



THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Parents and Students,

We are very excited to welcome our Pandas back to campus for the 2021-22 school year beginning next week. Thank you to everyone who attended one of our Parent Meetings either in-person or virtually. As I said in those meetings this week, our goal is to provide as much normalcy as possible for our students this school year; however we cannot ignore the fact that there has been a nationwide increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations due to the highly contagious Delta variant.

Our COVID-19 Team has been working diligently to have the necessary protocols and procedures in place to keep our community safe this school year. You can find the [2021-22 Pandas Return to Campus Plan](#) on our website as well as other useful information on our COVID-19 Information page [HERE](#). We will need the cooperation of everyone in our community to implement our 2021-22 Pandas Return to Campus Plan. The support of our parents and students is critical to our success. We thank you in advance for your help in our efforts to bring our NDA community back to campus safely and keep our students engaged in in-person learning.

Please note: COVID-19 presents a constantly evolving situation therefore, our COVID-19 mitigation protocols will be reassessed regularly and are subject to change throughout the school year. An example of this is the executive order by Governor Beshear earlier this week requiring masks inside the school building at all times. This order was made effective on August 10, 2021, for a period of 30 days, and is subject to renewal.

We thank you for your support and look forward to a school year *Living the Gospel with a Spirit of Compassion, Hope and Joy!*

Enjoy your last few days of summer break!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

SCHOOL THEME

Our theme for the School Year is: *Living the Gospel with a Spirit of Compassion, Hope and Joy!* The Scripture that was chosen to go with it is: *“Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.”* 1 John 3:18. This is all based on the 3rd educational principle: The Educator as Gospel Witness.

We will also be using the catch phrase “Mind the Gap”. This is meant to be a way for us to think about the ways we can help others - when we see a gap where someone (including ourselves) needs something - how do we help them? How do we recognize that there is a need and either help fill/bridge the gap or support them as they find a way out of the gap on their own (if our help is not needed or feasible). This phrase was used by one of our Women Making a Difference Honorees this past June. She talked about how NDA taught her to recognize the gaps in life and do something to fill them.

Living the Gospel with a Spirit of **Compassion,** **Hope and Joy!**



Let us not love with words or speech
but with actions and in truth.

1 John 3:18

Student Life

BACK TO SCHOOL

MEETING INFORMATION

Welcome to the 2021-22 school year! As a follow up to the Back to School Parent Meetings held Tuesday and Wednesday evening, we are sharing the information covered and some reminders to help you prepare for the new school year.

Freshmen

[Back to School Parent Meeting Powerpoint](#)

[2021-2022 Student/Parent Handbook](#)

[Freshmen Grade Level Information Sheet](#)

[Athlete Orientation Video](#)

[Athlete Orientation Powerpoint](#)

[PayPams Lunch Account](#)

[FinalForms Account Set Up and Updates](#)

Sophomores-Seniors

[Back to School Parent Meeting Powerpoint](#)

[2021-2022 Student/Parent Handbook](#)

[Sophomore Grade Level Information Sheet](#)

[Junior Grade Level Information Sheet](#)

[Senior Grade Level Information Sheet](#)

[FinalForms Updates](#)

Don't forget to revisit FinalForms to view updates to:

- Student/Parent Handbook
- Acknowledgement of Responsibility Form (COVID-19)

All updates are due by the end of the first week of school.



WELCOME BACK!

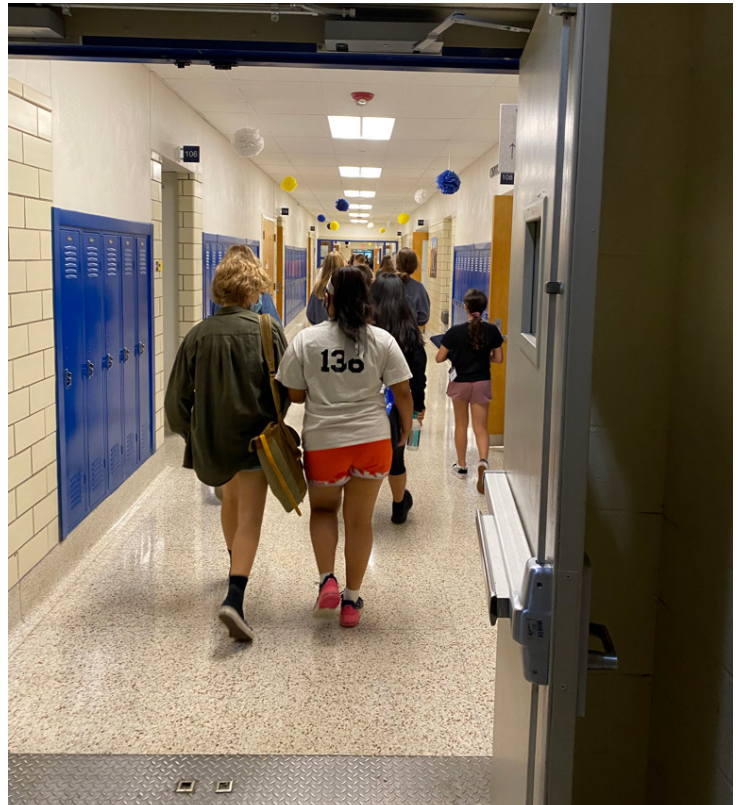
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

We look forward to welcoming the Pandas back to campus on Tuesday! Classes will begin at 8:00 a.m., and students will go to their **first period classes upon arrival**. We will hold our opening all school assembly in the morning, and the adjusted schedule will be shared with students in the Padlet which will be emailed over the weekend.

FRESHMAN RA!

FRESHMAN ORIENTATION

We welcomed our Freshmen to campus on Tuesday for Freshman Orientation. Thank you to our Student Council who helped welcome our new Pandas and get them prepared for their 1st day of school!



DRESSED FOR SUCCESS

NDA UNIFORMS

All students at Notre Dame Academy are required to wear a school uniform, which emphasizes a traditional dress code. This code is intended to: encourage cleanliness, neatness and pride in one's appearance; foster respect for the way in which one presents herself to others; create a semi-formal atmosphere needed for a disciplined learning environment; provide a uniform manner of dressing which minimizes social differences that may exist among students.

Notre Dame Academy has a school uniform that consists of:

- a gray uniform skirt or uniform slacks (the skirt or pants must fit properly, be zipped and buttoned, hemmed appropriately and free of stains, rips, and/or holes). Students are required to obtain a new skirt or pants if it no longer zips, has tears, holes, or stains.
- a white or light blue banded Notre Dame Academy polo shirt
- solid white, gray, black or navy blue socks
- appropriate shoes that have a back to them
- cloth mask or cloth face covering; design or messages must align with dress code
- nametag/lanyard

Optional items that may be purchased and worn with the uniform include:

- a navy blue Notre Dame Academy pullover sweater
- a navy blue Notre Dame Academy cardigan sweater
- a navy blue Notre Dame Academy sweatshirt (available for purchase through Schoolbelles and NDA's Bambootique)
- a navy blue Notre Dame Academy fleece
- a navy blue blazer with NDA's emblem for special occasions such as Mass, award ceremonies, etc.
- gray, black, or navy blue leggings
- black dress slacks for designated events

In addition to the required uniform pieces, visible body piercings (except the ear) visible tattoos and unnatural hair coloring are prohibited at school. Failure to comply with these expectations will result in disciplinary measures.

Students are permitted to carry either purses or backpacks from class to class. While specific measurements will not be provided, the purse or backpack must be able to fit under the student's desk. If this cannot occur, the backpack or purse will not be permitted as this causes safety issues in the classroom. A student will be expected to store items in her locker if her purse or backpack cannot fit under the desk.



WELCOME TO THE PANDA FAMILY



Erica Otto will be teaching all levels of French here at NDA. and she is both excited and eager to bring her knowledge, passion and expertise of the French language and culture to the students of Notre Dame. Ms. Otto graduated from

Write State University with degrees in French and International Business. She holds a Master's degree in Secondary Education from The University of Phoenix and taught at Wright State University as an adjunct professor before settling in Northern Kentucky where she continued to teach part-time within the Diocese of Covington. She enjoys spending time with her husband, Dr. Hans Otto, and two sons: Wil, a sophomore at Covington Catholic, and Erik a 7th grader at St Joseph, Crescent Springs. Her hobbies include traveling, gardening, baking, running, pilates and skiing. Welcome to NDA!



Chris Goddard is joining our religion department this year teaching sophomores and seniors. He will also be teaching the Business Principles and Personal Finance classes. Chris graduated from Miami University with a Bachelor's

degree in Finance and has a Master's degree from Xavier in Hospital and Healthcare Administration and Business Administration. Mr. Goddard has his Masters in Theology from the Athenaeum of Ohio. For 30 years, Mr. Goddard served as a healthcare executive and felt called to teach and to share the Good News of the Catholic faith. Two years ago he first taught as a long-term substitute at NDA in the religion department during the fall of the 2019-2020 academic year and then full time within the religion department at Seton High School during the 2020-2021 academic year. Mr. Goddard has been married for 33 years to his wife Diane. He enjoys spending time with his wife and his children Adam and Grace – especially when traveling. We welcome him back to the Panda family.



Tina Conradi will serve as NDA's new Textiles teacher teaching these elective courses to primarily the juniors and seniors. Ms. Conradi is a 1982 NDA graduate who received her Bachelor's of Applied Science from Morehead State University

studying Textiles/Clothing and Fashion Merchandising. She has worked in the corporate sector and also brings several years of teaching experience to NDA. This experience is what has led her back to NDA as she is excited to be a part of the Spiritual and Educational Leadership that NDA has to offer. Tina enjoys spending time with her husband Mark of 30 years and her children Alex, Samantha (2015 NDA grad), Adam and her 3 year old Lab, Summer. She enjoys traveling, hiking, running and biking in her freetime. Glad to have you back on campus!



Tony Giordano joins our History department with over twenty years of teaching experience at the high school level. Mr. Giordano's past experience includes teaching high school at a juvenile treatment school, Catholic high school, urban school

and most recently an online school in Dayton created during the COVID crisis. Over the summer, Mr. Giordano spent time working with adolescents with behavioral needs. His degrees include a Bachelor of Science from the University of Cincinnati, a Bachelor of Arts and Masters of Education degree from Xavier University. Mr. Giordano is married and when not teaching enjoys spending time with his family and friends. Welcome to the Panda family!



Erin Stanley is a 2013 graduate of NDA and will join our Student Services Team this year serving as the Senior Academic Counselor, Ms. Stanley Psychology degree from the University of Alabama with a minor in Studio Art Painting. She

furthered her education at the University of Cincinnati, earning her graduate degree in Mental Health Counseling in 2019. The last two years she has worked as a clinical counselor at BrightView, an adult outpatient treatment facility located in Cincinnati. With one sister who is also an active alumna and another entering her freshman year, Ms. Stanley recognizes the value of a Catholic education and is excited about giving back to the NDA community which has provided her and her family with so much. Newly married in January 2021, Mrs. Stanley enjoys spending time with her husband traveling, cooking, and exercising. As the oldest of five children, she prioritizes hanging out with her siblings and parents as much as she can. Football is a big part of her and her family's lives. Welcome back to campus, Ms. Stanley.

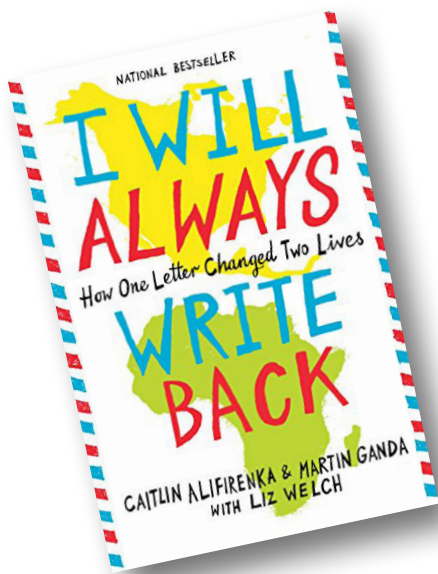


FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

COVID-19 INFORMATION

There are many important resources for parents and students on NDA's COVID-19 Information page on the website [HERE](#).

- Pandas Return to Campus Plan
- Information from the Nurse's Office
- Daily Personal Assessment questions
- COVID-19 Vaccine information
- Diocesan communications
- and more



2021-22

COMMON READER

Hopefully by now all of our students have read this year's Common Reader, *I Will Always Write Back* by Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda.

This is the true story of an all-American girl and a boy from Zimbabwe and the letter that changed both of their lives forever. It started as an assignment. Everyone in Caitlin's class wrote to an unknown student somewhere in a distant place. Martin was lucky to even receive a penpal letter. There were only ten letters, and fifty kids in his class. He was the top student, so he got the first one. That letter was the beginning of a correspondence that spanned six years and changed two lives.

We look forward to celebrating this book and its many themes in the fall on our Common Reader Day on September 8.



IMPORTANT

ORDER LUNCH FOR NEXT WEEK

Click [HERE](#) for the lunch order form for next week.

This form serves as a head count for our cafeteria staff. Please indicate which days you would like to purchase lunch next week. Payment will be due upon pick up in the cafeteria and using your ID card barcode and will be charged to your NDA lunch account through PayPams. Orders for next week are due by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 13.

PANDAS HIT THE SLOPES

NDA COLORADO SKI TRIP

Due to very high interest in the Colorado Ski Trip, registration is closed however, you can email [Ms. Dooling](mailto:Ms.Dooling) if you would like to be added to the wait list. Here are some important details about the trip:

- Destination: Winter Park, CO
- Dates: January 13-17, 2022 (Friday classes will be missed but an excused absence)
- We will have 3 full days of skiing!
- Sign up by August 27
- Cost is \$1,500.00 (subject to change based on availability and number of participants) and includes flights, lodging, lift tickets and ski rentals, bus transports between airport and ski resort, travel insurance (required), and taxes.
- Chaperoned by Ms. Dooling, Mrs. Grayson and Mrs. Otto
- More details to come in September!



2021-22

CALENDAR

[CLICK HERE](#) to access NDA's Google calendar which is now accessible through the school's website under **Calendar**.

BAMBOOTIQUE NEWS

BACK TO SCHOOL SALE!

NDA's Bambootique is celebrating our Pandas coming back to school with a special Back to School Sale of 10% off NDA spirit wear! Stop in this week before noon or order online [HERE](#).



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
Bambootique

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT



GOOD NEWS! BOWLING

Bowling is back at NDA! Come find out more or just come to bowl with friends at one of the NDA open bowls. These are free for NDA students so come on out and see what it's all about. (Bowling season starts in October and runs through the winter with a couple practices each week.)

SUPPORT YOUR PANDA ATHLETES ELECTRONIC TICKETING

We are excited about school starting soon and home games for our Pandas! This year NDA will continue with electronic ticketing through GoFan. You will no longer need to wait for a link to be sent to you but can just check the NDA page on GoFan for all ticket links.

We will also be adding an electronic fall sports pass that can be purchased through GoFan and will be good for one adult and immediate children for all fall NDA home games, excluding postseason. (We are not allowed to accept passes for postseason play).

These passes will be accessible on your phone in the GoFan app. The pass will need to be shown and redeemed at the gate of each home game. The passes are not transferable. Each adult would need to purchase their own pass. The cost of the pass is \$40. Immediate children in the family of the pass holder will not have to purchase an additional ticket.

If you are interested in purchasing a pass for fall you can do so here: <https://gofan.co/app/events/342050>

For ticket links to all home games go here: <https://gofan.co/app/school/KY6490>

Thank you for all your help last year as we moved to electronic ticketing and your continued support as we expand our offerings with electronic tickets.



COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE EASY

DRUG FREE CLUBS OF AMERICA

FINALLY! A true PREVENTION PLAN for teens to rely on to remain drug free and GET REWARDED for it!

- Students become DFCA members after passing a simple, confidential drug test.
- Only Parents/Guardians receive test results - NEVER the school.
- Membership at NDA has steadily increased over the years; last year 83% of Pandas joined.
- Members can rely on testing as an “out” for drug related situations by saying, “I can’t, I might get tested.”
- Parents are notified via email about perfect moments and ways to talk to your children about drugs.
- Members receive a full color photo ID card to show to local merchants to receive community rewards for their drug free lifestyle.
- Retesting of random members continues throughout the school year.
- As long as members remain drug free, the rewards continue and...

...Saying “I can’t” stops peer pressure in its tracks!

If you never start using drugs, you never have to stop!

Cost is only \$25/year... (because Notre Dame Academy pays the cost of \$10 for every student member!) *but,*
Freshman can pay \$75 for 3 years, and have their Senior year FREE!

Applications for Notre Dame Academy’s Drug Free Club are available online [HERE](#) or through paper applications available at school. Contact Mrs. Hildreth with any questions.



DEEPEST SYMPATHIES PRAYERS PLEASE

We have some sad news to share with you as the summer ends. One of our seniors, Ana Kothandram, lost her father on July 4 while she was at GSP in Morehead. There was a celebration of life for Mr. Kothandram earlier this month and you can find his obituary [HERE](#). Please pray for Ana and her family during this difficult time.





RESOURCES FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS

NDA PARENT TOOLBOX

Recommended Parent Reading for Summer!

Under Pressure by Lisa Damour (2019)
Confronting the epidemic of stress and anxiety in girls.



PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

NDA COLLEGE VISIT SCHEDULE

These are College Visits specifically for NDA students/families. The visits are in the hallway outside the cafeteria. All students are welcome to visit the reps.

September

Tuesday, September 7 - Hanover College
Kelsey Johnson, Admissions Rep
johnsonke@hanover.edu

Monday, September 13, University of Alabama Huntsville
Allie Eason,
ame0017@uah.edu

Wednesday, September 15, University of Tampa
Faith Sanders
fsanders@ut.edu

Tuesday, September 21, University of Louisville
Whitney Burress
whitney.burress@louisville.edu

Monday, September 27, Ohio Northern University
Wada Rhoades
a-rhoades@onu.edu



2021

AUTUMN GALA

Save the date! This year's Autumn Gala is scheduled for October 16, 2021. If you are interested in serving on the Executive Planning Committee for the 2021 Autumn Gala, please contact Nancy Goeke at goeken@ndapandas.org or 859.292.1851.

Please consider becoming a Notre Dame Academy Gala Event Sponsor. Cash donations to the Autumn Gala make a tremendous impact on the overall success of our vital fundraising event. Please see the [following link](#) for sponsorship levels.



Atlas Home Fitness is a regional sales and service provider of Commercial Fitness Equipment to professional fitness centers like the YMCA. Nine out of ten times, when we install a piece of fitness equipment, we buy the trade-ins. We clean and service the traded in equipment and resell to the public for home use. We only buy it if it is less than 5 years old. Although it may be used, commercial fitness equipment will feel better and last longer than any new retail product on the market. You will save thousands for top notch quality. It's like buying a Mercedes for the cost of a Suzuki. We have in home service and installation if needed. For more information, click <http://www.atlashomefitness.com/>

COMMUNITY NEWS

SHARING OUR Community News

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



- St. Joseph Heights Work Study Positions available for Students
- Seeking Lower Tuition Payments?

Important dates

August 12	In-service Day
August 13	In-service Day
August 17	First Day of School!
August 27	Opening School Mass
September 3	Picture Day
September 6	No School - Labor Day
September 8	Common Reader Day
	Parent Mini-Night