



THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we begin the season of Lent, our Notre Dame Academy community gathered today for our Ash Wednesday Mass, marking a time of reflection, prayer, and renewal. This sacred season invites us to deepen our faith and embrace opportunities for growth in service to others, aligning with the mission that guides us each day.

Tomorrow, we have the privilege of celebrating Women Making a Difference Day, honoring three distinguished alumnae with our Women Making A Difference Award and one couple with the Sr. Reina Arlinghaus Award. These individuals have made a lasting impact through their leadership, service, and dedication to the values instilled at NDA. On Thursday, we will begin this celebration by sharing their inspiring stories with our students and hosting a Service Fair, providing meaningful opportunities for them to engage in acts of service—reinforcing our commitment to faith, community, and making a difference in the world.

Additionally, this past weekend, we held our Strategic Plan Workshop, where dedicated parents and community members came together to help shape the future of NDA. Thank you to all who participated—your insights, time, and talents are invaluable as we work to ensure the continued strength and success of our school.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our students and our mission. I look forward to all that lies ahead as we journey through this Lenten season together.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



CAMPUS MINISTRY



ALL ARE WELCOME

FATHER/DAUGHTER MASS

To kick off Father/Daughter weekend - Fathers or Father Figures are invited to attend the 7:20 a.m. mass on Friday, March 7 with their daughters in our Mary, Mother of the World chapel.



FINDING FAITH

JUNIOR LENTEN RETREAT

On Sunday, March 2 - 42 Juniors took part in a Lenten Retreat here at NDA. They explored and discussed ways in which they can prepare for the season of Lent which begins this week. We are grateful for Fr. Ed Brodnick who celebrated mass with us at the end of the retreat.



SENIOR MISSION RETREAT

REFLECTING ON THE PAST, EMBRACING THE FUTURE

On Tuesday, March 11, all seniors will take part in their Senior Mission Retreat - please keep them in your prayers as they look back on their 4 years and how they have embraced the Mission of NDA and reflect on ways in which they can carry that same mission forward in their lives after graduation.

*Sophomore
Class Ring
Ceremony*

A BLESSED TRADITION

SOPHOMORE RING CEREMONY

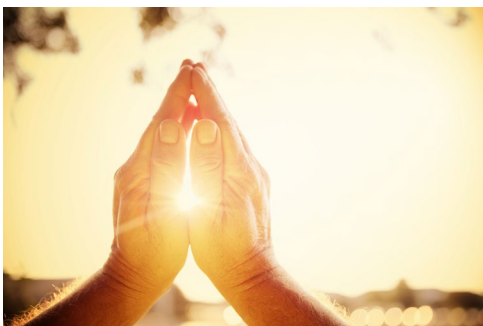
March 11 is also the Sophomore mass and Ring Ceremony at 12:00 noon in our chapel. Fr. Kunath will be present to bless their rings before they are presented to the students.

PRAYER AND REFLECTION

UPCOMING LITURGICAL OPPORTUNITIES

A decade of the rosary will be offered at 7:45 a.m. on:
March 10

Mass will be offered at 7:20 a.m. on:
March 7



Student Life



HONORING LIFE

NDA STUDENTS REPRESENT AT KENTUCKY MARCH FOR LIFE

Last week, a group of our students proudly represented NDA and the Diocese of Covington at the Kentucky March for Life. Our students played a meaningful role in the event, holding signs that symbolized the years and lives lost following the passage of Roe v. Wade.

The day concluded with a solemn and impactful visit to the Kentucky Memorial for the Unborn, where students reflected on the significance of the pro-life movement. Standing beside Rachel, a statue representing mothers who have lost children, our students demonstrated their deep commitment to the dignity of life.

We are incredibly proud of these young women for their courage and witness to the sanctity of life. Thank you for representing NDA with faith and conviction!

DISMISSAL CHANGES

MARCH 6 AND MARCH 11

March 6 is a very important day on our calendar, our celebration luncheon: Women Making a Difference. It is a day for us to honor past graduates who are exemplifying the mission of Notre Dame Academy. Our students will participate in a Service Fair after hearing about the honorees for this year's Women Making a Difference Luncheon. The fair will conclude at 10:50 a.m. and students will be dismissed at 11:00 a.m.

March 11 is also an important day at NDA. Students will be doing various things based on their grade level leading to varied dismissal times. Please refer to the list below regarding your child's grade level activities.

Freshmen

8:00 - 10:45 a.m. - Cert Assessment (College Equipped Readiness Tool: The Cert Assessment, which is aligned with the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards, was designed to measure students' proficiencies in English, Mathematics, Reading and Science.)

10:45 a.m. - Team Building Activity followed by lunch (regular lunch available from the cafeteria)

1:00 p.m. Dismissal

Sophomores

8:00 - 11:30 a.m. - Cert Assessment (College Equipped Readiness Tool: The Cert Assessment, which is aligned with the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards, was designed to measure students' proficiencies in English, Mathematics, Reading and Science.)

11:30 a.m. - lunch (regular lunch available from the cafeteria)

12:00 noon - Sophomore Ring Ceremony

1:00 p.m. Dismissal

Juniors

8:00 a.m. - 12:15 pm. - ACT

12:15 p.m. Dismissal unless the student has an accommodation for extended time

Seniors

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Senior Mission Retreat

2:00 p.m. Dismissal

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Important Dates!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR 2025-26 CALENDAR NEWS

The academic calendar for next year is being finalized and will be shared with the departments this week. The academic calendar for next year is being finalized and will be shared with the departments this week. The “No School” calendar is located in the blue table below. If you have specific questions, feel free to contact the office staff.

2025 - 2026 - Summer Dates / Back to School Dates

Week of July 28 -	iPad Orientation for Incoming Freshmen
August 4 (morning) -	Freshmen Bridge
August 5 (morning) -	Freshmen Bridge
August 6 (morning) -	Freshmen Bridge
August 7 (morning) -	Freshmen Bridge
August 7 (evening) -	Parent Information Night (all grade levels)
August 8 (9-12:00) -	Freshmen Orientation
August 12	First Day of School
January 5	School Resumes (after Christmas)
April 13	School Resumes (after Spring Break)
May 22	Last Day of School
May 22	Graduation

No School Dates 2025-2026

No School Dates 2025-2026

August 15	Feast of Assumption
September 1	Labor Day
October 9	PD Day - PD for Faculty
October 10	PD Day
November 26	PD Day
November 27	Thanksgiving Break
November 28	Thanksgiving Break
December 8	Immaculate Conception
December 22	Christmas Break
January 19	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
February 16	Presidents' Day
March 13	PD Day
April 2 - April 12	Easter Break

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.

Notre Dame basketball – They beat Holy Cross Thursday for the 35th District championship and moved on to the 9th Region semifinals on Sunday with a win over St. Henry.

Sophia Gibson – The senior had 17 points and eight rebounds as the Pandas won the 35th District tournament, then had 10 points, seven rebounds, a steal and a block in the first round of the Ninth Region tournament.

Thank you for helping to honor our athletes!

Sophomore Class Ring Ceremony

ATTENTION SOPHOMORES RING CEREMONY

On Tuesday, March 11, the Sophomore Class will be honored during a ring ceremony. The ceremony will take place during our school day. The students will be able to bring in a ring that has special significance or one that was ordered to be her class ring. These items will be blessed and passed out to them from Mr. VonHandorf. Herff Jones is our official class ring provider and they visited our students back in November regarding ordering class rings. This is not a requirement though; students can bring in any ring that they wish to be blessed. If students do not bring in an item, then they will receive a medal that will be blessed at the ceremony. This event will conclude their day on March 11 and they will be dismissed at 1:00 p.m.



TWO MORE HOST FAMILIES NEEDED WELCOME GERMAN EXCHANGE STUDENTS NEXT FALL!

NDA is looking for TWO more host families for our sister school in Germany (Liebfrauenschule Vechta) from October 11, 2025 to December 13, 2025. These students speak English very well and are screened thoroughly by their school. There is also a stipend available to help cover expenses. These students only expect to see average American student life and nothing extravagant. Please call or email Sammie Bezold at 859-292-1884/bezolds@ndapandas.org if you would be interested in more information about this exciting opportunity. Your reply is not a commitment.

ATTENTION JUNIORS!

INFORMATION FOR JUNIORS STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

On Monday, February 24 during homeroom time, students were informed of the various leadership roles which are available to them. Their first opportunity is the chance to hold an Executive Position on the Student Council. Juniors can complete an application to run for one of the five school officer positions: Co-President (2), Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Coordinator. Interested juniors will need to return their applications to Mrs. Kroger or Ms. Hilbert by Friday at 3. Applications can be picked up in the office or in rooms 208 or 303.



NDA BAMBOOTIQUE ST. PATRICK'S DAY SPECIAL

Get your St. Patty's Day t-shirt before it's too late! Shop online [here](#).

IMPORTANT DATES FOR SENIORS

GRADUATION INFORMATION

Attention Seniors and Senior Parents: Fourth quarter is just around the corner which means graduation is nearing! Mark your calendars for the following dates -

- May 5 - 16 - AP Exams (specific schedule to come soon)
- May 8 - Academic Signing @ 4:15 p.m. - Theatre
- May 7 OR 9 - Senior Pancakes - Theatre Lot (students only)
- May 14 - Senior Luncheon @ 12:00 p.m. - Alumnae Hall, Theater, Auditorium (students only)
- May 14 - Senior Sendoff @ 2:00 p.m. - Auditorium (students only)
- May 15 and May 16 - Senior Exams
- May 21 - Graduation practice at NDA @ 12:30 p.m.
- May 22 - Graduation practice at NKYCC @ 8:30 a.m.
- May 22 - Baccalaureate Mass at St. Agnes @ 7:00 p.m. (students and families)
- May 23 - Senior Breakfast at Receptions in Erlanger @ 8:30 a.m. (students and guardians)
- May 23 - Graduation at Northern Kentucky Convention Center @ 4:00 p.m. (ticket amount TBD)

A more detailed letter will be sent in the coming weeks, but we wanted to get these dates to you as soon as possible. You won't want to miss a thing! Seniors will gather during homeroom also in the coming weeks to learn a bit more about graduation.

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](#).

SERVING THE COMMUNITY

THE ANNUAL ORANGE AND WHITE GAME

As has been the tradition for six years, the students of St. Ursula and Notre Dame Academy are honored to participate in the Orange and White Flag Football Game on Sunday, April 27 at 4:00. This event will be held at St. Ursula this year. This has been a philanthropic partnership between the two schools to raise money for Childhood Cancer Research through Children's Hospital. The Bradley family is deeply connected to St. Ursula and they lost their daughter Natalie in 2009 to cancer. During the week prior to spring break, we will have Mrs. Bradley speak to the girls about the importance of this worthy cause. We will celebrate our students who are participating in the game and encourage the students to attend and show their school spirit for such an important cause. It is a fun event at NDA and all are encouraged to attend and show their support for childhood cancer research. The link for tickets, t-shirts, and the bundle, can be found [here](#). Orders are due by Wednesday, March 26.

Attention
Class of 2025!





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.

- * 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

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.

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.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE AEP STUDENTS EDUCATE AND INSPIRE AT ST. PIUS ELEMENTARY

On Friday 2/28, AEP teachers took three AEP students to talk to 5th graders at St. Pius Elementary school about their learning disabilities during "Everybody Counts" this week. Topics discussed were Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, Auditory Processing Disorders and ADHD. Students shared personal stories of their diagnoses, peer relationships and advocating for themselves in the classroom setting.

Their presentation was very well received and followed by several questions from the 5th graders.

Students were especially excited to hear about Sarah Bowman's scholarship to Miami University and acceptance into their nursing program which only offers 200 spots a year to all incoming Freshman.

Thank you to our students:
Sarah Bowman, Senior
Teagan Lanterman, Junior
Clare Zembrodt, Junior

PLEASE NOTE!



STEPPING INTO THE CLASSROOM

OUR DUAL CREDIT EDUCATION STUDENTS IN ACTION!

We are thrilled to share some of the activities our dual credit education (ED101) students have been participating in this semester. Our goal is to provide these young women with a comprehensive understanding of the educational landscape and foster their potential as women who make a difference in the classroom.

Teaching Through a Child's Eyes:

Recently our students led their classmates into a deep dive into various educational settings. To help them understand the nuances of teaching at different grade levels, each group chose a grade they were interested in and designed a lesson to share with their peers. This hands-on approach allowed them to experience the challenges and rewards of teaching first-hand.

As you can see in the accompanying photo, Julia Grace and Lacey Hostetler brought the world of early childhood education to life as they led their peers in a experience about learning through play and concrete materials like play-doh. It was a wonderful reminder of the importance of developmentally appropriate practices in early education.



Natalie Collins, Riley McCloskey, and Abby Litmer chose to focus on junior high education, explored the power of social media in teaching. They used "Day in the Life" videos from junior high teachers on TikTok, analyzing how teacher's day in this setting differs from others, and demonstrating the importance of including relevant materials in lessons for adolescents.



Beyond the Classroom: Real-World Observations:

To complement their theoretical learning, our ED101 students have also been actively observing in various public and private schools across our community. These observations provide an invaluable window into the diverse realities of education. Our students have had the opportunity to witness firsthand the different teaching styles, classroom management techniques, and student interactions across various settings.

These real-world experiences are crucial in bridging the gap between theory and practice. By observing experienced educators in action, our students are gaining a deeper understanding of the complexities and rewards of the teaching profession. They are learning to appreciate the unique challenges and opportunities that arise in different educational settings, preparing them to be thoughtful and adaptable educators in the future.

We are incredibly proud of the dedication and enthusiasm our students have shown throughout these activities. Their willingness to step outside their comfort zones and embrace new learning experiences, and think about how their faith will inform their classroom practice is a testament to their commitment to becoming women making a difference.

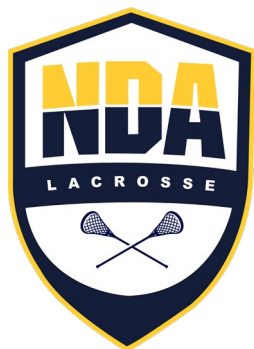


SUPPORTING THOSE IN NEED

STUDENTS RAISE AWARENESS FOR MENTAL HEALTH

Notre Dame Academy's Hope Squad is a peer to peer suicide prevention group that empowers students to recognize warning signs of emotional distress and to connect their peers to a trusted adult. Hope Squad has a week dedicated to breaking down the stigma surrounding mental health and promoting wellness. Recognizing that generosity and giving back is an important part of wellness, Hope Squad sponsored a dress down day to collect donations for the Diocesan Catholic Children's Home *Helping All the Little Ones* program, who work to support children from mentoring to hosting events. Here senior Hope Squad member Katie Ahern presents the donation with Hope Squad Advisor Erin Stanley to Denise Govan, the President and CEO. We look forward to our continued partnership!

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT



FROM THE DESK OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Archery -

We hosted our first ever 3D tournament which had nearly 250 archers from 18 different schools. We improved from our first 3D tournament and brought home a 3rd place high school team! While we were shut out of individual medals, we placed 4 in the top 10, 9 in the top 20 and had 1 PR. One more tournament this weekend before we start postseason!

Basketball -

On Sunday, our Pandas beat St. Henry in the first round of the Region 9 Championship! They will play Highlands tonight at 8:00 at Truist Arena at NKU. Come out and cheer for our PaNDA's!

Indoor Track and Field -

This week is the KHSAA State Track and Field Meet on Thursday March 6th! We have 21 students who had to qualify to get into this meet! We will be cheering for them!

Tennis -

The tennis season has started with the first match on 3/3 against Dixie heights.

Lacrosse -

Their season started their season on Tuesday with a match against Great Crossings! Our first home game is Thursday with a match against Lexington Catholic at 6:00PM.

Outdoor Track and Field -

Outdoor track and field is in full practice mode!

Post Volleyball Opening

Varsity Volleyball Head Coach

Notre Dame Academy is looking for a Varsity Volleyball Coach for the 2025-26 season. This position will oversee the program and report directly to the Athletic Director. Head Coaching experience at the high school level is desired. All coaches must go through KHSAA and Diocese onboarding and training once hired. Please send a letter of interest and resume to carlj@ndapandas.org. Notre Dame Academy is a Catholic all girls high school sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame.

SAVE THE DATE!



You are cordially invited to attend
**NOTRE DAME ACADEMY'S
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME
INDUCTION CEREMONY**

Thursday, March 20, 2025
6:00 p.m. - Cocktails and Heavy Hors d'oeuvres
7:00 p.m. - Program
Notre Dame Academy Alumnae Hall
\$25 per person

2025 Inductees:
Sophie Skinner 2018
Elly Ogle Billings 2014
Casey Jackson Young 2009
Sue Wehrman 1981
Karen Henderson - Golf Coach (In Memoriam)

2025 Team Honorees
2004 Soccer State Championship Team
1994 Volleyball State Championship Team

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT

Thursday, March 27th from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm, Notre Dame Academy is hosting a College Information Night for the next Panda Parent Club Meeting, available to all NDA and CCH parents. The event will include three different presentations with various topics such as career exploration, financing post secondary education, and college preparation. Jennie LaMothe and Lorraine O'Moore from Learning Grove will be presenting on how to support your student in exploring post secondary options and career planning. They will share the value of utilizing YouScience as a tool to support students and parents in the process. Dan Bisig from College and Beyond will be presenting on "College Affordability", the do's and don'ts of navigating the financial aid world, how to complete the FAFSA, and what it takes for students to earn merit-based scholarships. In collaboration with CCH, Jess Brown and Erin Stanley will be sharing school-specific information about the college application process, what to expect with timelines, deadlines, and how to create a balanced College List. Registration is not required and we hope to see you all there! Please reach out to Erin Stanley at stanleye@ndapandas.org with questions.



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.

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

NDA STUDENTS NAMED FINALISTS

Notre Dame Academy is proud to announce that three talented students have been named finalists for the Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts (GSA), advancing to the final selection round in their respective disciplines.

Congratulations to Addison Wuellner (Creative Writing), Ryan Scheiner (Musical Theater and Drama), and Melissa Geiman (Visual Arts) for their outstanding achievements! The GSA program is a highly competitive summer residency that nurtures Kentucky's most promising young artists, providing them with invaluable opportunities for growth and collaboration.

We are incredibly proud of these students for their dedication to their crafts and look forward to celebrating their continued success. Stay tuned for updates on their final selection!

COLLEGE
REP VISITS

CONGRATULATIONS!

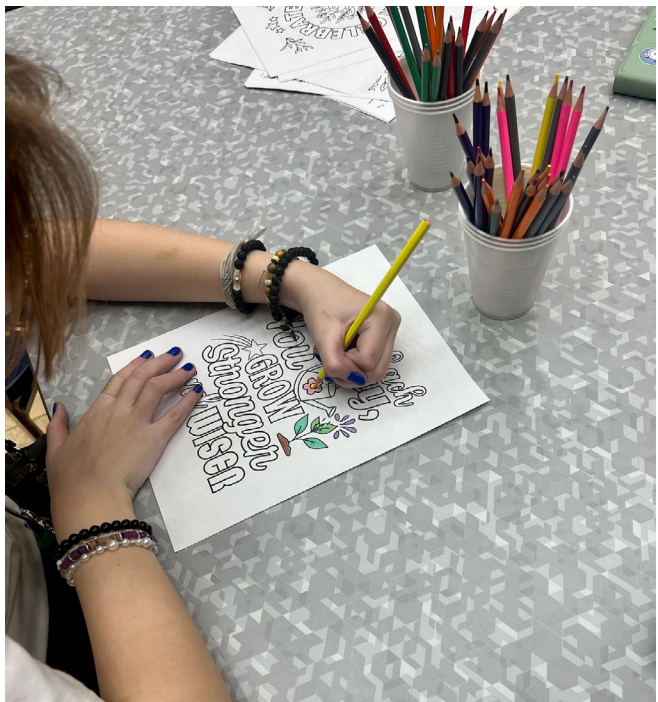


CONGRATULATIONS! DRUG FREE CLUB SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

Recently, Drug Free Club members were invited to be a part of a scholarship contest run by the larger Drug Free Clubs of America (DFCA). Each DFCA school is asked to submit their top essay to move on in the competition. While there were many strong essays submitted, we would like to congratulate Senior Molly Mast for her outstanding essay that will be moving on to compete for the top prize of a \$2,000 scholarship! Keep making good choices DFCA members!

TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF WORLD TEEN MENTAL WELLNESS DAY

On Tuesday, March 4 the students of Teen Leadership Club (TLC) implemented activities to help all students celebrate World Teen Mental Wellness Day. Prior to the day, the TLC students applied for a grant from bi3, Hopeful Empowered Youth (HEY!), Interact for Health, and the Joe Burrow Foundation to fund the activities. TLC collaborated with our HOPE Squad members to ensure mental wellness resources could be shared in a useful way. The day itself started with students being given a fidget toy with attached mental wellness resources. During PPT, students were offered a quiet meditation area, hot chocolate, and coloring as a way to de-stress and relax. TLC ended the day on a bright note passing out freezer pops! It was a great day to be reminded about the importance of taking care of our mental health.



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](#).

- Screen Addiction
- Just a Click Away Monitoring the Risks and Rewards of Gaming and Apps for Our Youth

Important dates

March 6	Service Fair
March 7	Women Making a Difference Luncheon at SETEC Mass in the Chapel at 7:20 a.m. All are welcome! End of 3rd Quarter Spring Sports Pep Rally
March 8	8th Grade Conferences Father/Daughter Dance - The Gardens
March 11	Super Day
March 14	NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day
March 17	Student Council School Officer Elections
March 18	Panda Preview Night
March 20	Athletic Hall of Fame
March 22	8th Grade Conferences
March 31	Student Council Grade Level Elections
April 4	Alumnae Dinner Theatre Diocesan Senior Mass
April 4-6	Matilda the Musical
April 7	Spring Sport Athletic Signing
April 11	Half Day - Prom
April 17 - 25	NO SCHOOL - Easter Break
April 27	Orange and White - SUA
April 28	Student Council Grade Representative Elections
May 15	Arts Fest 5:30 p.m.
May 22	Last Day of School
May 23	Graduation