

THE LATEST IN THE CLASSROOM

Meet the Newest Members of the Notre Dame Staff

We are pleased to welcome three new staff members to the ND family. Click on their pictures to find out more.



Fr. Robert Balan
Chaplain



Charles Rockett
Learning Academy Director
& History Faculty



Kristen McAfee
Dance Instructor

Notre Dame had a special visit on Tuesday, September 22nd from best-selling author, **Mitch Albom**. He met via Zoom with our community to talk about this year's One Book, One Read summer book, ***Finding Chika***, which he authored in 2019. Mr. Albom discussed his book and relationship with Chika, whom he and his wife brought to the US from Haiti for medical treatment. He also took a variety of questions from the students and faculty. We are grateful to the **Schneiderman Family** (Xavier '21) for arranging this opportunity for us.



AP Environmental Science students discovered that our school campus contains many microhabitats which provide homes to a surprising number of organisms. In addition to the wide variety of plants, students observed and collected organisms such as insects, worms, spiders, fungi, and the sounds of several birds. Abiotic factors such as air temperature, relative humidity, light conditions, soil texture and temperature, were also recorded in their data tables. Back in the classroom, each team shared their findings with the class noting that the microhabitats, although all on ND's campus, had many differences.



Led by our new dance instructor, Kristen McAfee, our students participating in **Dance class** had an opportunity to enjoy the spectacular weather we have been experiencing and practiced their choreography outside.

Students in Foundation Art Studio classes had to randomly choose a quote without looking. They were then asked to create a unique visual that related/supported that quote. The original quote had to also be incorporated into the design. Enjoy just a few of the amazing solutions! (Art from left to right from: **Molly Bannon '23, Lily Conga '23 and Victoria Ceneri '23**)

