



THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Parents,

Yesterday our community gathered for our annual Thanksgiving Prayer Service to give thanks for all that we have been blessed with at Notre Dame Academy. After the prayer service, I talked to our students about the many gifts God has given us and I asked them to do a couple of things for me over the Thanksgiving break. First of all, I asked them to reach out to someone for whom they are grateful and outwardly express their gratitude to them. I also asked them to think about the charism of the Sisters of Notre Dame and what it means to live a life that proclaims and witnesses God's goodness and provident care.

It's easy to see the SND charism in the wonderful Sisters who live on the fourth floor of our school. They bring such positivity and joy to our community at NDA. As I told our students yesterday, we are called to be that positivity and joy for others, not only when we are at school, but also when we are with family and friends. As much as we are striving to get back to normal, we are still living in a global pandemic and struggling with the challenges that come with that. The world needs us to be a beacons of hope who bring positivity and joy to those around us.

Our students are certainly beacons of hope for those in need this winter. As you will read below, they collected a record number of canned food items for St. Vincent de Paul this November. I am grateful for their generosity and concern for others.

We are all very thankful to Chief Stanley and the Park Hills Police Department for helping us improve our dismissal process. The PHPD has installed a button to the stoplight at the bottom of the hill enabling them to manually operate the stoplight during our dismissal period. This is definitely something we are all thankful for this year!

Parents, I am sincerely grateful for all you do for Notre Dame Academy and I am most appreciative for the opportunity to partner with you in your daughter's Catholic education.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Loving God,
We turn our hearts to you on this
day for giving thanks, mindful of
your many gifts.
For each one, we are grateful.
For each one, we are blessed.
For each one we are opened to the
abundance of your love.
May this Thanksgiving Day offer a
reminder to be generous with others,
as you are with us.
We praise you.
We rejoice in you.
We give you thanks.
Amen.



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Educating Women to Make a Difference

Dear Notre Dame Academy Community,

We would like to provide you with an update on NDA's presidential search but first we want to express our sincere appreciation for the support and consideration you have extended to the search process thus far. From the initial input sessions with our partners at Educational Directions to the parent forums and alumnae Zoom calls with candidates, your participation and contributions attest to your commitment to the mission of Notre Dame Academy.

The first round of the search process yielded three viable candidates with a broad range of experiences and expertise; however, after thoughtful consideration and deliberation by the Presidential Search Committee, this initial phase did not result in the selection of a new president. The Presidential Search Committee is deeply committed to finding the next president of NDA and with the support of Educational Directions, they are continuing with the search process. The goal of the Board of Directors and the Presidential Search Committee remains the same: to find an educational leader who is aligned with the mission and vision of Notre Dame Academy who will assume the position of president sometime prior to July 2022.

As a Catholic school sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame, we believe that our good and provident God is guiding us in this important search process. We know that with His agency, our search will be successful in finding a president who will continue to execute our strategic plan and lead and support the incredible work of our faculty, staff and administrative teams.

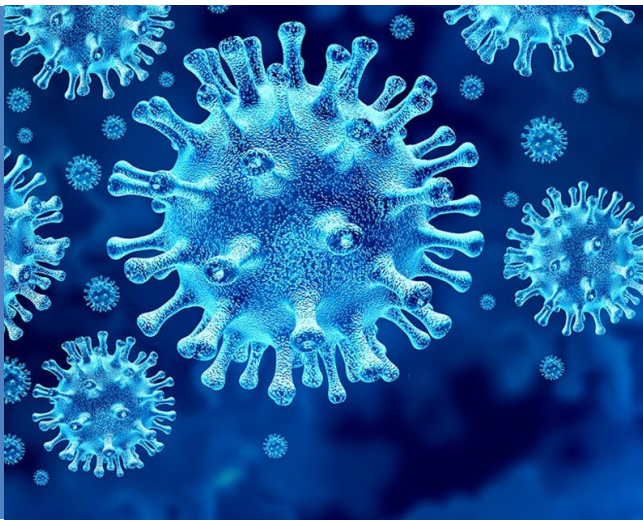
The Board of Directors would like to thank NDA's current principal, Mr. Jack VonHandorf, for serving as principal/interim president this school year. Mr. VonHandorf, along with NDA's administrative leadership team, is doing a wonderful job managing operations at NDA effectively during this academic year.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we again thank you for your commitment and support of Notre Dame Academy throughout this search process.

Sincerely,

Amy Quinn Dye
NDA Board Chair
Presidential Search Committee Member

Jeanne-Marie Tapke
NDA Board Member
Chair, Presidential Search Committee



WEEKLY UPDATE

COVID-19

As of today, Wednesday, November 23 we have had 0 new reported cases of members of our community testing positive for COVID-19 within the last week. We have had 0 additional members of our community who are currently in quarantine due to a reported exposure to COVID-19.

As we move forward, 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 one of our school nurses, Tina Sizemore, RN. or Melanie Martin, RN., at 859.292.1843 | ndanurse@ndapandas.org.

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSES

UPDATED COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

Dear Parents,

As you know, each Friday we determine the upcoming week's masking protocol at NDA based on the data released by the Kentucky Department of Public Health (KDPH) as per the [Diocesan COVID-19 Return to School Requirements](#). You can find this data here: <https://govstatus.egov.com/kycovid19>. Please check your email on Friday as we will communicate mask protocol for the following week that day. You can also find NDA's weekly masking protocol in our student bulletin.

We care about the health and well-being of our students and want them to stay healthy throughout the holidays. Here are some [Strategies for a Healthy and Safe Holiday Season](#) from the CDC:

Get Your COVID-19 and Flu Shots

COVID-19 vaccines can help protect you from COVID-19. Get vaccinated as soon as you can.

CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine as the first and most important step in protecting against flu viruses.

Wear A Mask

If you are not fully vaccinated or if you have a weakened immune system, wear a mask indoors. If you are fully vaccinated, wear a mask indoors in areas with substantial or high COVID-19 transmission.

Find Safer Ways to Celebrate the Holidays

There are several ways to enjoy holiday traditions and protect your health which you can find [HERE](#).

Wash Your Hands

Use soap and clean running water for 20 seconds at key times such as after using the bathroom or before eating.

Wishing you a healthy Thanksgiving,

Tina Sizemore, RN.
NDA School Nurse

Melanie Martin, RN.
NDA School Nurse



PARENT RESOURCE

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

Student Life

THANK YOU PHPD!

DISMISSAL PROCEDURE

Thank you to Chief Stanley and the Park Hills Police Department for helping us improve our dismissal process. They have installed a button to the stoplight at the bottom of the hill enabling them to manually operate the stoplight during our dismissal period. We will continue to stagger our dismissal with seniors and their carpools first, then juniors and lastly freshmen and sophomores.



BEYOND BLESSED

A TIME OF THANKS

This year for Thanksgiving our students put together turkeys for our hallways sharing what we are grateful for, including the 4 Educational Principles of the Sisters of Notre Dame. Very prominent among what we are grateful for is our friends and families.

grateful!

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

RECORDING BREAKING YEAR

We wrapped up the Canned Food Drive last Friday. Our goal was 15,000 and we crushed that goal with 17,394 items collected for St. Vincent de Paul and setting a school record! Unfortunately we lost our competition with St. Henry, bringing in over 20,000 items. Between our two schools there will be a lot of people with plenty of food to eat this holiday season!



**TOTAL ITEMS COLLECTED:
17,394**

GET EXCITED!

UPCOMING DANCES

The Pandas are very excited for the upcoming dances held on NDA's campus: the Freshmen Semi-Formal Dance hosted by the Drug Free Club and Silver Bells held for the sophomore through senior classes.

- Saturday, December 4 (8-11 p.m.): NDA and CCH **Semi Formal Freshmen Dance** at NDA (online registration opened yesterday)
- Saturday, December 11 (8-11 p.m.): NDA **Silver Bells Dance** for Sophomores through Seniors

By the end of this week, almost all grade levels will have attended their second quarter Admin meeting where dress code expectations for the dances were discussed. See handbook excerpts below followed by a brief summary of expectations. When in doubt, students are encouraged to show Mrs. Grayson the dress (a picture or in person), so she can find out in advance if the dress is appropriate for NDA's dance.



ATTENTION SENIORS

HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS

Dances p. 18

Dances that are held at Notre Dame and Covington Catholic are school-sponsored events and drug free. Appropriate dress, behavior and dancing are expected. Random breathalyzer tests and purse searches may occur. Students who do not follow the rules will be asked to leave after the parents have been notified and rides will be arranged if necessary.

Special Occasions p. 24

Students sometimes have the opportunity to dress up for events such as Silver Bells, Junior/Senior Prom, Mother/Daughter and Father/Daughter dances, special senior events, and theatrical performances. At these times it is expected that students dress in a way that is acceptable for young women attending a Catholic high school. This includes appropriate dress or skirt length and coverage of the stomach, back, and chest areas.

In Summary, dance attire must:

- Provide proper coverage of the chest area (no cleavage or plunging necklines). Modesty panels could be added to a dress to address this issue.
- Strapless and spaghetti strap dresses are acceptable as long as they meet other dress code expectations.
- Be long enough. The length of the dress should extend below one's fingertips when arms are fully extended at sides. This applies to the shortest hem of the dress (consider an asymmetrical dress).
- An open back is acceptable; however, the open back must not extend below the lower curvature of one's back.
- Cover stomach and midriff areas. Cut-outs are not approved. A mesh layer or material could be added to the dress to cover the exposed areas.
- Mask requirement is TBD, and this will be decided as we near the event's date.



We thank you, parents, for helping your daughter pick just the right dress for their upcoming dance!

BLACK FRIDAY SPECIAL

HOLIDAY SHOP AT NDA!

Looking for something special for the Panda in your life? Stop by NDA's spirit wear shop, the Bambootique, for some unique Panda items. In-store hours are listed below or shop online.

ALSO, don't miss this year's online Black Friday Sale in the Bambootique! You can take 15% off EVERYTHING in your cart November 26-28! Shop online [HERE](#).

Bambootique Hours:

Open Daily (school days) 7 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Additional Holiday Hours:

November 30: 5-8 p.m.

December 4: 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

December 6: 5-8 p.m.

December 11: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

December 15: 3:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

December 17: 3:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

December 18: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.



2 WORK STUDY POSITIONS AVAILABLE WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

We are moving toward more self-service in the cafeteria as we did prior to COVID-19. We are no longer using the lunch order form. Once we have the necessary personnel to staff the cafeteria, we will be adding the salad bar and the use of trays back into our lunchtime routine. **If you are interested in working in NDA's dish room through our Work Study Program, (M,T,H,F: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | W: 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.) please contact our cafeteria manager at ndahr@ndapan-das.org.** You can find NDA's lunch menu [HERE](#). Please note: the menu is subject to change as there are many shortages in the food industry.

ATTENTION SOPHOMORES

CLASS RING INFORMATION

Sophomore Parent Class ring information/ordering night will be on Tuesday, November 30 from 3-7 p.m.

Representatives from Herff Jones will be in the NDA foyer to answer any questions parents may have regarding class rings. Students can place an order at that time OR Herff Jones will be back on campus on Friday December 3 during lunch if your daughter would like to turn in her order at that time.

Rings will be distributed at the Ring ceremony on March 1. Students do not have to purchase a ring from Herff Jones to participate in the ring ceremony.

HERFF  JONES.

What's your style?



BLACK FRIDAY DISCOUNT

PERU NEWS!

Happy Thanksgiving! I have some exciting news to share directly from NDA's Tour Consultant, Sydney, at EF Tours. EF is offering our group a special Black Friday discount for our group, so we've reopened enrollment for Black Friday weekend! Any new enrollment between Friday, November 26 and Monday, November 29 at midnight will receive \$200 off the price of the trip*.

Remember, space is limited on this trip and comes on a first come, first served basis.

The easiest way to enroll your daughter is through my tour website [HERE](#).

This is a one-time offer, so if you have been considering enrolling your daughter or missed our deadline, now is the time to enroll! Please let me know if you have any questions.

\$200 Discount applies to NEW enrollments only.

Thanks,
Ms. Dooling



WE NEED YOUR HELP

ATTENTION FRESHMAN PARENTS

As you may know, our annual Silver Bells Dance is coming up on Saturday, December 11. Every year we are in need of parents to help with this event and we are asking Freshman parents to help with cleanup. We are looking for 12-15 parents to be there to clean up from 11:00 p.m. - midnight. Please fill out the form found [HERE](#) by Friday, November 19 to let us know if you would be available to help. Thank you for helping us make these kinds of events possible!

HELP WANTED

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!

YEARBOOK NEWS

The 2021 NDA yearbook, **Together**, has gone to press and is scheduled to ship between Halloween and Thanksgiving. A limited number of extra copies will be available for students who did not pre-order. Books are \$70 and checks should be made out to NDA.

The 2022 NDA yearbook, **Make it Count**, is available for pre-order now at [jostens.com](https://www.jostens.com). Order now for the special fall price of \$60.



ATTENTION PANDA PARENTS

SILVER BELLS CHAPERONES NEEDED

We are in need of 3-5 parents willing to chaperone the Silver Bells dance on December 11, from 8 p.m. - 11 p.m. YOU MUST BE VIRTUS TRAINED AND UP TO DATE ON YOUR BULLETINS! Please contact Ms. Madeline Tucker at tuckerm@ndapandas.org by December 3 if you are available and willing to help chaperone this fun event for the sophomores, juniors, and seniors.



CONGRATULATIONS!

HITTING ALL THE RIGHT NOTES

Congratulations to Senior, Molly Chun, who auditioned to be in the Kentucky All State Choir! She will travel to Louisville in February to sing with hundreds of other students from Kentucky at the annual Kentucky Music Educators Association Convention.



SINGING MY SONG

HONOR CHOIR WORKSHOP

Seven members of the NDA Honor Choir participated in a Tri-State Honor Choir workshop and concert at Northern Kentucky University. At this workshop, the girls worked with choral directors from other high schools, including Beechwood, Boone County, Covington Latin, St. Henry, Norwood, and many others; they performed with a group of 100 other high school chorus students; expanded their choral repertoire with difficult college-level pieces; and they performed with the prestigious Chamber Choir from Northern Kentucky University under the direction of the Director of Choral Studies, Mrs. Katie Barton."

(from top to bottom row, L to R): Katrina Hillebrand, Abby Jennings, Melissa Perez, Natalie Lovell, Molly Chun, Elizabeth Barton, and Megan Paolucci



CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS



SPIRITUAL GROWTH

SOPHOMORE CLASS RETREAT

The Sophomore Class Retreat will take place on Wednesday, December 1 at NDA. The retreat will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will end at 2:00 p.m. Please plan rides accordingly. All Sophomores are required to attend this retreat. Students will need to pack their lunch on that day. If you have any questions please reach out to Mrs. Price at priceb@ndapandas.org.



PANDA PRIDE

2023 Synod on Synodality: The Church Wants to Hear From You!

Pope Francis has called for a worldwide discussion leading up to the next meeting of the Synod of Bishops in 2023 on the topic of SYNODALITY. Synodality is “journeying together” - a way of living out our faith that involves shared responsibility, open and honest dialogue, and discernment with the Holy Spirit in addressing the issues facing our Church today. It is speaking and listening to one another and the Holy Spirit. In what ways does our parish journey together? How well do we do it? Are there people or groups that have been left behind on the journey? How can we speak and listen to them? Parishes, institutions, individuals, and small groups across the diocese will have the opportunity to reflect and respond to these and other questions over the next several months. All are invited and encouraged to participate. Input will be compiled and forwarded on to the national and then international levels to help the Bishops prepare for the 2023 Synod in Rome. Look for more information in parish communications, on social media, the diocesan website covidio.org/synod, or visit www.synod.va/en.html.



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT



WAY TO GO AQUA PANDAS!

NDA SWIM TEAM NEWS

Congratulations to the Aqua Pandas who kicked off the swim season by winning this past weekend's Flying Turkey Invitational at Keating Natatorium (St. Xavier High School) besting 10 other schools from Northern Kentucky, including Dixie Heights and St. Henry.

The AquaPandas were winners in 7 of 11 events:

- 200 Medley Relay (Sophie Anderson, Sadie Hartig, Sammie Poulos, and Paige Donnelly)
- Sophie Anderson - 100 Backstroke
- Sadie Hartig - 200 IM, 500 Freestyle
- Lainy Kruger - 100 Butterfly, 100 Breaststroke
- 400 Freestyle Relay (Lainy Kruger, Riley Quinn, Sophie Anderson, and Sadie Hartig)

Many girls were competing in their first high school meet. The team recorded 23 personal bests and showed great spirit. The Seniors provided excellent leadership. Way to go AquaPandas!

Next week, the team hosts Seton HS on November 29 and Covington Latin and Calvary Christian on December 1. Both meets are at the Heidt Family Champions Center (Xavier University) beginning at 6:30 p.m.



CONGRATULATIONS!

ARCHERY PANDAS NEWS

The NDA Archery team competed in their first tournament of the season last Saturday at the Scott High School Tournament. The team score was 2796 and scored 57 tens. The Archery Pandas were led by Ellie Puglisi at 269, Ella Weitzel at 259, Megan Paolucci at 254, Alex Gardner at 250 and Kaitlyn Eberhart at 244. The team's next tournament will be the NDA Panda Archery Tournament being held here on December 3 and 4. ARCHERY PANDAS ROCK!



PANDA SAVINGS!

COUPON BOOKS

Remember Panda athletes, once you sell our coupon books, please fill out the [tally sheet](#) and upload [here](#) before turning in your money by Friday December 17.

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



CONGRATULATIONS

BEST AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the BEST Award Winners from Quarter 1. These students were nominated by their teachers as being hardworking and diligent in their classes:

Senior Dinithi Fernando

Junior Sammi Flowers

Sophomore Jacqueline Brueggemann

Freshman Mikayla Schornack



TIME TO STUDY

MID TERM EXAMS

We will be having mid term exams starting Wednesday, December 15 - Friday, December 17. The schedule is linked below for your reference. You will need to reference your daughter's schedule in order to know what class is assigned to each exam slot. Please note that we will get out early each day. Please refer to the [NDA Student Parent Handbook](#) for more information about exams and NDA exam policy.

[Exam Schedule Fall 2021-22](#)

PLEASE NOTE!



RESOURCES FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS

NDA PARENT TOOLBOX

NDA's counselors have put together some very useful tools for our parents [HERE](#).

GSE APPLICATION PROCESS

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR ENTREPRENEURS

[Governor's School for Entrepreneurs.](#) (GSE) applications are NOW open to current Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors through January 24, 2022. Contact Mrs. Hildreth with your questions. GSE still has 4 virtual events via Zoom to showcase the GSE experience and dive into the application process. Find links to register [here](#).



GSA APPLICATION PROCESS

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

2021 KY Governor's School for the Arts (GSA) is going to DOUBLE in Size!

GSA has been approved for \$2,850,000 from the American Recovery Plan (ARP). This funding will allow GSA to welcome approximately 500 students - for each of the next three summers into the arts immersion program! Alumni of the program are eligible for scholarships at nearly 30 colleges and universities. A total of 93% of the GSA 2021 class said they felt more prepared to attend college because of their GSA experience.

ART FORM SPECIFIC WEBINARS BEGIN ON NOVEMBER 8TH!

This is a chance for students to interact with faculty members in each art form about what they're looking for in GSA applicants. Q&A included; each session will be recorded and made available afterward on our website. Free, but registration will be required! [Please click here to view the schedule and register!](#)



Have a restful
Thanksgiving break
Pandas!



ADVANCING OUR MISSION

TIME TO SIGN UP

HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST

The High School Placement Test (HSPT) is required as part of the admission process at NDA. All incoming freshman students interested in attending Notre Dame Academy must take the HSPT. The Diocesan-wide testing date for the HSPT is Saturday, December 11. There is a testing fee of \$20.00 that must be paid at the time of test registration. The deadline for registration is December 3, 2021. [2021 HSPT Registration Form](#)

This #GIVING TUESDAY IT'S TIME TO GIVE BACK!

HOW CAN I HELP?

- Share our posts on social media
- Donate on Giving Tuesday

WHY IS GIVING TUESDAY IMPORTANT?

Giving Tuesday supports our annual fund and allows us to provide an excellent education for all students at Notre Dame Academy.

How can I honor the excellence at NDA?

Give a donation in honor/memory of a:

- Teacher
- Sister
- Coach
- Mentor

who has made a difference in your life!

Nov. 30
24 HOURS

VENMO: @NOTREDAME-ACADEMY
ONLINE: WWW.NDAPANDAS.ORG/MAKE-A-DONATION

#SUPPORTING OUR PANDAS GIVING TUESDAY

At Notre Dame Academy we are blessed with caring and dedicated faculty, staff and administration who work hard provide our students with an excellent education.

Join us in celebrating excellence at NDA on Giving Tuesday with a donation to NDA's Annual Fund!

Did you know that you can support NDA's mission with a gift to this year's Annual Fund through Venmo? You can do so by scanning the QR code above.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Notre Dame Academy
@NotreDame-Academy



venmo

Thank You to our Corporate Sponsors!

COMMUNITY



NEWS

SHARING OUR

Community News

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

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

Important dates

November 24-28	Thanksgiving Break
November 30	8th Grade Financial Aid Information Night
December 1	SO Retreat
December 2	HSPT Prep at NDA
December 4	JR Retreat (2 of 4 options) FR Semi Formal Dance at NDA
December 7	Choral Concert and Dance Pandas
December 8	No School: Feast of the Immaculate Conception
December 10	In School Band and Choral Concert
December 11	HSPT and ACT at NDA Silver Bells Dance
December 12	Band Christmas Concert
December 13	Advent Mass (ADJ)
December 15-17	Midterm Exams
December 18	Christmas break begins
January 3	School resumes