



THE *nda* LIFE

## Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we navigate the winter season, I am reminded of the many ways our Notre Dame Academy community remains united in our shared mission. The dedication of our students, faculty, and families continues to shine, bringing warmth and strength to all that we do.

In the tradition of the Sisters of Notre Dame, our goal remains steadfast: to shape young women who seek excellence and are committed to making a difference in the world. We accomplish this through rigorous academics and a wealth of co-curricular opportunities that foster community service, student life, fine arts, leadership and athletics. These experiences shape our students into compassionate, confident and capable leaders, prepared to serve and succeed beyond their years at NDA.

One of the many ways we celebrate the impact of an NDA education is through our Women Making a Difference Luncheon. This annual event, held on March 6 this year, honors remarkable alumnae who exemplify the values of NDA and have dedicated themselves to making a difference in their communities and professions. Their achievements serve as an inspiration to our students, reinforcing the importance of faith, service and leadership. We invite you to join us in recognizing these outstanding women and celebrating the legacy of NDA.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to NDA. Please know that we are grateful to partner with you in this important work!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



# CAMPUS MINISTRY



## FAITH FORMATION

### RETREAT INFORMATION

The **Sophomore Retreat** will take place on Tuesday, February 18 from 8:00-2:00 p.m. here at NDA. This is a required event for all Sophomores. They are permitted to dress down for the event (following Dress Down Guidelines in the handbook) and are asked to leave their iPads at home. Students **MUST** pack a lunch as we will not have access to the cafeteria for this event.

The **Junior Lent Retreat** will take place on Sunday, March 2 from 10:00-2:00 p.m. Sunday mass will be part of this retreat. More information will be sent to the students who are assigned to this retreat as we get closer to the date.

The **Senior Mission Retreat** will take place on Tuesday, March 11. Senior Parents should have received an email last Wednesday regarding Parent Letters for this retreat. You can find the information that was sent out here. Letters are due next Wednesday, February 19 so that we have time to sort them as we prepare for the retreat. If you have any questions please reach out to Mrs. Price at [priceb@ndapandas.org](mailto:priceb@ndapandas.org).



## NCYC

### NATIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE 2025

NCYC is a 3 day conference held in Indianapolis, November 20-22, 2025. It is a faith filled, uplifting conference with tens of thousands of teens from across the country coming together to Worship God and learn more about their faith. This is open to any high school student in the 25/26 school year. NDA will be taking a group with the Diocese of Covington. Interested students can attend an informational meeting after school on Thursday, February 13. The anticipated cost of this event is \$575. Registration is due to Mrs. Price by April 9.



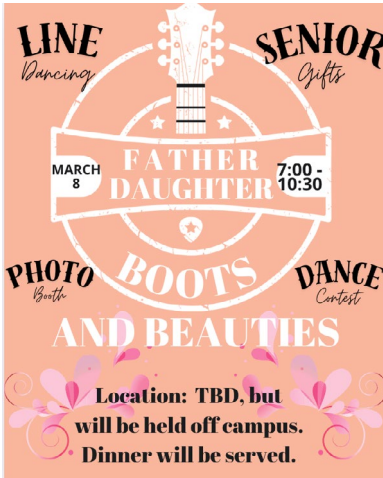
## PRAYER AND REFLECTION

### UPCOMING FAITH OPPORTUNITIES

We will pray a decade of the Rosary on Thursday, February 13 at 7:45 a.m. Students are also welcome to attend the Alumnae Rosary on Thursday, February 13 during PPT in the chapel.

We will celebrate Mass in the chapel on Friday, February 14 at 7:20 a.m. with doughnuts after for those who attend. All are welcome.

# Student Life



## FATHER/DAUGHTER SAVE THE DATE

This year's Father / Daughter will be held on March 8 from 7-10:30 at The Gardens of Park Hills. The cost will be \$37 per person with a potential price increase after February 21. The link to register will be emailed to all students and parents tomorrow.

The committee is already working hard to make sure this is a fun and enjoyable event for dads and their daughters. The event will include dinner, dancing, line dancing lessons, gifts for seniors, a photo booth, some games and hopefully some NCAA games live streamed. Be sure to register for Father / Daughter 2025 - Boots and Beauties!

**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.

**Amelia Stallard** – In two wins last week, she averaged 17 points, two rebounds, two assists, two steals and shot 71 percent from behind the three-point arc.

**Sophia Gibson** – She scored 25 points, pulled down five rebounds and had three blocks as the Pandas secured the top seed in the 35th District with a win over Holy Cross.

**Abby Carnes** – The sophomore took third place in the 100-yard backstroke (58.31 seconds) and fourth place in the 200-yard individual medley (2:09.33), qualifying for the state championships in both events. She also helped the 200-yard medley relay and 200-yard freestyle relay qualify for state.

Thank you for helping to honor our athletes!



## SENIOR GRADE LEVEL INFORMATION

## EXCITING EVENTS AHEAD FOR OUR GRADUATING SENIORS!

Senior year is full of unforgettable moments, and there's a fantastic lineup of events coming up for the Class of 2024-25! From special dances to graduation ceremonies, there's something for every senior to look forward to. Check out the full list of events and details on our website at the Senior Grade Level Information Page [HERE](#).

**INTERESTED IN  
LEADERSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES?**

## INFORMATION SESSION

### STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Student Council moderators (Ms. Hilbert and Mrs. Kroger) and Mrs. Timmerding will hold an informational session for students interested in leadership opportunities at NDA. We will discuss the leadership options which are offered to students in both the Student Council, the Family System, and the Core Leadership Team (something new we offered this year). We encourage all students who might be willing to play key roles in the development of activities at our school to attend this information session. It will be held on Wednesday, February 24 during homeroom time in the Theatre. Additional information will be sent as the date approaches.

## WORKING TO STAY HEALTHY

### ATTENDANCE POLICY REVIEW!

It has become very apparent that our community is being hit drastically by the flu epidemic, stomach virus, COVID, and other easily transferable sicknesses. We appreciate the continued support of all of you with regard to keeping students home when it is suspected that she is ill. Thank you for being proactive to prevent the continuous spread of these illnesses.

Our students have a generous number of unexcused absences that are permitted. Students can accumulate sixteen unexcused absences for a full year course and eight for a half year course. Please continue to monitor how your daughter is feeling and we will be glad to work with you if she needs to stay home. A few parents have asked about the policy for make-up work and while there is not a definitive policy in the handbook regarding this, the teachers are always understanding and flexible. The Student Services Team (Guidance Counselors) can also help with assignment tracking if students miss a lot of days in a row. This seemed like the perfect time for this reminder!

In addition, please remind your daughters that our nurses are here daily to assist them with any health concerns they might have. If she is not feeling well, she is to report to the nurse who can help to guide her in going home, resting at school for a bit, taking medication, etc. Please encourage your daughter not to contact you directly unless she has visited the nurse.



## 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](mailto:attendance@ndapandas.org). Remember you can always call the school office with any questions 859-261-4300.

**PLEASE NOTE!**

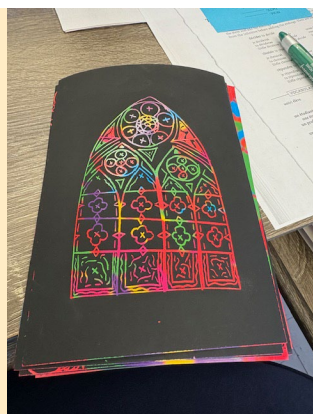
COURSE REQUEST WINDOW OPEN THIS WEEK

## STUDENTS & PARENTS ENCOURAGED TO PLAN TOGETHER BEFORE FRIDAY'S DEADLINE

We are in the middle of the important course request process this week. The Class Registration tab in PowerSchool will be active each day between 4:00 P.M. and 10:00 P.M. until the window closes on Friday evening. Students and parents are encouraged to work through the process together. The detailed instructions on how to submit course requests and other scheduling information are available on the Resources > PowerSchool page on the NDA website. <https://www.ndapandas.org/current-students/resources/powerschool>

Scheduling help is available also each day during lunchtime for students with questions or directly from their academic counselor.

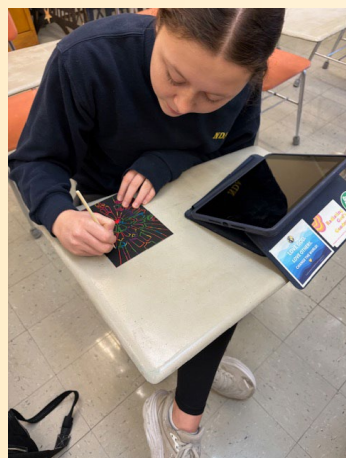
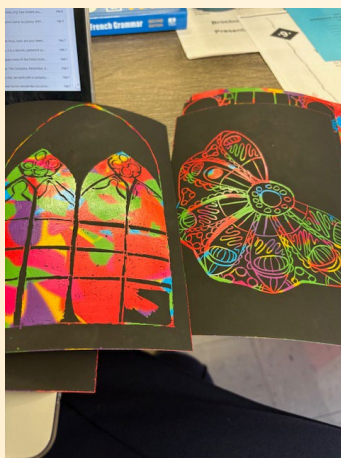
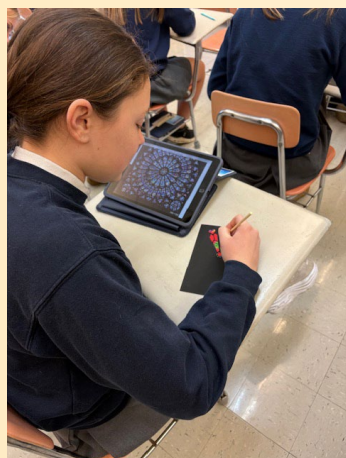
# IMPORTANT INFORMATION!



TRÈS MAGNIFIQUE!

## FRENCH STUDENTS CELEBRATE NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL'S REOPENING THROUGH ART

Madame Otto's French classes participated in an artistic activity to recognise the reopening of Notre Dame cathedral in Paris, France after the devastating fire that took place in 2019. Students found different images of stained glass from the cathedral and recreated them. The results were incredible! It was meaningful to honor this iconic cathedral while also giving homage to our school's namesake.





## BRINGING CLASSICS TO LIFE

# LATIN STUDENTS LEARN 'CERTAMEN'

Last week, some of the Latin classes tried out our new certamen machine. 'Certamen' (Latin for "competition") is a Latin/Classics quiz-bowl type competitive game where students play on teams, using a special machine made of wires and buzzers (lots and lots of wires!). Latin programs at schools around Cincinnati and many other areas around the country compete with one another in certamen competitions and it is a staple activity at Junior Classical League conventions. Thanks to federal COVID relief funds, the Latin program at NDA purchased its first certamen machine. Students in the afternoon classes had fun playing and learning the game on Friday and really got into the competitive spirit!

## 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](mailto: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.



## HONORING ANCIENT ROMAN FESTIVITIES

# "IO, SATURNALIA!"

A few weeks ago Latin club commemorated a belated 'Saturnalia', the Roman festival in honor of the god Saturn that was held each year in December. During this week-long celebration, they would partake in many traditions and fun activities, some of which have formed the origins for traditions we still associate with Christmas - such as making cookies, exchanging gifts, and decorating a tree.

Latin club used air dry clay to make 'sigillaria', little clay or wax figurines that Roman children would make for Saturnalia and exchange as gifts with friends. One of our nurses, Ms. Neubacher, and Edgar (honorary members of Latin club) even joined in on the fun... although Edgar seemed a little suspicious of the clay!



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY  
Bambootique

## SHOP ONLINE TODAY BAMBOOTIQUE

Get your Valentine's Day cookies and lollipops from the Bambootique today! You can buy your cookies [HERE](#). To buy your lollipops, stop by the Bambootique to purchase them during school hours. The Bambootique has something for every panda from mugs to clothing. Represent NDA at sporting events and throughout your community! Stop by the Bambootique or shop online [HERE](#).



## 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](#).

## 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, 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.



# ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

## FROM THE DESK OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



### Archery

Congratulations on a 2nd place High School Team trophy! Also a big congratulations to overall high female score (and actually overall high score in the tournament) Sarah Beckham! Including Sarah, we had 3 of the top 5 high school girls and placed 10 in the top 30! In addition, we had 2 PRs and 3 season high scores shot this weekend!

### Basketball

Congratulations to our JV Basketball team as they won the Region 9 championship for the 2nd year in a row!



Varsity basketball was busy last week! They picked up several wins. First win was against District Rivals Holy Cross with a 55 - 42 win! Second win was a 63 - 35 over Ryle. Lastly they picked up a road win over Henry Clay this past Saturday. The Varsity team beat St. Henry on Monday night! Next game is on Saturday against George Rogers Clark. Come out and help cheer!

### Indoor Track and Field

NDA had numerous Indoor school records broken this weekend at the Eastern Relays! Congrats to these ladies:

- 4x800 Relay: Alex Burg, Maggie Durrett, Cam Kirtley, Kate Blettner
- 60 meter hurdles: Kate Resing (this was a 21 year old record)
- 400 meter: Kate Blettner (this was Ellie Greenwell's record who currently runs Track at Ohio University)
- 800 meter: Cam Kirtley (this is a fun back and forth!)
- 4x400 Relay: Addi Frondorf, Ella Long, Cam Kirtley, Kate Blettner



Special shout out to Maggie Durrett for her performance in the 2 Mile with a time that would have broken her Indoor School record in the 3200 meter. The 2 Mile race is actually 9 meters longer than 3200 meters.

**Softball, Tennis and Lacrosse** have kicked off their seasons and we are ready to watch them beginning to compete!

### Swimming and Diving

Swimming and diving had a great show at the first round of the KHSAA State Swim Meet. They are up next for the KHSAA Finals on Feb. 21st. Our divers will compete in their State Championship the day before on Feb. 20th.

### Hartig Named LaRosa's MVP of the Week

Notre Dame Academy is thrilled to announce that Sadie Hartig has been named LaRosa's MVP for Week 25 of the 2024-2025 school year! This prestigious recognition highlights Sadie's exceptional talent, dedication, and achievements in her sport, bringing pride to the NDA community. Her hard work and commitment have not gone unnoticed, and we are excited to celebrate her well-deserved honor!

Congratulations, Sadie! We are so proud of you!





# COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



ENTER TODAY

## DRUG FREE CLUBS OF AMERICA SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST



The yearly Drug Free Club Scholarship Contest has opened for the 2024-2025 school year! The contest is open to any Drug Free Club member and requires a completed application form (very short) and a one page essay answering the prompt provided. Entries must be submitted to Mrs. Maggard by February 24 at 11:59 p.m. Top NDA entries will be sent to the DFCA group and they will decide on a top \$2,000 winner, one \$1,000 runner up and four \$250 finalist awards. View the application and essay prompt at the [link here](#). Please direct any questions to counselor Erin Maggard at [maggarde@ndapandas.org](mailto:maggarde@ndapandas.org).

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.



PROVIDING PROM ATTIRE

## CINDERELLA'S CLOSET

Cinderella's Closet is a wonderful organization that assists Junior and Senior students who may not have adequate funds to attend prom by providing them with free dresses and accessories. This organization pairs every student attendee with a "fairy godmother" to help select her dress and accessories. The closet will be located at NKU this year, and open on Friday March 14 and Saturday March 15. Appointments must be made by the school counselor in order to attend. If you believe your daughter would benefit please reach out to counselor Erin Maggard at [maggarde@ndapandas.org](mailto:maggarde@ndapandas.org). Cinderella's Closet does benefit from donations of gently used Prom attire. If you are able to donate, check out [this link](#) to see where you can drop off donations.

# ADVANCING THE MISSION



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND  
NOTRE DAME ACADEMY'S TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL

## *Women Making A Difference*

AWARD LUNCHEON 2025

Thursday, March 6, 2025

St. Elizabeth Training and Education Center (SETEC)

3861 Olympic Blvd. Erlanger KY, 41018

11:00 A.M. Registration & Networking

12:00 P.M. Luncheon & Awards Ceremony

Honoring NDA Alumnae for the contributions they have made to their families, communities and beyond.

2025 Women Making A Difference Honorees

2025 Sr. Reina Award Honorees



Marianne Cohen  
Fieger 1962



Sharon Stahl  
Harris 1975



Lauren Simendinger  
Wang 2002



Jerry and Susan Arnold  
Von Handorf 1966

## 2025 WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE NDA HONORS ALUMNAE

We are excited to announce our upcoming Twenty-fourth Annual Women Making A Difference Award Luncheon that will honor NDA alumnae and NDA community members for their contributions they have made to their families, communities and beyond. It's a day to reflect on the legacy and power of an all-girls education in shaping the leaders of tomorrow.

**Date:** Thursday, March 6, 2025

**Location:** St. Elizabeth Training and Education Center (SETEC) 3861 Olympic Blvd, Erlanger, KY 41018

**Time:** 11:00 a.m. Networking Hour and 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Luncheon and Award Ceremony

### How Can You Participate?

**Attend the Luncheon:** Join us for a heartwarming and inspiring afternoon, where we celebrate the extraordinary efforts of our alumnae and strengthen the bonds of our community.

**Become a Sponsor:** We offer a variety of sponsorship levels that provide excellent visibility for your business or organization while supporting a meaningful cause.

If you'd like to learn more about registering to attend or event sponsorship opportunities, please visit [www.ndapandas.org/alumnae/events](http://www.ndapandas.org/alumnae/events) or call (859) 292-7729.



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

- St. Tim's Mission Trip
- Hero Night

## Important dates

February 12	March for Life in Frankfort NDA vs. CCH Volleyball Game - at NDA 7:30 p.m.
February 13	Rosary in Chapel 7:45 a.m. Out of uniform for \$3 benefitting DCCH HALO League Alumnae Rosary in Chapel 12:47 p.m.
February 14	Happy Valentine's Day! Mass in Chapel 7:20 a.m.
February 15	NDA/CCH Band at Panda Basketball!
February 17	NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day
February 18	Sophomore Retreat
March 2	Junior Lent Retreat
March 6	Service Fair Women Making a Difference Luncheon at SETEC
March 7	End of 3rd Quarter Spring Sports Pep Rally
March 8	8th Grade Conferences
March 11	Super Day
March 14	NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day
March 22	8th Grade Conferences Orange and White - SUA
April 17 - 25	NO SCHOOL - Easter Break
May 22	Last Day of School
May 23	Graduation