



Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we come to the middle of our second week of this academic year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful beginning we've had. Our theme this year, *"Love God. Love Others. Change the World,"* continues to resonate deeply within our community, guiding us in our daily interactions and commitments.

Last Friday, our NDA community was blessed to gather for our first all-school Mass of the school year, celebrated by our Chaplain, Fr. Conor Kunath. It was a beautiful moment to come together in faith, setting the tone for the year ahead. In his homily, Fr. Conor reflected on the powerful Gospel reading where Jesus appears to His apostles in the Upper Room on Easter evening. The apostles, locked in the room out of fear, were amazed when Jesus appeared to them and said, "Peace be with you."

Fr. Conor reminded us that just as the apostles were unsure of what was to come but found peace in Jesus' presence, we too may face uncertainty as we begin this new school year. Yet, it is our faith that will guide us and give us the strength to move forward. The Upper Room, much like our school, is a holy space prepared to receive Jesus and all that He brings. Coming together as a faith community to celebrate the Eucharist is at the core of what makes an NDA education unique and meaningful. Let us carry the peace of Christ and the strength of our community with us throughout the year.

As we move through these first weeks, I am thrilled to see our students back in the swing of things. The energy and enthusiasm they bring to their studies and activities are truly inspiring. We are off to a great start, with so many positive things happening already at NDA. Whether it's in the classroom, on the field, or in service to others, our students are embracing the challenges and opportunities before them with grace and determination.

May the peace of Christ be with you and your families throughout this year.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



CAMPUS MINISTRY



JOIN US IN FAITH

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER AT NDA

At our opening school Mass, Fr. Kunath emphasized the importance of daily prayer in our lives. At NDA, we offer several opportunities for our community to come together in prayer:

- Mass will be celebrated in the chapel on most Tuesdays and Fridays at 7:20 a.m., and all are welcome to join us.
- A decade of the Rosary will be prayed at 7:45 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays in the chapel.
- Starting the week of August 26, Fr. Kunath will also be available for confessions during PPT on Tuesdays.

We encourage everyone to take advantage of these opportunities to deepen their spiritual journey throughout the school year.

JUNIOR Retreat

GATHER • CONNECT • REVIVE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DEADLINES

JUNIOR RETREAT REGISTRATION

Mrs. Price is meeting with the Juniors this week to explain signing up for one of the three Junior retreat Options. Their retreat sign up forms are due back to their religion teachers by Thursday, August 29. Please look over the retreat dates with your Junior and note any conflicts on the form. All Juniors must be able to attend one of these three options. It is very important that these forms are returned on time, especially if a student has conflicts with any of the dates. The retreat assignments will be sent out the week of September 3.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

FRESHMAN SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

MOBILE SERVE SETUP AND ORIENTATION

Mrs. Price met with all Freshmen Religion classes over this past week to walk them through using Mobile Serve to log service hours as well as to review the Freshmen Service Requirements for this year. All Freshmen should have their Mobile Serve Accounts set up by the end of the week.

Student Life

**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION
PLEASE READ**

SAFETY REMINDER

PLEASE OBEY TRAFFIC SIGNALS

NDA has recently been contacted by the Park Hills Police Department with concerns that some students and parents have been running the red light at dismissal. We want to remind everyone that we do our best to provide a safe and efficient exit from our parking lot. Our staggered dismissal procedure, coupled with the Park Hills Police Department's assistance in managing the traffic light at the Dixie Hwy/Hilton Drive intersection, allows us to exit the lot in a reasonable amount of time.

This time frame is very manageable, and there is no reason anyone should be running the red light when leaving our lot. The safety of our students, as well as the safety of our entire community, is our top priority. Please exercise patience and follow all traffic signals to ensure everyone's safety.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

PARENT MINI NIGHT

Please join us on Thursday, September 12 for Parent Mini-Night in the evening. It will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be a wonderful opportunity to walk your daughter's schedule and meet her teachers. Students will be provided with this schedule on the Tuesday prior and should make a copy and create their own schedule for you. We will follow a Monday class schedule. Parents will have the opportunity to learn of the policies and procedures for the class, content to be taught, etc. We look forward to seeing you.

PLEASE NOTE!

STUDENT COUNCIL KICKS OFF NEW SCHOOL YEAR

PANDA PAJAMA PARTY

The Student Council in collaboration with Mrs. Kroger and Ms. Hilbert celebrated the first week of school - pajama style. They hosted the fall mixer for NDA students and friends from other high schools. Students came in comfortable clothes, some in slippers and danced / sang and enjoyed being together. It was a great conclusion to an exciting first week of school. The students who attended enjoyed themselves and were also entertained by the singing abilities of some upper class women.

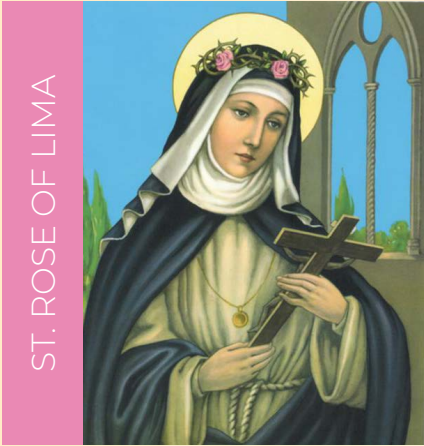




SPECIAL GUESTS FROM UGANDA

UGANDA PANDAS

On Tuesday afternoon, the UgaNDA PaNDA Club had the privilege of meeting with two Sisters of Notre Dame from Uganda. This meeting allowed them to discuss the collaborative efforts of our club with the students from Notre Dame Academy in Buseesa, Uganda. The students were able to gain a glimpse of what life is like for the students in Uganda and discuss ways that we can further collaborate and support this important mission of the Sisters of Notre Dame. The Co-Presidents of the UgaNDA PaNDAs (Jacie Hail, Lucie Kiely, and Lucy Kleman) hope to bring these plans to fruition with the club this school year. We are excited for further growth and improvement through this collaboration.



ST. JOAN OF ARC

FAMILY PATRON SAINT

CELEBRATE ST. ROSE OF LIMA

Friday, August 23 is the Feast Day of the Pink Family's patron saint, St. Rose of Lima. She is the patron saint of Latin America and the Philippines. She lived a life of simplicity and dedication to the poor and was known as a woman of integrity. To celebrate her life, legacy, and dedication to our faith, students in the Pink Family may wear pink shirts (appropriate for school) with their uniform bottoms. Some students have Pink Family shirts and of course, those would be perfect for such an occasion.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

CARPOOL INFORMATION

If your daughter plans on riding with an NDA student driver at the end of the day, please complete the carpool form found [HERE](#). Once the form is completed, your daughter will receive a new colored ID holder. She will need to show the blue or gold colored ID holder to her last period teacher each day in order to dismiss with an earlier grade.



NEW CHECKOUT SYSTEM REMINDER

WEEKLY LUNCH MENU

Be sure to check out this week's lunch menu [HERE](#) and see the delicious meals that are available! Students, don't forget to bring your lanyards with you—if you don't have it, you'll need to go to the end of the line due to the new checkout system. Make sure you're prepared to enjoy your lunch without delays and savor the tasty options we have lined up!

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

In the August 7 edition of the Panda Press Weekly, at Parent Information Night and through the handbook updates, we have communicated various changes to the uniform policy. The students were also informed of these changes last week during meetings with the administration. We hope that in these meetings we were able to explain the reason behind the uniform policy and the importance it plays in the tradition of Notre Dame Academy. At this point, we have given the students an opportunity to adhere to the expectations and uniform warnings will be distributed when students are not compliant with the dress code. One focus of this year and a change that should be noted by both students and parents is the length of the skirts. Our administration worked with a group of student leaders this summer to come to a reasonable determination with regard to the skirt length. We are asking students to cooperate by wearing their skirt at the mid-thigh.

The handbook states, "Students are expected to be in uniform throughout the school day and to wear the uniform skirt zipped and buttoned. The bottom of the skirt should not be higher than the mid-thigh and should be of an acceptable and tasteful length. *This is at the discretion of the female staff and administration." We ask that you discuss the meaning of an acceptable and tasteful length and work to help us ensure that students are in compliance.

During the administrative meetings, a valuable thought from a 1981 alum was shared with the students, *"I view the uniform as a tradition, culture, legacy and standard for NDA. When the uniform is worn in public, the expectation is that the girls are representing all of us, alumnae and students. It is not an individual representation. They are signing up to be a part of something much bigger than them. NDA has a very high standard inside the four walls and outside in the community. The girls should take ownership of their actions to meet this standard. Once they get into their working life, there will be standards that they have to meet. That lesson starts now."*

One of our Senior students mentioned that they are a part of the Sisterhood by the Gray Skirts. We want them to wear the gray skirt with pride, respect for the institution and of course with modesty. Thank you in advance for your help in this transition with our students.



PANDA-PERFECT Style Standards

For the Sisterhood of the Gray Skirts!



Lanyard: Must be worn at all times



Polo Shirt: White or light blue banded NDA polo shirt



Sweater/Sweatshirt: Navy blue NDA uniform-approved pullover sweater, cardigan, vest, crewneck sweatshirt or fleece



Skirt: Gray uniform skirt, zipped and buttoned, no higher than mid-thigh



Leggings: White, gray, black, or navy blue solid-colored, close fitting and tapered at the ankle



Shoes: Appropriate, closed-toe shoes with a back

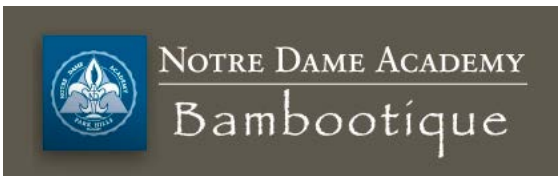


Positive Attitude



Accountability is your responsibility.
Lead by example.





PANDA SPIRIT WEAR! **BAMBOOTIQUE**

There are several deals of the week...10% off selected school items! Check them out here:

https://bambootique.ndapandas.org/products/school-crew-sweat-shirts?_pos=2&_psq=school&_ss=e&_v=1.0

https://bambootique.ndapandas.org/products/school-nda-crew-sweatshirt?_pos=4&_psq=school&_ss=e&_v=1.0

https://bambootique.ndapandas.org/products/school-v-neck-pull-over-sweater?_pos=7&_sid=5a66ad350&_ss=r

https://bambootique.ndapandas.org/products/school-cardigan-sweater?_pos=8&_sid=5a66ad350&_ss=r



SAY CHEESE **SCHOOL PICTURES**

School Pictures will be taken on Friday, September 6. Please scan the QR code to the left to pre order your daughter's school pictures.



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC **UPCOMING MISSION TRIP**

We are offering a mission trip through Catholic Mission Trips Inc. in June of 2025. We will take 12 students for a week (the dates are to be determined, but we will go between June 1-10) to Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos orphanage in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. We will be staying and working in the visitor center of the children's home and school run by religious sisters. This is a life changing opportunity full of making global connections, serving others, practicing Spanish, and truly living out our mission at NDA. If your daughter is interested, there is an informational meeting directly after Parent Mini-Night on September 12th in room 211. We look forward to seeing you there! (More information can be found here: <https://catholicmissiontrips.net/upcoming-trips/dominican-republic/>)





AEP ACADEMIC STRATEGIES GOAL SETTING SUCCESS

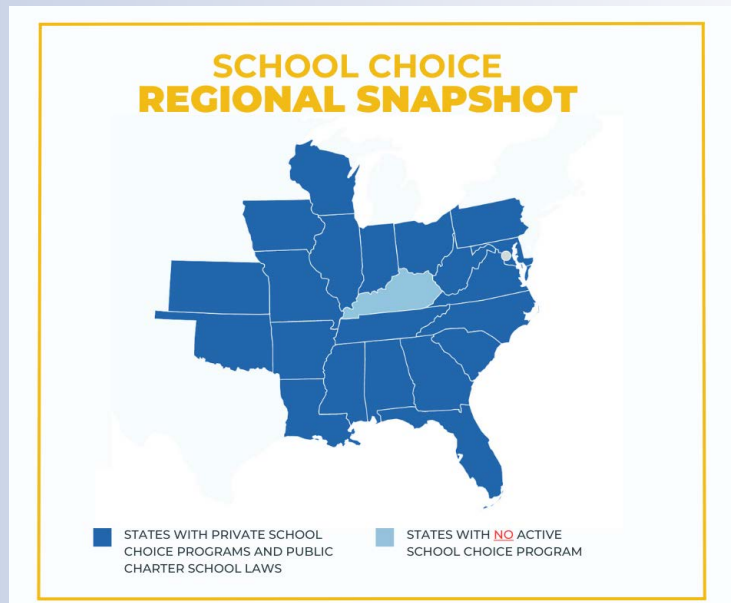
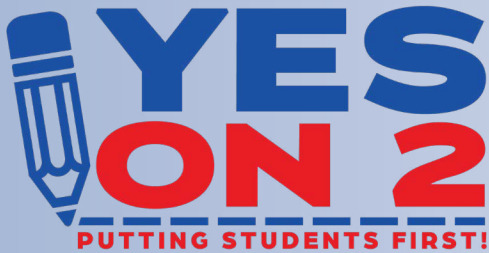
This week in AEP Academic Strategies, our students engaged in a goal-setting activity. They took time to reflect on their achievements and challenges from last school year and set new goals for the year ahead. We're excited to see them strive for success and personal growth!



IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR PARENTS YES ON 2 PUTS STUDENTS FIRST

Be a part of history! Kentucky residents will have the opportunity to vote YES for Amendment 2, which will give parents more say in their child's education. We need your help to get the word out! Consider joining our grassroots effort to pass Amendment 2. Visit <https://covdio.org/yesontwo/> to learn more and volunteer your time.

Learn more [HERE](#).



FINE ARTS NEWS



NO AUDITION REQUIRED JOIN NDA'S CHOIR

NDA's choir is open to all students, freshmen through seniors, and no audition is needed. If you would like to join or have questions, please email Mrs. Chandler chandlerk@ndapandas.org.

SIGN UP FOR CAST AND CREW SHAKESPEARE'S ROMEO & JULIET

Auditions:

Tuesday, August 20 - Thursday, August 22 after school
(time slot sign up)

Tech Sign Ups:

Fill out form by Aug 20

Show Description:

An age-old vendetta between two powerful families erupts into bloodshed. A group of masked Montagues risk further conflict by gatecrashing a Capulet party. A young lovesick Romeo Montague falls instantly in love with Juliet Capulet, who is due to marry her father's choice, the Count Paris. With the help of Juliet's nurse, the women arrange for the couple to marry the next day, but Romeo's attempt to halt a street fight leads to the death of Juliet's own cousin, Tybalt, for which Romeo is banished. In a desperate attempt to be reunited with Romeo, Juliet follows the Friar's plot and fakes her own death. After a series of misfortunes and woe, the pair of star-crossed lovers take their lives.



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT



ORDER YOUR T-SHIRT TODAY PLAYING FOR A PURPOSE

Show your support for a great cause by ordering your Playing for a Purpose t-shirt! These shirts are not only a way to stand in solidarity with our community but also a great way to spread awareness. Don't miss out—order your shirt today by clicking [HERE](#). The orders must be submitted by Thursday.



NOMINATION TIME ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Please submit any nominations for our 2025 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony [HERE](#) by October 31. We'll announce the inductees in mid-November 2024, and the Hall of Fame ceremony will take place in the first week of February. Stay tuned for more details!



**Join Notre Dame Academy
Bowling Camp**

Open to 6th, 7th and 8th graders from St. Joseph (Crescent Springs) St. Agnes, Blessed Sacrament, St. Pius X and Prince of Peace

August 27 – 29, 2024
3:30 – 5:30
Erlanger Strikes/Spares

No cost to attend

Contact Head Coach David Hampton
hamptond@ndapandas.org

NDA BOWLING IS LOOKING FOR YOU! NDA BOWLING CAMP

Looking for 6th-7th-8th graders from feeder schools who would be attending Notre Dame Academy. **No cost open bowling!**

Location: Erlanger Strike / Spares

Dates: August 27, 28, 29 (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) From 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Questions? Contact Head Coach: David Hampton hamptond@ndapandas.org



STAY IN THE GAME WATCH NDA ATHLETICS ON HUDL

Don't miss out on any of NDA's athletic action—catch all the excitement at NDA Athletics this school year on Hudl [HERE](#).

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



Student Grief Support Group

Facilitated by Fernside Center for Grieving Children

Groups meet during the school day, once a week for 5-6 weeks

A graphic for a Student Grief Support Group. It features a large, textured red heart on a light blue background. The text is arranged around and over the heart.

GRIEF SUPPORT

FERNSIDE ON-SITE SUPPORT GROUPS

Fernside Center for Grieving Children will be offering time-limited support groups during the school day, meeting once a week for 5-6 weeks, depending on what works best for the group. These sessions will cover various themes each week, including telling your story, feelings, changes, family and memories.

If your daughter is interested in participating, please sign up using the interest form linked [HERE](#).



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.



DRUG FREE CLUB - JOIN TODAY!

“MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE EASY”

The time is NOW to sign up for Drug Free Clubs of America (DFCA). Drug Free Club is the largest club at Notre Dame Academy, with over 400 members last year. It offers confidential drug testing, education, school and community rewards, positive reinforcement, student leadership opportunities, parent support, and a safety net when dealing with drug situations by saying, “I can’t, I might be tested.” Parents can obtain more information and complete online applications on the Drug Free Club website found [here](#). For more information about how Drug Free Club works at Notre Dame Academy, please reach out to school counselor Erin Maggard at maggarde@ndapandas.org.



Child Mind Institute

ATTENTION PARENTS

STRATEGIES FOR A SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL YEAR

One way students can be their most successful both inside and outside of the classroom is by getting enough sleep each night. Read [this article](#) to learn about strategies that might help your student(s) get a better night’s sleep.

ADVANCING THE MISSION



LIGHT THE NIGHT FOR NDA: A CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

We are excited to announce our upcoming fall fundraiser, *Light the Night for NDA*, which will be held at The Grand Ballroom in Covington, Kentucky, on Saturday, November 16, 2024. This cherished event brings together our current and past parents as well as alumnae and community members for an evening of drinks, music, dinner and merriment.

Join us for this fun celebration of our mission, and let's *Light the Night for NDA* together! For more information, contact [Myanna Webster](#).

JOIN US IN SUPPORTING LIGHT THE NIGHT GIFT GATHERING CONTRIBUTIONS

As we prepare for Light the Night for NDA on November 16, we invite you to join us in making this event a success by contributing a gift for our auctions. We would love to see you at your grade level Gift Gathering Party or you can drop off gifts at the front office or contribute by selecting something from our [Amazon Wishlist](#). Your generosity plays a crucial role in ensuring the success of our biggest fundraiser of the year, helping us continue to provide exceptional opportunities for our students. Thank you for your continued partnership in our mission and Catholic community.

Gift Gathering Parties:

Senior- August 21 at 6 p.m. - [RSVP](#)

Junior - September 18 - [RSVP](#)

Sophomore - TBD

Freshman - already held



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

- YES on 2

Important dates

August 23	Feast Day of St. Rose of Lima - Pink Family Wear Pink Shirts Mass in the Chapel 7:20 a.m.
September 2	NO SCHOOL - Labor Day
September 6	Picture Day
September 7	Playing for a Purpose Volleyball - Boone County H.S.
September 10	St. Joseph Crescent Springs Shadow Day
September 11	Mid-Quarter
September 12	Blessed Sacrament Shadow Day Alumnae Rosary 12:50 p.m. - All are welcome!
September 14	Junior Pilgrimage Retreat
September 18	Donor Scholarship Breakfast
September 24	St. Pius X Shadow Day
September 26	St. Agnes/Prince of Peace Shadow Day
September 27	Club Orientation
October 1	Foundation Day
October 11	NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day
November 1	NO SCHOOL - All Saints' Day
November 5	NO SCHOOL - Election Day
November 10	Open House
November 16	Light the Night for NDA
November 27	NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day
November 28-29	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break