



The Director of Academic's Newsletter

August 12th, 2008

It is not long now before our students will be making their way to the Notre Dame campus. The Athol Murray College of Notre Dame staff would like to welcome all new and returning students to the College. The College staff has been working very hard to ensure our students enjoy a wonderful start to the school year.

New students will register on Monday, August 25th, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. There will be a Welcome to Notre Dame Luncheon served from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. for all new students, parents and family members in our dining facility, Varsity Hall. The Notre Dame Leadership Team will officially welcome all new students and family members at approximately 1:00 p.m. in Varsity Hall.

Returning students will register on Tuesday, August 26th, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. The registration process will also take place in Kenney Hall.

The registration process will involve students making their way through a number of stations set-up in Kenney Hall. Some of the stations include:

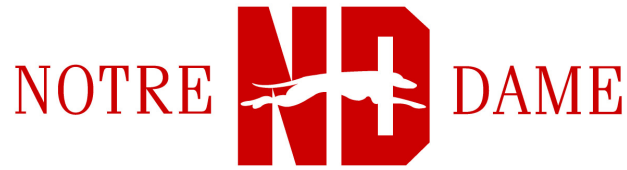
- Finance Department
- Health Care
- picking up the student timetable for 2008-2009
- picking up or ordering items from the Hound Shop (gym uniforms, art kits, wind suits, book bags, student planners, etc.). Some items will be mandatory depending on your athletic and academic programs.

As well, we will have a number of information booths focusing on a variety of College programs:

- the off-ice athletic programs information booth
- the hockey information booth
- the student activities booth (clubs, student government, etc.)
- the Spiritual Life information booth
- the information technology booth

The Notre Dame Fall Off-Ice Sports Offered for 2008

- Bantam Football (grade 9 & 10)
- Senior Football
- Boys Soccer
- Girls Soccer
- Cross-Country Running
- Male & Female Golf
- Junior Girls' Volleyball
- Senior Girls' Volleyball



This year students will be required to have the Notre Dame student planner in each class and in their Shack periods. The cost of the student planner is 5 dollars and may be purchased on the day of registration in Kenney Hall. Parents may access the contents of the planner and our academic policies on the Notre Dame web page under the programs menu.

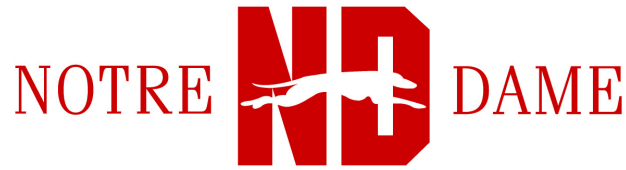
Academic classes will begin on Wednesday August 27th. As students attend their classes they may decide they would like to change a course for academic reasons. Students may begin making appointments for course changes Tuesday September 2nd with our Guidance Department.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: The Grade 12 Camping Trip

Date: Sunday August 31st to Monday September 1st
Location: Camp Monahan

This year our grade 12 students will be attending a two day camping trip to Camp Monahan. Camp Monahan provides cabins and a full service kitchen for our students to use. Many of our teachers will be supervising the students as they take part in a variety of fun games, leadership activities, and planning for the 2008-2009 student activities. Students will need to bring the following items on the camping trip and should have these items on campus when they arrive:

- Sleeping bag
- Flashlight
- Change of clothes
- Warm Clothing
- Bathing suit
- Bug spray
- Sun Screen
- Hat
- Running shoes



Important information regarding students missing school

If students are going to be absent from class for appointments, personal leaves, etc., arranged by the parent, we ask that the parent notify the House Parent and the High School Office by email or phone. Parents may also want to notify any coaches that may be affected by the absence.

The High School Office phone number for attendance is 306-732-2080 ext. 151. You may leave a message 24 hours a day. Or email us at: t.gilchrist@notredame.ca.

It is very important for students and parents to understand the Early Leave Policy at Notre Dame, which applies to the academic day. The policy may be found on our website under the programs button and in the student planner. Students will request a leave of absence from the Director of Academics prior to the date of departure. Students are allowed one personal day leave each semester which will be granted by the Director. Further days of absence may not be granted and would result in a mark of zero on any missed assessments. For each leave of absence, students will pick up a Leave Form from the High School Office. The student's teachers will sign the form and highlight the work that will be missed.

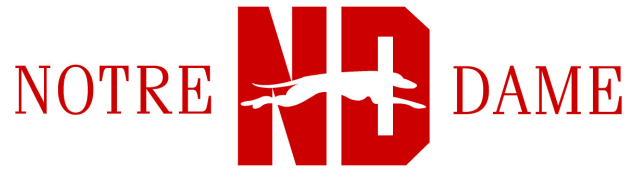
One of the most tempting times for students to leave early is prior to our designated school breaks. However, we have exams and testing prior to each school break. To help parents booking flights or bus travel prior to the school breaks, please refer to the listed school breaks below.

Booking Travel Prior to School Breaks

Listed below are the dates that students should adhere to when booking their travel for school breaks to avoid an academic penalty for missed tests, exams, etc.

Thanksgiving Break:	Flights not to be booked prior to October 9 th
Christmas Break:	Flights not to be booked prior to December 19 th .
Spring Break:	Flights not to be booked prior to April 8 th
June Exams Grade 9 to 11	Flights not to be booked prior to 2 pm June 10 th . There is an exam on June 10 th (9am to 11am)

Grade 12 Graduation is June 13th and attendance is required.



Spiritual Life at Notre Dame

Rob Krueger is our Dean of Spiritual Life at Notre Dame. The Spiritual Life program offers sacramental preparation for Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation during the school year. If you choose to have your son or daughter prepare for the sacraments at Notre Dame, you can sign-up at the Spiritual Development information booth during the registration days. If you have any questions regarding the Spiritual Life program at Notre Dame, please contact Rob Krueger by email or phone at extension 134.

Communication with teachers

We encourage you to communicate with your child's teachers throughout the school year. Our teachers' email addresses can be found on the Notre Dame website www.notredame.ca.

At the end of September, you will begin receiving monthly emails from your child's teachers outlining the course highlights for that month. Please feel free to call the High School Office if you have any questions regarding the academic program at Notre Dame.

Local Parent Meeting (for parents of Local & Day students)

We will hold a meeting September 4th at 7 pm in Varsity for all local parents to ask questions about Notre Dame College programs.

In Conclusion:

You will likely have many questions regarding life at Notre Dame during the registration process and over the next few weeks. Please contact our staff with your questions so we can assist you. Please feel free to pass along your feedback with respect of our academic programs, off-ice sport programs, and the spiritual life programming at Notre Dame to Hugh Lambert the Director of Academics throughout the school year.

Sincerely,

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