTMAS AND MANY JOYS IN THE  
NEW YEAR!

FROM

NOTRE DAME ACADEMY





## DEDICATION AND BLESSING: CATHEDRAL SQUARE ◀

On December 1 at the Covington City Council meeting, an order to name the area around the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption "Cathedral Square" was unanimously approved.

Cathedral Square was blessed and dedicated this morning. In the square, a 20 foot Christmas tree will stand dedicated to all the students in our Diocesan schools and to mark this extraordinary year.

Each school designed an ornament to be hung on the tree. Here are a couple of pictures of NDA's ornament, a beautiful representation of NDA and our mission.

For more information about Cathedral Square, [CLICK HERE](#).

# Campus Ministry

## CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS ◀

### Advent reminder for students from Mrs. Price:

Rejoice! Rejoice! During the 3rd week of Advent we celebrate the Joy that comes with the season. We are more than half way through the season of Advent, we light the pink candle and we focus on Joy/Rejoicing!

Check out the links on the student bulletin for more information about the Creche, Las Posadas, and ways we can focus on Rejoicing this week. Also, Please join us for Rosary tomorrow morning at 8:40 a.m. [HERE](#).

Here is one of my favorite Christmas clips that always brings a little joy into my life when I watch it!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WIRpGj7LWS4>



## HOLIDAY DESIGN ◀

Mrs. Benkert's Graphic Design class continues to be creative and innovative this school year! Here is an ornament greeting card designed by one of Mrs. Benkert's Graphic Design students, Gwentyth Newman.

## MINDFULNESS MINUTE

### MINDFULNESS MINUTES ◀

Students, be sure to check out your email each day for a Mindfulness Minute from our counselors. We hope this will give everyone some tools to reduce stress and find calm during your days!



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY  
Bambootique

### BAMBOOTIQUE NEWS ◀

There are only a couple more shopping days at the online Bambootique before Christmas! Today's "Deal of the Day" - Varsity Sherpa Jacket: \$55.00 to \$ \$44.00. REMEMBER: all orders need to be picked up by Friday, December 18. Don't miss the deals at NDA's [online Bambootique!](#)

## Alumnae Storyboard

### ALUMNAE STORYBOARD ◀

The Alumnae Storyboard is a feature which captures the everyday happenings of our alumnae. Each story is posted in the main hallway just outside the cafeteria so that you can see how our alumnae are truly continuing to make a difference in the world. The Storyboard serves as a source of inspiration and motivation just for you! You can access the Alumnae Storyboard [HERE](#).



### LEARN ABOUT AMAZONSMILE AND SUPPORT NDA ◀

Do you shop on Amazon? If so, you should know about AmazonSmile! AmazonSmile is a program that donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases on Amazon to a charity of your choice. All you need to do is sign up [HERE](#) and 0.5% of your purchases will be donated to Notre Dame Academy! Thanks for supporting NDA!

## HSPT High School Placement Test REGISTRATION

### HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST (HSPT) SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2021 ◀

There is still time to take the High School Placement Test at Notre Dame Academy!

8th grade girls who are interested in NDA and have not yet taken the High School Placement Test should contact Katie Caccavari, NDA Director of Admissions, to register to take the test on Saturday, January 9. Katie can be reached by phone or email, 859-292-1829/[caccavarik@ndapandas.org](mailto:caccavarik@ndapandas.org).

Prospective Pandas can learn more about The Notre Dame Life via our virtual Open House. Go to <https://www.ndapandas.org/> to access the link to our 2020 Open House Experience.

# ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

## NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ◀

### CONGRATULATIONS!

Lauren Carothers has been selected to the 2020 High School Girls All-America Team. Congratulations Lauren on being named one of the best soccer players in the nation this fall!

### FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW

#### GET BOOKS

- 01** Pick up and sign for your books on **MON 11/23 or TUES 11/24**

#### SELL BOOKS

- 02** Sell to family and friends \$25/book.

#### FILL OUT TALLY SHEET

- 03** [Fill out tally sheet here](#) with customer info including check and cash amounts collected

#### UPLOAD TALLY SHEET

- 04** [Upload here](#). MUST be an excel or google sheet.

#### TURN IN MONEY

- 05** Turn in your money marked with name **ON FRIDAY 1/8**

Questions? Email Myanna or Mrs. Colvin!

### ANNUAL ATHLETIC FUNDRAISER

If you ordered coupon books to sell for the athletic fundraiser, you should be in the selling phase. **If you have not picked up your coupon books yet please email Myanna Webster at [websterm@ndapandas.org](mailto:websterm@ndapandas.org) to set up a time to pick them up.** You can access the tally sheet and the link to upload it below. **Money for the coupon books is due Friday, January 8, 2021!** If you have any questions regarding the annual athletic fundraiser, please contact NDA Athletic Director, Myanna Webster [websterm@ndapandas.org](mailto:websterm@ndapandas.org).



## ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT JOB POSTINGS ◀

### Varsity Soccer Coach

Notre Dame Academy is looking for a Varsity Soccer Coach for the 2021 Fall season. This position will oversee the program and report directly to the Athletic Director. Experience at the high school level is desired. All coaches must go through KHSAA and Diocese onboarding and training once hired. Please send a letter of interest and resume to [ndahr@ndapandas.org](mailto:ndahr@ndapandas.org). Notre Dame Academy is a Catholic all girls high school sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame.

### Varsity Cheer Coach

Notre Dame Academy is looking for a Varsity Cheer Coach to begin now. This position will oversee the program and report directly to the Athletic Director. Experience at the high school level is desired. All coaches must go through KHSAA and Diocese onboarding and training once hired. Please send a letter of interest and resume to [ndahr@ndapandas.org](mailto:ndahr@ndapandas.org). Notre Dame Academy is a Catholic all girls high school sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame.

## COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



### VIRTUAL COUNSELING SESSION ◀

If you would like to have a virtual counseling session please reach out to one of the personal counselors. At this time we are happy to have a google meet with you before/after school, during a study hall, or during Panda Prime Time.

Mrs. Hildreth ([hildrethk@ndapandas.org](mailto:hildrethk@ndapandas.org))

Mrs. Maggard ([maggarde@ndapandas.org](mailto:maggarde@ndapandas.org))



### ACT BOOTCAMP OPPORTUNITIES: ◀

Torchprep will be offering a class to get ready for the Spring District in school ACT test that will be offered to the juniors on March 2, 2021. Here is a link for information about the class that will be offered in Florence at Indiana Wesleyan University Building: [TorchPrep ACT Boot Camp for NDA](#)

[TorchPrep ACT Boot Camp for NDA Flyer](#)

[TorchPrep NKY 2021.pdf](#)



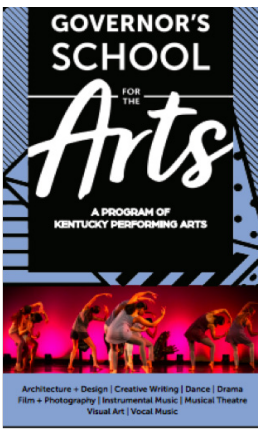
### GRIEF SUPPORT ◀

Grief Support Groups will be offered for NDA students who have experienced the death of a loved one. Fernside, a nationally acclaimed grief center for children will be conducting these virtual support group sessions in conjunction with NDA. Please contact Mrs. Hildreth for more information if you think your daughter would benefit from this support. We will begin January 20 and go for 6 weeks, but we need forms completed and returned by January 13.



### NAVIGO SCHOLARS WINNER ◀

Leah Fortner was selected to be a Navigo Scholars participant for this 2020-21 school year. She will be representing NDA in the program at Toyota. Congratulations to her and her family on this opportunity.



## GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS (GSA) ◀

KY Governor's School for the Arts (GSA) 2020-21

Architecture  
Visual Art  
Film & Photography

Creative Writing  
Instrumental Music  
Vocal Music

Musical Theater  
Drama  
Dance

**Meet Your Adjudicators** (November through December)

Registration for each Art Form is FREE but REQUIRED. See second page for the [LIST](#).

**December 17 - Virtual Info Session: Open Q&A - 4:30 p.m.**

A final opportunity to ask questions via webinar (but remember you can contact GSA anytime at [gsainfo@kentuckyperformingarts.org](mailto:gsainfo@kentuckyperformingarts.org)) [REGISTRATION FREE but REQUIRED AT THIS LINK](#).

**January 10, 2021 - GSA 20210 Application due by 11:59 p.m.**

Applicants are encouraged to upload their applications before this date. GSA offices will not be staffed over the weekend and we will not be accessible to answer questions after January 8.



## GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR ENTREPRENEURS (GSE) APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN! ◀

Click to [Learn more and apply to GSE](#), which will take place on the campus of Northern KY University June 6-26, 2021.

Apply between Nov. 16, 2020 and January 25, 2021. Current 9th, 10th, and 11th-grade students can apply.

Click to [REGISTER for Info Sessions](#)

## RESOURCES FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS ◀

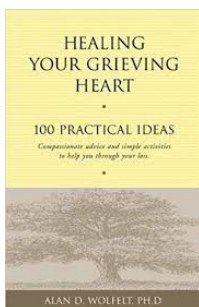
### NDA [Parent Toolbox](#)



#### [Healing Your Grieving Heart: 100 Practical Ideas](#)

by Alan D. Wolfelt

Geared for mourning adults, teens, or children, this book provides ideas and action-oriented tips that teach the basic principles of grief and healing. These ideas and activities are aimed at reducing the confusion, anxiety, and personal void so that living their lives can begin again.



#### [1N5 is a local mental health nonprofit working to engage our local community.](#)

They provide a variety of FREE opportunities to promote mental wellness and have meaningful impact. Upcoming 1N5 events:

- [Virtual Mental Health Retreat for Asian American students](#) on Dec. 12 from 1-4pm. Register to hear Asian speakers, participate in fun activities, open dialogue and receive a free mystery package.
- [Coping Skills for the 2020 Holiday Season](#)
- [Managing Grief and Loss During COVID](#)
- [Articles](#) to help all of us understand, adapt, address and cope with our mental health concerns during this time







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- Transfer money
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- Real-time alerts
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For more information visit our website: [www.heritagebank-ky.com](http://www.heritagebank-ky.com) Or ask any Heritage banker!



## COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- Part-time job opportunity
- Live the Love Mother Daughter Program
- Cafeteria Staff Needed
- Resources to Support Learning for parents, educators, & kids of all ages
- Help Wanted: School Cafeteria Managers and School Cafeteria Staff

## ► Important dates

December 17

Rosary 8:40 a.m.

December 18

2nd Quarter Ends

Christmas attire/accessories/PJs encouraged today!

Christmas Campus Drive Through 3-6 p.m.

December 21

Christmas Break Begins

December 25

Merry Christmas!

January 1

Holy Day of Obligation: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Happy New Year!

January 4

Classes Resume