



Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we step into 2025, there is so much to anticipate at Notre Dame Academy. One of the highlights this month is the celebration of Catholic Schools Week, observed nationally from January 26 through February 1. Our Student Council has been hard at work planning activities to showcase the many blessings of Catholic education. Some of the exciting events planned for that week include Mass and a reception with the Sisters of Notre Dame, Pajama Day, Generations Day, and a rebranded talent show titled "PaNDA's Got Talent."

We are particularly excited about PaNDA's Got Talent, which will feature a variety of traditional talents as well as lighthearted skits. Students are encouraged to participate, whether by showcasing a unique skill or joining with friends to create a fun, memorable performance. Our hope is that this event will bring our community together in a joyful and uplifting way, celebrating the incredible talents of our Pandas.

In addition to our Catholic Schools Week celebrations, we look forward to gathering as a community for a special New Year's Liturgy on Friday, January 17, at 9:30 a.m. This Mass will be especially meaningful as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of NDA's Junior Service Program. For five decades, this program has been central to our mission, empowering students to live out the Gospel call to serve others. Students are reminded to wear their normal uniform attire for this liturgy rather than spirit wear.

As you may have seen in a recent letter from me, NDA English teacher Mr. Butch Hamm experienced a medical emergency last week that required him to undergo open-heart surgery today. Please join our students, faculty, and staff in praying for Mr. Hamm's successful recovery. The NDA community sends him strength, healing, and many prayers during this time.

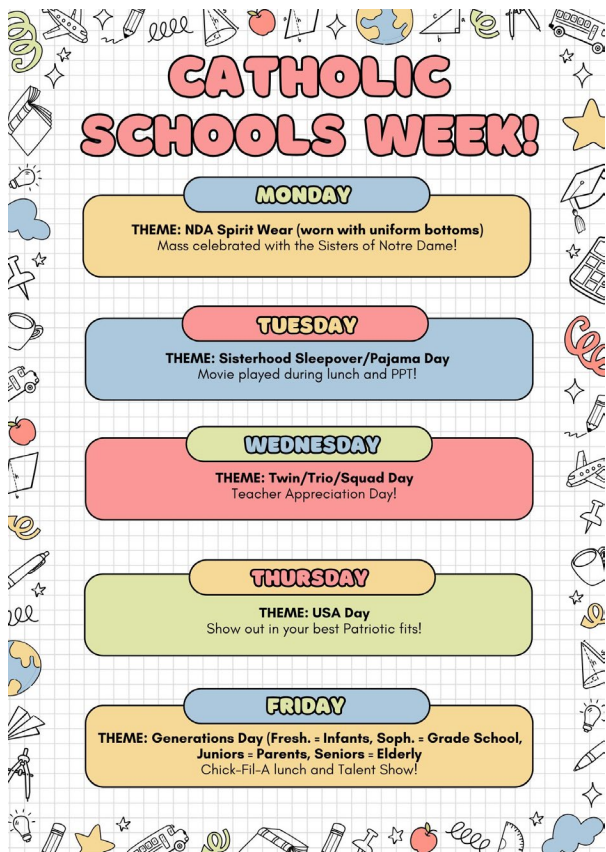
Thank you for your continued support of Notre Dame Academy!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



Student Life



UPCOMING EVENTS

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK CELEBRATIONS

Catholic Schools' Week will be celebrated nationally during the week of January 26 - February 1. Our Student Council has been working hard to determine various activities that can be held to highlight the blessings of our Catholic education. A few of the events that will occur that week are: Mass and a reception with the Sisters of Notre Dame, pajama day, Generations Day, and a rebranded Talent Show titled, "PaN-DA's Got Talent."

Due to scheduling issues, the annual Catholic Schools' Week Volleyball game with CCH will be held the Wednesday after CSW on February 5 at 7:30 at the NDA gym.

Students are asked to consider participating in the Talent Show in one of two ways - showcasing a true talent or performing a skit / dance / act with a group of friends in a lighthearted way. The hope is that this encourages more girls to participate and will have the format of a variety show to showcase the amazing talents of our Pandas and also some lighthearted comical skits as well. Students who are interested can complete the Talent Show Form which is linked [here](#) (and in the Padlet).

VOTE!
VOTE!
VOTE!

TIME TO VOTE!

LET'S HONOR OUR ATHLETES

Please be sure to vote for our Athletes of the Week. You can vote [here!](#)

Please be sure to vote from your phones and vote once every hour.

Makayla Kleman – She was the 50-yard freestyle runner-up (27.18 seconds), took fourth place in the 100-yard freestyle (59.95 seconds), and helped the 200-yard freestyle relay to a second-place finish at the Scott Eagle Classic.

Thank you for helping to honor our athletes!

LIVE TRAINING DATES

VIRTUS

If you are new to Virtus and need to attend a live training, here are some opportunities:

Diocesan Curia, Bishop Howard Memorial Auditorium, 1125 Madison Avenue, Covington, Kentucky.

- * Thursday, January 30, 2025 - 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
- * Thursday, January 30, 2025 - 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM
- * Thursday, February 13, 2025 - 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
- * Wednesday, February 13, 2025 - 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM
- * Wednesday, February 26, 2025 - 9:00AM - 11:30AM
- * Wednesday, February 26, 2025 - 6:00PM - 8:30PM
- * Tuesday, March 11 - 9:00AM - 11:30AM
- * Tuesday, March 11, 2025 - 6:00PM - 8:30PM
- * Wednesday, March 26, 2025 - 9:00AM - 11:30PM
- * Wednesday, March 26, 2025 - 6:00PM - 8:30PM

Diocesan Catholic Children's Home, Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky.

- * Tuesday, March 4, 2025 - 6:30PM - 9:00PM

Bishop Brossart High School, Alexandria, Kentucky.

- Wednesday, January 15, 2025 - 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Remember: To be Virtus compliant, you must read and answer the accompanying question on the monthly bulletins. You should receive an email with a link the first week of each month.

SPECIAL LITURGY

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We look forward to celebrating the New Year with a special liturgy on Friday, January 17 at 9:30 a.m. Students will need to dress in their normal uniform attire and NOT in spirit wear for this event.

ATTENTION PARENTS AND STUDENTS

YEARBOOK UPDATE

NDA's 2024 yearbook, 24 hOURS has not shipped to us just yet. We apologize for this delay and will continue to work with the printer to determine when they might be delivered. Thank you in advance for your patience.

SPECIAL INFO

CALENDAR UPDATE

On Monday January 20, NDA will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Please enjoy the weekend and pray for our country and in thanksgiving for the work of Dr. King.





SHOWING COMPASSION SENDING PRAYERS

As you may have seen in a recent letter from Mr. VonHandorf, Mr. Butch Hamm (one of our amazing English teachers) underwent open heart surgery after a medical emergency last week. The students wanted to share their sympathy, love, compassion, and heartfelt prayers with Mr. Hamm, so a few put their vision into action. A banner and a card were made wishing him a speedy recovery and expressing our gratitude and love for him. Please join our students and the NDA faculty and staff in praying for Mr. Hamm's successful surgery and recovery. The NDA community wishes him all the best and many prayers!

Survey Results...

AFTER PROM SURVEY RESULTS

A link to an After Prom interest survey was in the Panda Press Weekly in December. There were 52 responses and only 12 responses expressing an interest in an After Prom event. As has been mentioned, we were working to reserve Silverlake: "The Family Place" since NKU was not available. We must have a minimum of seventy five students attend in order to make that event possible and we simply don't have the interest.

If there are other possible options that parents want to explore, we are happy to consider them, however we would also need a committee willing to help to plan and implement the event. Please contact Lisa Timmerding at timmerdingl@ndapandas.org if you have suggestions, feedback or are interested in helping. Thank you!

Father Daughter

FATHER/DAUGHTER COMING THIS SPRING....

Many are inquiring about the date for the 2025 Father / Daughter Event. At this time, we have not confirmed a date due to sports conflicts. We are hoping to have the event towards the middle or end of March. It will involve dancing, food, and hopefully March Madness. If you are interested in helping to plan this event, please reach out to Lisa Timmerding at timmerdingl@ndapandas.org.



DELICIOUS NEWS! WEEKLY LUNCH MENU

A hot lunch and salad bar will be available for purchase each day at our NDA cafeteria. You can find a menu price sheet as well as this week's lunch menu [HERE](#).

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

WELCOME GERMAN EXCHANGE STUDENTS NEXT FALL!

NDA is once again going to host international students from our sister school in Germany (Liebfrauenschule Vechta) for a portion of the 2025 fall semester. Four students will be experiencing the NDA Life for 9-10 weeks. The German students would love to be in the US to celebrate Halloween and Thanksgiving, so the girls would arrive in Mid-October and depart in the middle of December. These students speak English very well and are screened thoroughly by their school before they are allowed to apply for this exchange program. Please call or email Sammie Bezold, Foreign Exchange Program Coordinator, at bezolds@ndapandas.org/859-292-1884, if you would be interested in more information about this opportunity. Your reply is not a commitment but would help us to know which families would consider supporting our international student enrollment by serving as host families.



ONCE A PANDA, ALWAYS A PANDA

ATTENTION NDA BASKETBALL ALUMNAE!

Join us for Alumnae Night with the NDA Basketball Pandas on Friday, January 17!

We'd love to have you back on campus to cheer on our team and reconnect with fellow alumnae.

RSVP today using the link below!
[NDA BASKETBALL ALUMUNAE DAY](#)

We can't wait to see you there!

**NDA VS MANUAL
JANUARY 17, 2025
GAMES 6:00/7:30**

**NOTRE DAME
ACADEMY
BASKETBALL
ALUMNAE DAY**

CLICK THE LINK
ABOVE OR
SCAN THE QR
CODE TO RSVP

SHOP ONLINE TODAY

BAMBOOTIQUE

The Bambootique, Notre Dame Academy's official spirit wear store, is your one-stop shop for all things NDA! From cozy sweatshirts and stylish tees to accessories and gifts, the Bambootique has something for every Panda fan. Show your NDA pride at school events, games, or just around town with our wide selection of spirit wear.

Stop by the Bambootique or shop online [HERE](#).

REPORTING ABSENCES

ATTENDANCE POLICY

We have an attendance email for parents to call in a sick child or if a student is leaving early from school. Please use this email if your daughter is sick or needs to leave school early: attendance@ndapandas.org. Remember you can always call the school office with any questions 859-261-4300.

PLEASE NOTE!

NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
Bambootique

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT



FROM THE DESK OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Archery - Last weekend's tournament was rescheduled for 2/15. The team will be participating in the Scott High School "Let 'em Fly" tournament this weekend. We wish them luck!

Basketball - Basketball will be hosting their Alumni Night this Friday when the team returns to action. Friday's game will be a JV and Varsity game against Dupont Manual at 6:00/7:30 p.m.

The JV team started their Region Tournament with an opening round win over Holy Cross, 49 - 7. They will continue to the second round on January 28th at 1:30 p.m.

The freshman team plays their first round of their region tournament this weekend on Sunday January 19 at Dixie with a game time of 11:10 a.m.

Upcoming special events for basketball - 1/17 - Alumni Night, 1/21 - Grade School night, 1/24 Student Appreciation, 1/31 - Senior night,

Bowling - Had a blast at Senior Day, celebrating our seniors Maddie Janszen, Grace Panko, Molly Mast, Greta Bitkofer and Paige Pence. Bowling is back in action this week against Cooper on Saturday at 8:30 a.m. This will be the last event prior to the postseason.

ALSO, Panda bowling took another conference win last night , 5 - 2 over Llyod Juggernauts. Great bowling from Sophomore Haley Pelstring 182 , 214. Junior Cami Norris 171 , 149. Junior Corryn Kohols 115 and Junior Norah Pilgram bowls her new high game of 150.

Swimming - The AquaPandas competed at the Scott Eagle Classic on Saturday, January 11, at the Kenton County Aquatics Center (Scott HS), finishing 2nd out of 10 schools.

Individual Top 3 Finishers were junior Reaghan Connelly (3rd in 200 IM), sophomores Savannah Bien (1st in 1-Meter Diving) and Makayla Kleman (2nd in 50 Free), and freshman Caroline Gollar (3rd in 200 Free).

Relay Top 3 finishers were the 200 Medley Relay (2nd; freshman Charley Koehl, Connelly, senior Andi Carothers, junior Peyton Quinn), 200 Free Relay (2nd; Kleman, Gollar, senior Grace Summe, Connelly), and 400 Free Relay (3rd; Quinn, Carothers, Koehl, Kleman)

The AquaPandas achieved 19 individual best times and 10 relay split best times. Congratulations to all team members for their outstanding effort and performance!

SAVE THE DATE!

Hall of Fame March 20, 2025

Golf Outing June 6, 2025



COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



COLLEGE
REP VISITS

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

NDA COLLEGE VISIT SCHEDULE

[CLICK HERE](#) for a list of college visits specifically for NDA students/families. The visits are in the hallway outside the cafeteria. All students are welcome to visit the reps.



THOMAS MORE
UNIVERSITY

REGISTER TODAY

WINTER PREVIEW DAY AT THOMAS MORE UNIVERSITY

High school seniors are invited to experience the welcoming community atmosphere at Thomas More University during their Winter Preview Day on Thursday, January 16, from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

This small-scale event is the perfect opportunity to connect with their admissions team, learn about their diverse academic majors, generous scholarship offerings, and what it means to pursue a values-based liberal arts education as a Thomas More Saint. Guests will enjoy an admissions presentation followed by a tour of their beautiful campus, including the brand-new academic center!

This is their first Winter Preview event, designed especially for current seniors, but everyone is welcome to join.

[RSVP today: Winter Preview Day](#)

ADVANCING THE MISSION



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
Educating Women to Make a Difference

CORPORATE PARTNER PROGRAM

JOIN THE MISSION: EMPOWER FUTURE LEADERS AT NDA

DISCOVER HOW YOUR COMPANY CAN MAKE A MEANINGFUL IMPACT THROUGH NOTRE DAME ACADEMY'S CORPORATE PARTNER PROGRAM

Did you know that your company or employer can make a lasting impact on the lives of our students by joining Notre Dame Academy's Corporate Partner Program? This unique partnership provides businesses with meaningful visibility while supporting programs that support NDA and empower our students to become competent, compassionate, and purposeful leaders. Corporate Partners are showcased at NDA's signature events, the Women Making a Difference Luncheon, the Annual Golf Outing, and Light the Night for NDA. Encourage your employer to join us in shaping the future leaders of our community!

For more information, please reach out to Myanna Webster at websterm@ndapandas.org.



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

- St. Tim's Mission Trip
- Hero Night

Important dates

January 9	Alumnae Rosary in Chapel at 12:50 - All are welcome!
January 10	Mass in Chapel 7:20 a.m. - All are welcome!
January 13	HSPT Results Night for Incoming Freshmen
January 16	Rosary in Chapel 7:45 a.m.
January 17	New Year's Mass
January 20	NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 23	Out of Uniform for California wildfire victims
January 24	Winter Sports Pep Rally
January 24, 25, 26	1950's Showcase
January 27-31	Catholic Schools Week
February 6	Sips and Stems Alumnae Event
February 7	Mid-Quarter
February 12	March for Life in Frankfort
February 17	NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day
February 18	Sophomore Retreat
March 6	Women Making a Difference Luncheon
March 14	NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day
April 17 - 25	NO SCHOOL - Easter Break
May 22	Last Day of School
May 23	Graduation