

### **Dear Parents and Guardians,**

As we move through this beautiful fall season, we have much to reflect on and celebrate here at NDA. Last Friday, October 11, the faculty and staff participated in our annual Service Day, an incredible opportunity for our team to live out the NDA mission in the community. Led by our Campus Minister, Bridget Price, we gathered for a light breakfast and prayer before heading to various agencies around Northern Kentucky to lend a hand. Our faculty and staff usually demonstrate Christ's care and compassion in the classroom, but this day allowed them to extend that same care to our community. Whether sorting items, doing outdoor work or making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the Emergency Shelter of Northern Kentucky, the day was a testament to NDA's commitment to serving others.

Additionally, our freshmen had their retreat last Wednesday, focusing on encountering Christ in their daily lives. The day was filled with prayer, Lectio Divina, and thoughtful discussions led by Sr. Ruth Lubbers and Sr. Margaret Agnes. It was heartening to see the freshmen begin their spiritual journey with the guidance of our faculty and upperclasswomen. This retreat is just the beginning of their faith formation at NDA and we look forward to seeing them grow spiritually during their time at NDA.

This week, our seniors returned from a spirit-filled three-day retreat at the Jesuit Spiritual Center. The retreat offered a perfect mix of group discussions, quiet reflection and opportunities to explore their faith in deeper ways. Each retreat is designed to align with where the students are on their spiritual journey, and we are confident that this experience will leave a lasting impact on our seniors as they continue their final year at NDA.

As a reminder, *Romeo and Juliet* will be performed this weekend. The students have put in countless hours preparing for what promises to be an excellent production. I encourage you all to attend and support the hard work of our students in the Fine Arts program.

Additionally, I'd like to extend an invitation to our upcoming event: *Light the Night for NDA* on November 16 at The Grand in Covington. This is our largest fundraiser benefitting NDA. Your support of this important event helps enhance our students' experience and advances the mission of NDA.

Thank you for your continued trust in us as we work to educate your daughters. We are proud of all they accomplish each day, and we look forward to many more exciting moments this school year.

Have a wonderful week!

In Notre Dame,

Jack Van Ho

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



# **CAMPUS MINISTRY**



# FACULTY AND STAFF EMBRACE THE SPIRIT OF SERVICE AT NDA

On Friday, October 11, the faculty and staff of Notre Dame Academy stepped outside the classroom to live the school's mission of service and community involvement. Led by NDA's Campus Minister, Bridget Price, the Faculty/Staff Service Day began with participants gathered in Alumnae Hall for a light breakfast and prayer before setting out to various local agencies to make a difference in the Northern Kentucky area.

While our faculty and staff typically demonstrate Christ's care and compassion through their interactions with students in the classroom, this service day provided them with a unique opportunity to extend that same love and kindness to the broader community. Groups went out and served at: St. Vincent De Paul, BAWAC, Emergency Shelter of NKY, Madonna Manor, Easterseals Redwood, Notre Dame Urban Education Center, Go Pantry and the Timmerding House.

The day was a tangible reflection of NDA's commitment to educating young women to make a difference, with faculty and staff leading by example. The team partnered with agencies across the region, engaging in a variety of tasks—some involved outdoor work, while others included sorting clothing and other household items. One special project was making 70 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the Emergency Shelter of Northern Kentucky, showing how even small actions can have a big impact.

Faculty and staff returned to NDA just before noon for a brief debriefing session, wrapping up a morning filled with teamwork, reflection, and meaningful action. This annual event exemplifies how the school community lives out its mission beyond the classroom, serving others with purpose and care.

Service Day not only strengthens the bonds among faculty and staff but also serves as a reminder of the values at the heart of NDA's educational mission—faith, leadership, and service to others. Events like these ensure that the commitment to living the Gospel message remains deeply embedded in the school culture, inspiring students and staff alike to become agents of positive change in the world.





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# EMBRACING FAITH AND ENCOUNTERING CHRIST A DAY OF PRAYER, REFLECTION AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH AT NDA

Last Wednesday, the freshmen class came together for their class retreat. The day was filled with prayer, discussion and breaking open scripture. Students were challenged to see beyond the typical excuses such as "I am too Busy" "It's not really my thing" "I am not good enough - God wouldn't call me" so as to be more open to Encountering Christ in their daily lives. Students were led through Lectio Divina by Sr. Ruth Lubbers and Sr. Margaret Agnes as well as hearing from a panel of Seniors who shared "Things they wish they had known as freshmen in regards to their faith". We look forward to seeing the freshmen grow in their spiritual lives as part of their NDA education.

GIRLS GONE Holy

# AN EVENING OF FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP GIRLS GONE HOLY NIGHT

All NDA students are invited to attend our Girls Gone Holy evening of faith and fellowship on October 24 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. This is an evening of fellowship, discussion, and prayer. More information will be shared with the students in the coming week.



### FAITH FORMATION SENIORS RETURN FROM

# SPIRIT-FILLED RETREAT

This week, a group of NDA seniors participated in a transformative three-day retreat at the Jesuit Spiritual Center. They return today filled with the spirit and renewed energy after days of reflection, prayer, and fellowship.

Our Campus Minister, Bridget Price, does a fantastic job organizing these retreats each year, ensuring they offer the perfect balance of talks, group discussions and quiet reflection time. These retreats are designed to deepen each student's understanding of their role within the Body of Christ and provide opportunities to explore their faith within the context of their community and the wider world.

At NDA, every student participates in an annual retreat, with the format and focus evolving by grade level to offer a meaningful spiritual experience. We are excited to see how this retreat will shape the journey of our seniors in their final year at NDA!

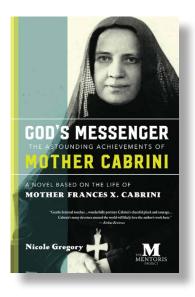
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### JOIN US PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

We will offer a decade of the rosary in our *Mary, Mother of the World* Chapel Thursday morning at 7:45 a.m. All are welcome!



# **Student Life**



#### A LOOK AHEAD

# COMMON READER AND FOOD TRUCK DAY

Two amazing NDA traditions will be combined once again this year. Tomorrow we will hold our annual Common Reader Day in conjunction with the Student Council planned Fall Food Truck Day. Students should be sure to finish reading *God's Messenger, The Astounding Achievements of Mother Cabrini.* The English classes have enjoyed incorporating this common reader into their fall instructional plans.

The cafeteria will be open tomorrow and will serve pizza for those not interested in purchasing from the food trucks.

PLEASE NOTE: We will dismiss at 1:45 p.m. tomorrow after our Common Reader Day experience.

Parent/ Teacher Conferences

> October 22

#### SAVE THE DATE and NOTE EARLY DISMISSAL

# OCTOBER 22 PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

We are pleased to announce that Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on October 22 from 4:00-8:00 p.m. via Zoom. This is a great opportunity to connect with your daughter's teachers and discuss her academic progress. Sign-up details are available through MyConferenceTime <u>HERE</u>. We look forward to meeting with you and working together to support your daughter's success.

Our students will be dismissed at 2:00 p.m. on October 22 so that our teachers can prepare for the conferences and be ready for their conferences to begin at 4:00 p.m.

VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

### TIME TO VOTE!!! LET'S HONOR OUR ATHLETES

Please be sure to vote for our many Athletes of the Week; we have four nominees, so we need your votes. You can vote <u>here</u>! Please be sure to vote from your phones and vote every hour.

- NDA soccer The Pandas improved to 13-3-4 after winning the 35th District title by beating Holmes 10-0 and Holy Cross 4-0.
- Maggie Durrett The freshman led the Pandas at the NKAC Division I meet, taking fifth place in 19:57.5.
- Riley Robertson The senior scored two goals in the Pandas win in the 35th District final.
- Lizzy Larkins The senior posted 40 assists, four digs, three aces and a kill in a sweep of Ryle.

# GET YOUR GAME FACE ON! ANNUAL MOTHER DAUGHTER EVENT

NDA's 2024 Mother Daughter Event is just around the corner and it's a night you won't want to miss! This year we are inviting you to "come on down" for a Mother / Daughter Game Off on Friday, November 22 from 7-11 p.m. right here at NDA. Tickets are only \$25 per person and will be on sale starting next week. Secure your spot by Friday, November 15. What's in store for this exciting evening?

- Delicious dinner
- Indulgent dessert and candy bar
- A chance to show your competitive side
- Memories captured at our photo booths
- A concluding game where the winner from each grade level will face off in a challenge similar to a popular game show
- A dance party
- Raffle baskets and prizes





# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED MOTHER/DAUGHTER DANCE!

Mark your calendars for November 22, our Mother / Daughter Event. We are considering something new this year rather than just a typical dance. Stay tuned for details! A great deal of help is needed to make this night a success. If you are willing to volunteer, please contact Lisa Timmerding at **timmerdingl@ndapandas.org**.





SPOOKY FUN

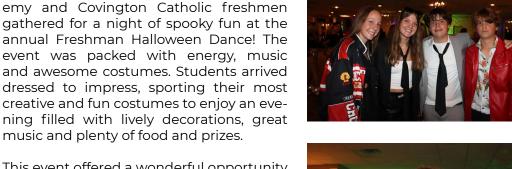
**FRESHMAN** 

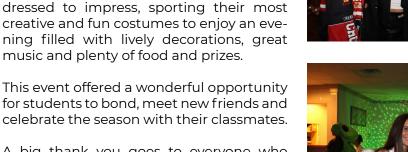






























This event offered a wonderful opportunity for students to bond, meet new friends and celebrate the season with their classmates.

HALLOWEEN DANCE

On Friday, October 11, Notre Dame Acad-

A big thank you goes to everyone who made the night such a success. The dance truly set the tone for the festive fall season, leaving students excited for more memorable events to come!



# 2026 FRANCE TRIP INFORMATIONAL MEETING LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR EXCITING 2026 TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY TO FRANCE

Interested in traveling to France in 2026? Join us for an informational meeting on Thursday, October 17 at 6:30 p.m. to learn more about this exciting opportunity for students! Don't miss the chance to explore the details of this unforgettable trip.



# TEACHING MEDIA LITERACY IN SCIENCE CLASSROOMS NDA EDUCATOR COAUTHORS ARTICLE IN NATIONAL BIOLOGY JOURNAL

Notre Dame Academy is proud to share that NDA's Assistant Principal for Academics and biology teacher Molly Proudfit recently coauthored an article published in The American Biology Teacher, the official journal of the National Association of Biology Teachers.

The article, titled *Managing Misinformation: An ABT-Based Teaching Guide*, provides a framework for teaching media literacy in science classrooms. It offers practical strategies for educators to help students navigate misinformation and aligns these approaches with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). This insightful work highlights the importance of evaluating information credibility, understanding scientific consensus and fostering critical thinking in today's media landscape.

We are thrilled to see the contributions of NDA faculty showcased in such an influential publication. This achievement not only reflects Ms. Proudfit's dedication to education but also underscores NDA's commitment to academic excellence and leadership in education. Congratulations to Ms. Proudfit on this well-deserved recognition!

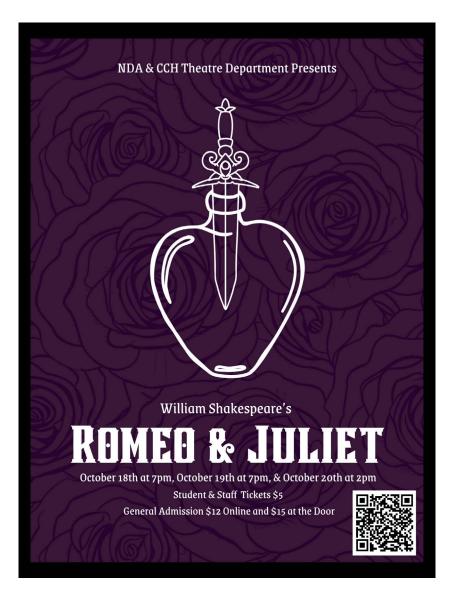
You can read the full article **HERE**.



# SAY CHEESE! PICTURE RETAKE DAY

Picture Retake Day is scheduled for this Friday, October 18.





#### NDA AND CCH PRESENT SHAKESPEARE'S ROMEO AND JULIET

An age-old vendetta between two powerful families erupts into bloodshed. A group of masked Montagues risk further conflict by gate crashing 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.

Friday, October 18 at 7 p.m. Saturday, October 19 at 7 p.m. Sunday, October 20 at 2 p.m.

BUY TICKETS HERE - \$5 student tickets



Notre Dame Academy Bambootíque

# PANDA SPIRIT WEAR! BAMBOOTIQUE

There are many new items in the Bambootique! Take a look and shop online **HERE**.



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION 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**.





If we can reach a total of **50 donors by October 27**, NDA will receive a \$500 grant! Every donation counts, whether it's at our school or any Hoxworth location. We are still eligible for this Hoxworth grant, so please spread the word and encourage others to donate. Let's work together to meet this goal and secure valuable funds for NDA.

Let's continue to make a positive impact and help save even more lives in our community!



# 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.



# ONLY IN OCTOBER SPECIAL STUDENT DISCOUNT

Exciting news! Reality Tuesday will be offering Notre Dame Academy students a 50% discount on drinks every Monday and Friday throughout the month of October. It's the perfect way to kick off and wrap up your week, so don't miss out on this great opportunity to grab your favorite drinks at half the price!



# SUPPORT SCHOOL CHOICE VOTE YES ON AMENDMENT 2 THIS NOVEMBER

Kentucky is one of only two states without a school choice program, leaving Kentucky lagging behind neighboring states in creating high-paying jobs. Kentucky is at risk of retaining our children and families, as greater opportunities become available for them in neighboring states. Visit <u>https://covdio.org/</u> <u>YesOnTwo</u>.

Who has school choice?

EVERY STATE SURROUNDING KENTUCKY, ALONG WITH FORTY-EIGHT OF FIFTY STATES, HAS MULTIPLE OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRAMS



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION PLEASE READ

# JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL PRESENTATION THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF PORNOGRAPHY ON YOUTH

The Diocese of Covington's Offices of Safe Environment and Catholic Schools invite all adults to a presentation by Dr. Mandy Sanchez, Director of Programming at Culture Reframed. Dr. Sanchez will address the crisis of pornography, its links to social media and gaming, and its harmful effects on children and families.

Date: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 Time: 6:00 PM (Doors open), 7:00 PM (Program begins) Location: St. Henry District High School, Drees Homes Auditorium Who: All adults (18+), pre-registration preferred: Registration Link

For more information, contact Julie Feinauer at jfeinauer@covdio.org.

# **ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT**







Purchase a \$25 NDA DIGITAL CARD Don't miss out on some great deals at local restaurants, boutiques, golf courses etc..

Please Scan the QR code below to purchase



# FROM THE DESK OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

#### Golf

Didi Jirdamkerng finished her golf career with another trip to the KH-SAA State Championship last week.

#### **Cross Country**

Cross Country won the NKAC Championship hosted by St. Henry last week with Maggie Durrett taking 5th place.

#### Soccer

Last week our soccer team won the District Championship with a 2 - 1 win over Holy Cross. This week they won their first match against St. Henry in the Region 9 Championships as they begin Postseason play. They are taking in REgion power house Conner this week and we hope to see them play on Saturday afternoon for the REgion Championship.

#### Volleyball

The team defeated Assumption at NDA in the St. Elizabeth Volleyball Game of the Month. They are celebrating their seniors against Conner tonight.

#### **Electronic Coupon Books**

Get your NDA Discount Card today! This is a digital card so you will always have it with you on your phone! You can purchase these cards using the QR code below. They are \$25 and feature more than \$400 of discounts! You will receive your receipt and link to download your discount card. You may also gift these cards to someone as they are good until 12/31/2025!



# ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Reminder that Hall of Fame Nominations end on Oct. 31st. We will be announcing the date of the 2025 NDA Hall OF Fame Night soon! Stay tuned!

Please submit any nominations for our 2025 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony HERE by October 31.

# **COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES**



### SIGN UP NOW! DRUG FREE CLUB

When Drug Free Club Members are asked to choose some of the most important reasons they like Drug Free Club, some of the top answers include:

1. It looks good on a college application

2. It makes parents/guardians proud

3. It shows what I stand for and allows me to be a role model.

Signing up to be a member will close at the end of October, so if your daughter still needs to join, use **this link here** to help her enroll.

# PLEASE NOTE!

# PARENTS - PLEASE READ REMINDER TO SENIOR AND SOPHOMORE PARENTS

Last Tuesday information was emailed to Sophomore and Senior parents regarding the KIP Survey. If you have filled out the permission form already, we thank you. If you haven't had the opportunity to do so yet, we encourage you to complete this soon. In order for your daughter to participate we need parent permission. The data gathered from the KIP survey has provided NDA with valuable information which has guided our provided programming to students and parents. To provide your permission, please fill out the short google form with your name and your daughter's name by Wednesday, October 23. Please view the **parent letter, fact sheet**, and Google **permission form** at these links.



### EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES APPLICATIONS FOR GSP, GSA AND GSE ARE NOW OPEN!

Students have received multiple communications about these programs, the applications and their deadlines. Please see each program's official website for details, tips and applications. All Juniors applying for GSP need to email Mrs. Slone at **slonem@ndapandas.org**.

<u>Please visit this link for a quick reference chart describing each program</u> and who is eligible to apply.





PARENTS/CAREGIVERS: Do you have a high school student or young adult trying to figure out their career and college options? Have you heard about YouScience, but aren't really sure what it is, and what it can offer? Students/young adults have the power to uncover their aptitudes and match with over 500 possible best-fit career pathways through YouScience. This is a powerful tool that can help students determine their future career goals by taking out the guess work.

Did you know that many school districts in NKY are already offering this incredible tool to students?! Join us for a FREE virtual info session to find out what YouScience is and how it can help your student/young adult.





# STAY INFORMED WITH THE PPC **YOU SCIENCE PARENT INFO SESSION**

When: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 6-7:30 p.m.

Our NDA students have accounts and have completed the You Science career and college online program. For information about how to help use this information with your student and to register for a session, please scan the code on the graphic to the left.

### 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.

# JOIN THE NDA PANDA PARENT CLUB **TO SUPPORT AND CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY** The Notre Dame Academy Panda Parent Club (PPC) is an opportunity for par-

STAY INFORMED WITH THE PPC

ents, organized by the Student Services Department, to learn more about topics and information to support families in navigating pressures and concerns our students face daily. It is designed to help enhance communication between parents and the Student Services Department and to occasionally coordinate volunteering opportunities and community events to provide support for the school's educational goals. Meetings will be bi-monthly and information regarding presenters and topics can be found here.

#### **Upcoming meetings:**

#### November 21, 2024 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall -

Debbie Zegarra from Ethan's Purpose will be presenting on suicide prevention and parents will be trained in QPR (think CPR but for mental health emergencies). See the flyer to the left.

\* PLEASE NOTE: These meetings are for parents only. Students will get this information via Drug Free Club and other education initiatives through DFC throughout the year.

We want to hear more from you about topics you, as a parent, would be interested in learning more about. Please complete the brief survey **HERE** to help us better support you!



# **ADVANCING THE MISSION**



# JOIN US LIGHT THE NIGHT: NDA'S LARGEST FUNDRAISER ON NOVEMBER 16TH

You're invited to join us for Light the Night for NDA on November 16 at The Grand in Covington, our largest fundraising benefitting Notre Dame Academy. You can support the evening by attending, bidding on auction items, sponsoring the event, or purchasing from our Amazon Wish List. Every contribution helps enhance our students' experience and advances the mission of NDA.

Purchase tickets **HERE**!

Did you miss your grade level Gift Gathering Party?

Shop our

amazon Wishlist



# sharing our Community News

You can find a complete list of community news. **HERE**.

- St. Tim's Mission Trip
- YES on 2
- Hero Night

# Important dates

October 14-16	Senior Retreat
October 17	Rosary in Chapel 7:45 a.m.
	Common Reader Day - DISMISSAL 1:45 p.m.
	France Trip Meeting 6:30 p.m.
October 18	Picture Re-Take Day
	St. Gemma Galgani Family Mass in Chapel
October 18-20	Romeo and Juliet
October 22	Parent/Teacher Conferences via Zoom
	NDA Information Night for Potential students
October 23	Alumnae Coffee Shop
October 25	Graduate Services - Senior Meeting
October 29	Senior College/Career Visit OR ACT
November 1	NO SCHOOL - All Saints' Day
November 5	NO SCHOOL - Election Day
November 8	Remembrance Mass
	Showcase Auditions
November 10	Open House
November 15	Mid-Quarter
November 16	Light the Night for NDA at The Grand in Covington
November 18-20	Senior Retreat #2
November 27	NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day
November 28-29	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break