



## Notre Dame Academy

Pre K-3 to 8

312 First St. Palisades Park, NJ 07650

Tel: (201) 947-5262

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Mark Valvano, Ed.S., Principal

October 22, 2020

Notre Dame Families:

I hope all are doing well and staying safe. It has been a few weeks since my last update letter and that is primarily due to the amazing support and compliance I've seen from our whole Notre Dame community. The way everyone has come together has allowed myself and the staff to focus on continuing to provide the best academic services possible and less on protocol minutiae. We don't do these things because they are easy, we do them because they are working. There are a few items I would like to update our families on including the following:

### Home School Association Updates

- **Uniform Sale:** We will be hosting another uniform sale this Saturday October 24th from 12 -2 pm in the parking lot. This is a great way to pick up some lightly used uniform pieces as we transition into our winter uniforms next week.
- **Mythos Greek Taverna:** On next Friday, October 30th, we will be partnering with Mythos Greek Taverna for our annual Halloween Takeout Fundraiser. When you dine in, order takeout or delivery from Mythos Greek Taverna and mention Notre Dame Academy, 20% of all proceeds go right back to our scholars. See attached flyer for more details.
- **Notre Dame Basket Bonanza:** As the pandemic has made us have to reevaluate our fundraising efforts, we have started using our Facebook Group "Notre Dame Basket Bonanza" to periodically raffle off great prizes with all proceeds going back to our school. The process is simple. All you have to do is join the group, we will alert you when we are raffling off great prizes, and cross your fingers that are the big winner! We want to especially thank many of our new families who joined us from St. Joseph's Academy in Bogota who have generously donated lots of prizes for upcoming raffles.

### Operational Items

- **Progress Reports:** All progress reports for grades 1-8 will be going out via email after school tomorrow. Please be sure to read through them and communicate any questions or concerns with the relevant teacher.
- **Parent-Teacher Conferences:** This year our parent-teacher conferences will take place via Zoom on Thursday December 3rd from 1 - 7 pm. Your child's homeroom teacher will share a sign up sheet and provide details in the coming weeks.
- **Dress Down Days:** Thank you to all those in the Gold Cohort who dressed down and donated to support NJHS Breast Cancer Awareness. There will be a bag at each entrance for your child to place their donations. The Blue Cohort has their dress down day next Tuesday October 27th. We are also doing a free black and orange dress down day on October 30th in honor of Halloween. Please remember no costumes this year.
- **Halloween:** A reminder that there are no class parties this year and please do not bring any items for your child to give out on Halloween.
- **November Calendar:** The school calendar for November is attached here. The calendar can also always be found on the school website.
- **Half-Day Dismissals:** As we have a number of half days in November, please familiarize yourself with our half-day dismissal procedures attached here.



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- **Food Drive:** This year more than ever people in our community are food deprived, therefore we will be answering our call to service by holding our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. Dates to drop off donations are on the calendar and fully remote families are welcome to participate with more details coming in the next week.
  - **Holiday Travel:** As the holidays approach and your family is considering any travel arrangements, please keep in mind that any travel outside of the state may result in a mandatory 14 day quarantine period for your child upon their return home. We ask that you please maintain open communication with the administration and teachers so that we continue to provide the safest possible environment for all our children.

Thank you all for helping to make this most unique year a successful one so far!  
In The Peace of Christ,  
Mr. Valvano