



Dear Parents,

This Friday, our seniors will graduate, and I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the Class of 2024 for their contributions to Notre Dame Academy. Throughout their time at NDA, these graduates have strived to become women making a difference in the world. I am deeply grateful to the Class of 2024 for embracing our mission and leading our community this school year. We look forward to celebrating these remarkable young women at our Baccalaureate Mass, Senior Breakfast and Graduation. As they begin the next chapter of their lives, I challenge our seniors to continue Radiating God's Goodness. I sincerely thank them and everyone who has supported them over the past four years.

Speaking of hard work, tomorrow is cleaning day at NDA. I would like to thank our Work Study Supervisor, Karen Adamczak, for organizing this time-honored tradition passed down from the Sisters of Notre Dame. I also extend my gratitude to our students and faculty for their efforts in keeping our school building clean.

Additionally, I want to acknowledge the hard work our students have put in this year and their dedication during exams this week. Their commitment to their studies and perseverance through challenges are commendable and speak volumes about their character and determination. Our expectations at NDA are high, and we are blessed to have diligent students who strive to meet those expectations.

Please note that there will be one more Panda Press Weekly next Wednesday, followed by one edition in June and one in July. We will resume our weekly editions in August.

Thank you for allowing us to partner with you in your daughter's Catholic education. It is both a privilege and a pleasure to watch our students learn and grow in their faith.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



Student Life

THANK YOU!

FACULTY/STAFF SEND OFF

This year's Faculty/Staff Send Off was a heartfelt occasion, marked by a mixture of gratitude, nostalgia and well-wishes as we bid farewell to several cherished members of our teaching community.

Mrs. Michele Johnson, who has been an integral part of NDA for an incredible 41 years, is leaving her roles as Psychology and Religion Teacher, and Religion Department Chair. Her dedication and commitment to nurturing the minds and spirits of our students have left a lasting legacy on our community.

Mr. Eckerle, our talented Art Teacher, is also moving on after 19 years of inspiring creativity and artistic expression at NDA. His contributions to the arts and his encouragement of students to explore their artistic talents have greatly enriched our school.

We also say goodbye to Mrs. Conradi, our Textiles Teacher, and Kathy Hildreth, our Personal Counselor. Both have played vital roles in supporting and guiding our students, helping them to develop both academically and personally.

We extend our deepest gratitude to these educators for their years of service. They will always be a part of the NDA family, and we wish them all the best in their future endeavors.



BEST OF LUCK CLASS OF 2024!

SENIOR SEND OFF

Last Thursday was a special day as we honored our seniors, who are soon to become our newest alumnae! We sent off our seniors with a prayer service, the traditional Alumnae Luncheon along with love and well wishes as they embark on the next chapter of their journey! NDA will truly miss the Class of 2024, but we know they are ready to make a difference in the world!





BRAVO, PANDAS!

CELEBRATING OUR SHOWSTOPPING SHOWCASE STARS

Congratulations to all of our talented students who participated in this year's Showstopping Showcase presented by NDA's Fine Arts Department! What an incredible display of talent! We are so proud of each and every one of these students for using their God given talents to brighten the world around them. Keep shining brightly Pandas!



END OF YEAR FUN

LATIN CLASSES BRING ANCIENT ROME TO LIFE

Ms. Barnes' Latin classes have been diving deep into the language and culture of ancient Rome this school year. They have worked hard, bringing history to life through engaging activities and projects. Ms. Barnes is proud of her students' enthusiasm and dedication and will certainly miss our seniors!



IMPORTANT NOTICE

SCHOOL COMPLIANCE VERIFICATION LETTER

If your daughter is turning 16 years old during the summer months, please have them stop by the office to pick up a School Driving Compliance Verification letter before school is over. The office has modified summer hours and cannot guarantee that someone will be available to hand it out.

TURNING 16 THIS SUMMER?



WAY TO SERVE PANDAS!

STU CO ELECTION RESULTS

Congrats to the following students who were elected as grade level representatives for the 2024-2025 school year: sophomore class representatives Teagan Kondik, Ruth Maier, Amelia Stallard, Emma Miller and Brooklyn Kelly and junior class representatives Erin Piatt, Lila Harris, Phoebe Desch, Sophie Hollenkam and Ryan Scheiner.

CONGRATULATIONS PROFE BILL

NDA FACULTY MEMBER FEATURED IN OHIO FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Notre Dame Academy is proud to announce that Mrs. Stacey Bill, our Department of World Languages Chair and Teacher, was recently featured in the Cardinal, the newsletter of the Ohio Foreign Language Association. Her article, ["5 Easy to Implement Strategies for Creative Writing in the Language Classroom,"](#) showcases innovative approaches to engaging students in creative writing activities.

In addition to her published work, Mrs. Bill received a grant through the Language Connections Foundation. This grant will enable NDA to purchase books of poetry by a Colombian immigrant residing in Kentucky, enriching our curriculum with diverse literary voices.

Moreover, Mrs. Bill is set to collaborate with an NGO based in Washington, D.C., and Guatemala to design their curriculum, further demonstrating her dedication to advancing language education. Congratulations to Profe Bill for her remarkable contributions and ongoing commitment to inspiring our students!



WORK STUDY OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR IMPORTANT PARENT INFORMATION

Parents, please check your daughter's lunch account balance to avoid overdue account issues.

Also, we would like to start offering breakfast to our students next year however, we will need Work Study Parents to run the registers in order to make this happen.

We will need 2 Work Study workers to run the register and maybe a little set up 5 days a week. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 6:30 - 8:30 a.m. and on Wednesday from 7:00 - 9:00 a.m. Once we see how it works we might be able to be flexible on the time.

Also, we need 1 Work Study worker for Salad Bar Prep and help in the kitchen. This would be for 5 days a week Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

If you are interested in either of these Work Study positions, please contact NDA's cafeteria manager, Karen Brungs at brungsk@ndapandas.org.





WE'RE BURSTING WITH PANDA PRIDE!

WELCOME TO THE PANDA FAMILY

We're thrilled to welcome the newest addition to the Panda Family! Meet Lincoln Michael Chandler, born on May 16 at 5:16 p.m., weighing 8 lbs. 6 oz. and measuring 20 inches. Congratulations to proud parents Kelsey and Tim Chandler! Mrs. Chandler, our talented Piano and Music History Teacher, and Panda Tones Choral Director, is sure to have a little maestro in the making!

REMINDER: NEW APPROACH TO SUMMER READING

CELEBRATING READING AT NDA THIS SUMMER

One of our goals in the English Department at Notre Dame Academy is to awaken and intensify a love of reading and writing among our students. As a community of lifelong learners, we believe that reading is a celebration of discovery and imagination rather than merely a task. We place tremendous value on reading at NDA and recognize that our students are avid readers who enjoy exploring new books. With this in mind, we would like to remind our parents and students about our new approach to summer reading.

Instead of assigning specific summer reading for our students, this year, we will encourage them to choose books that genuinely interest them to read over the summer. We believe that allowing students to select their own reading material will foster a deeper love for reading and provide them with the opportunity to explore genres and topics that better resonate with their personal interests. We highly encourage parents to discuss their daughter's summer reading selections with them and even read the books together.

While there will not be a general "summer reading" list provided by NDA's English Department this summer, some classes may still require specific summer reading assignments. Please know that any required reading will be communicated directly to students by their respective teachers.

We will continue our tradition of a common reader because we understand the value of a shared literary experience. Rather than reading this book over the summer however, students will read the common reader selection when they return to school in August. Unlike in years past, assignments and curriculum will be designed around the common reader to facilitate meaningful discussions and analysis in the classroom. an-tage of this opportunity to find books that inspir

We hope through this new approach to summer reading, students will find reading during their break more enjoyable!





MARK YOUR CALENDAR SUMMER HOURS AT NDA

May 28 - 31: 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

June 3 - June 20: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

June 21 - July 8: OFFICE CLOSED - Dead period - closed

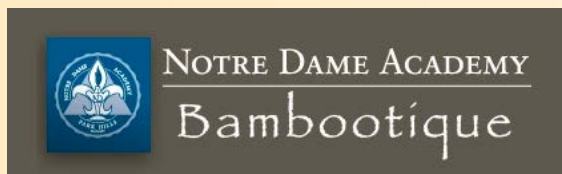
July 9 - August 2: Mon-Thur. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

The School Office will be closed on Fridays in July.

August 5 - August 12: 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

PANDA SPIRIT WEAR! BAMBOOTIQUE

Don't miss the End of School Sale going on in the Bambootique! You will receive 10% off your entire order! This sale ends May 27. The Bambootique will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. thru May 31. The Bambootique will be open for online sales only thru July 31 [HERE](#).



"NO SCHOOL" DATES in 2024-25

August 15	Feast of the Assumption
September 2	Labor Day
October 11 <small>*change from original calendar to match Diocese</small>	PD Day
November 1	All Saints' Day
November 5	Election Day
November 27-29	Thanksgiving Break
December 23 - January 3	Christmas Break
January 20	MLK Day
February 17	Presidents' Day
March 14	PD Day
April 17-25	Spring Break

MARK YOUR CALENDAR 2024-25 CALENDAR NEWS

The academic calendar for next year has been finalized and will be shared with the departments this week. The "No School" calendar is located in the blue table to the left. If you have specific questions, feel free to contact the office staff. After reviewing our calendar with those of our feeder schools and Covington Catholic, we have adjusted our fall PD day to correspond with theirs. Please note the change highlighted in yellow as you plan for next year.

2024 - 2025 - Summer Dates / Back to School Dates

Incoming Freshmen Activities:

Week of July 29 - iPad Orientation

August 6 (morning) - Freshmen Orientation

August 6 (afternoon) - Freshmen Bridge

August 7 (afternoon) - Freshmen Bridge

August 8 (afternoon) - Freshmen Bridge

August 9 (TBD a.m./p.m.) - Freshmen Bridge

First Day of School - August 12

Last Day of School - May 22

Graduation - May 23





Notre Dame Academy Graduation 2024

"Congrats Pandas!"

UPDATED INFORMATION FOR SENIORS GRADUATION INFORMATION

Attention Seniors and Senior Parents. The students were given their graduation tickets last week during their lunch. Each student received 12 tickets. Should a family need more tickets, it is possible that other seniors will have some to spare. Mrs. Heidrich is willing to help facilitate that if your daughter needs additional tickets.

- May 23 - Graduation practice at NKYCC @ 8:30 a.m.
- May 23 - Baccalaureate Mass at St. Agnes @ 7:00 p.m. (students and families)
- May 24 - Senior Breakfast at Receptions in Erlanger @ 8:30 a.m. (students and guardians)
- May 24 - Graduation at Northern Kentucky Convention Center @ 4:00 p.m. (12 tickets per student will be given out in the coming weeks).

A more [detailed information sheet](#) was shared with the students prior to Spring Break.

CONGRATULATIONS
• Graduates •

Scan to opt-in
to view our
commencement
photos.

Or text
25877GY24
to 90738

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SENIORS GRADUATION PHOTOS

Get ready for picture day by buying an AdvancePay credit to use when pictures are ready! You'll receive a text message when the gallery is published, and your credit will be automatically applied to your purchase when you sign in with your mobile number at checkout. Buy in now!

IMPORTANT REMINDER

ATTENTION SENIOR PARENTS

Congratulations on your daughter's up coming graduation. It is an exciting time in her life. Saying good bye to one family and looking forward to the new adventures at the new school, college or university. She will be well prepared for this next step in her life.

I would appreciate it if you could take a moment to check your Pay-Pam and Facts accounts. When you pay off the Pams account, close it so it does not put more money into the account. If you have any questions about the lunch account, you can contact Mrs. Brungs (brungsk@ndapandas.org). For information about Facts account, you can contact Marilyn Slaughter (slaughter@ndapandas.org).

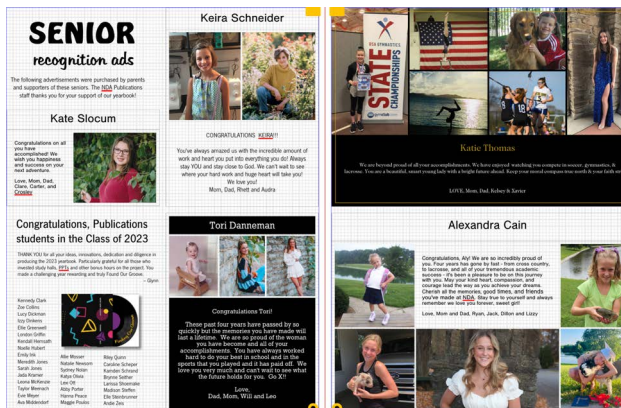
As stated in the NDA Handbook, all tuition and financial obligations must be taken care of before records are released to the student and other institutions. Please take care of these obligations by graduation so that you can enjoy all the celebrations.

Thank you,,

Janice Schmidt

Assistant Records Administrator

IMPORTANT INFORMATION PLEASE READ



YEARBOOK

ATTENTION SENIOR PARENTS!

YEARBOOK SENIOR ADS ON SALE!

Attention parents of seniors! You're understandably proud of your daughter. Why not say so in her senior yearbook and help support the NDA yearbook program at the same time? Ads are on sale for the next month and start at just \$75! Just go to jostens.com and search Notre Dame Academy to design your ad! Please email glynnr@ndapandas.org if you have any questions!

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

**GO
PANDAS!**

HELLO SPORTS FANS

ATHLETIC CALENDAR

Don't miss any of the action with our Panda athletes! [Here](#) is the calendar for the upcoming week.



NOMINATION TIME

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

We're happy to announce that Notre Dame Academy will be hosting its Athletic Hall of Fame event this fall! This is an incredible opportunity for us to honor and celebrate the outstanding achievements of individuals who have left a lasting impact on our community.

If you know a former Panda athlete who deserves recognition for her exceptional athletic contributions to NDA, we invite you to nominate her for consideration [HERE](#).

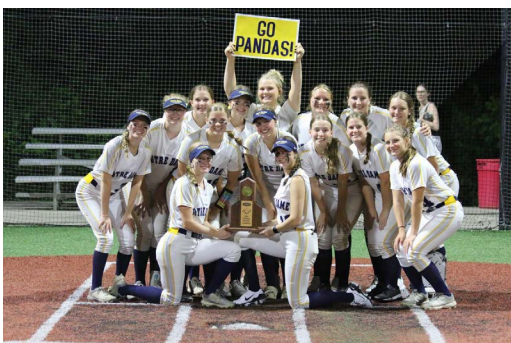


FROM THE DESK OF THE

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

TENNIS

Congrats to the Varsity Tennis Pandas for a successful individual regional tournament. Sam Spellman and Clare Shay (doubles) placed 2nd in the tournament and Lucy Bailey and Bella McElwee (doubles) placed 3rd in the tournament. Both of these doubles teams will be heading to the state tournament which begins on May 28 at Eastern Kentucky University. The team is still playing in the team regional tournament and earned the #1 seed. If they win this tournament, they will advance to the state team tournament beginning on June 3 at Berea College. Good luck Pandas! Photo Credit: Bob Jackson



SOFTBALL

Congratulations to our Softball Pandas - your 35th District Champions!



TRACK AND FIELD

Congratulations to Coach Hollenkamp and our Track and Field team for winning their 15th Regional Championship in school history! Our Pandas demonstrated all year long and once again last night why they have the most well rounded team. The track and field program core values of faith + attitude + self-confidence + togetherness shined bright in the big win. The team now moves onto the Class AAA State Championship with many qualifiers. The State Meet is held on June 1st at the University of Kentucky. Go Pandas!



COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITIES

UNDERSTANDING KENTUCKY'S KEES PROGRAM

Kentucky Excellence in Education (KEES) Money is earned by every high school student in Kentucky who achieves a 2.5 GPA or higher, for each year of high school. Amounts range from \$125-500 and stack each year, with a bonus (\$36-500) for ACT Scores of 15 and higher. KEES money may be used at any participating college in Kentucky. Notifications of the exact amount arrive in the mail during the summer after each school year. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

KEES

Kentucky Educational
Excellence Scholarship

It pays to get good grades

ADVANCING THE MISSION

BE A PART OF THE FUN!

GEARING UP FOR NDA'S 26TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

We are so excited for NDA's 26th annual golf outing! It will be taking place on June 7 at Kenton County Golf Course. Join us for an 18 Hole or a Fun 9 Hole Social. For more information and registration, please click [HERE](#). We can't wait to see you there!

ORTHOINCINCY NDA GOLF OUTING

JUNE 7TH, 2024

KENTON COUNTY GOLF COURSE

FUN 9 HOLE SOCIAL

10:30AM SHOTGUN START | \$90 GOLFER

18 HOLE

8:00AM SHOTGUN START | \$125 GOLFER





102 YEARS OF FESTIVAL FUN CELEBRATE THE SND'S

The Sisters of Notre Dame are busy planning two wonderful celebrations this year on July 4th. First is their 102nd 4th of July Festival. The second is their 150th anniversary of the Sisters of Notre Dame arriving in the United States. Eight sisters traveled from Germany to New York arriving on July 4, 1874, and began ministry at Mother of God school and parish in August of the same year. This began an affiliation with many schools in the diocese of Covington and the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

The Sisters invite you to participate in their 4th of July Festival. Your presence and partnership gives them the opportunity to share together in the mission of our community!



SHARING OUR Community News

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

- SND 4th of July Festival
- St. Augustine Summer Festival
- Ed Choice - Kentucky's School Choice Amendment
- 2023-24 Thomas More Dual-Credit Information Sessions
- Molly Mayer's Studio of Dance

Important dates

May 23	Cleaning Day Faculty/Staff Luncheon - Alumnae Hall Baccalaureate Mass - St. Agnes 7:00 p.m.
May 24	Senior Recognition Breakfast - Receptions, Erlanger Graduation - NKYCC
May 27	Park Hills Memorial Day Parade with NDA/CCH Band, Color Guard and Dance Pandas
June 7	Golf Outing
August 7 (afternoon)	Freshmen Bridge
August 8 (afternoon)	Freshmen Bridge
August 9 (TBD a.m./p.m.)	Freshmen Bridge
August 12	First Day of School
August 15	Feast of the Assumption - NO SCHOOL
September 2	Labor Day - NO SCHOOL