



SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | Feb. 11, 2022

6th GRADE UPDATES

Social studies: This week we discussed the beliefs and the early history of Judaism. Next week we discuss how Early Jewish empires flourished.

- Thursday, February 17 – In-class essay over the early history and beliefs of Judaism

Science: We completed a lab at the beginning of the week modeling the Greenhouse Effect, using a light bulb to represent the sun. We are also learning about the ways that heat can be transferred, conduction, convection, and radiation, and how it moves through the atmosphere, causing weather conditions, such as wind. We will be finishing this chapter at the beginning of next week and then begin reviewing for the Chapter 8 test.

- Thursday, February 17 – Chapter 8 Test

ELA: Grammar–This week we reviewed verb phrases, fragments, and run-on sentences and learned the different types of sentences. *The Giver*–We read through Chapter Eleven. Also, we completed an analysis activity for Chapters 9-11.

- Tuesday, February 15 – *The Giver* Chapters 9-11 Quiz

Math 6S: This week students learned about solving percent problems and converting measures.

- Wednesday, February 16 – Chapter 5 Quiz 2(5.5 - 5.7)
- Wednesday, February 23 – Chapter 5 Vocabulary Quiz

Math 6B: This week students learned about writing and solving equations. Next week they will take a quiz and then learn about writing and solving inequalities.

- Monday, February 14 – Chapter 7 Quiz 1 (7.1 - 7.4)
- Thursday, February 24 – Chapter 7 Quiz 2(7.5 - 7.7)

Theology: This week we have continued to explore the book of Exodus. We have discussed the parting of the Red Sea and are talking about the journey that the Israelites took through the wilderness. We will be studying the 10 Commandments next week.

JOIN US AT FRIDAY MASS!

We are welcoming parents back to Mass, in limited numbers. If you are interested in attending Mass, please use this [Friday Mass Sign Up Genius](#) and sit in the choir pews, near the piano.



7th GRADE UPDATES

Social Studies: This week we looked at how Spanish conquistadors defeated two American Indian empires, and how the British impacted New England. Next week we will look at the Middle and Southern colonies.

- Thursday, February 17 – In-class essay comparing and contrasting the formation of the colonies.

Science: We have been focusing on the types of energy this week. On Tuesday, we did a lab where the class explored kinetic and potential energy by dropping and measuring the bounce of tennis, golf, and ping-pong balls. We will finish up our introduction to energy early next week and then review for our chapter test.

- Thursday, February 17 – Chapter 7 Test

ELA: This week, we finished *Dragonwings* and worked on context clues and analysis skills in the remaining chapters. We ended our week with a fun service project to celebrate finishing the novel. Students read to Mrs. Tietema's second grade class and completed a reflection of how service promotes our Christ-centered education.

Math 7: This week students learned about quadrilateral and scale drawings. Next week they will take a quiz and then review Chapter 7 for the test at the end of the week.

- Monday, February 14 – Chapter 7 Quiz 2 (7.4 - 7.5)
- Wednesday, February 16 – Chapter 7 Vocabulary Quiz
- Thursday, February 17 – Chapter 7 Test

Theology: This week we discussed the Sacrament of Baptism. The students were encouraged to find out when and where they were baptized.

- Wednesday, February 16 – Quiz



TIME FOR A UNIFORM CHECK!

We are more than half way through the year! Time to step back and take a look at our growing students, we see hair getting longer, skirts getting shorter, and a few non-uniform items out there in the middle school hallway. Now is the perfect time to schedule a haircut for your son, let out the hems of skirts that are getting short and pay a visit to the uniform store to get some new uniform pants and shirts.

8th GRADE UPDATES

Social Studies: This week we discussed the Wilmot Proviso, the Missouri Compromise and started to talk about the impact of Uncle Tom's Cabin. Next week we will continue to talk about *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. We will also study Bleeding Kansas.

- Friday, February 18 – In-class essay on the causes of division between North and South

Science: This week we have been discussing plants. We have been focusing on the parts of a plant, including roots, leaves, stems, flowers, and seeds. The class spent some time breaking apart and looking at the plant embryo found inside of lima beans. Next week we will focus more on the parts of a flower by dissecting flowers in class.

ELA: Grammar—we worked on identifying different types of sentences and reviewed basic comma usage, transitions in writing, and sentence types. *To Kill a Mockingbird*—Students reviewed how to use sensory detail and figurative language in writing. They worked on rough drafts of their descriptive essays for characterization in TKAM. We also started filling out a during reading character graphic organizer to help us understand the main characters and their roles in the novel.

- Monday, February 15 – Rough Draft of Descriptive Essay Due (TKAM Writing Assignment 1)

Math 8G1: This week students reviewed for the Chapter 7 Test. Next week they will begin a chapter on volumes of 3-dimensional figures.

- Thursday, February 17 – Chapter 8 Quiz 1 (8.1 - 8.2)

Math 8G2: This week students learned about exponential growth and decay and solving exponential equations. Next week they will learn about geometric sequences and recursively defined sequences.

- Thursday, February 17 – Chapter 6 Quiz 2 (6.5 - 6.7)

Theology: This week we went to Adoration on Tuesday and the students wrote a paper on their patron Saint.

OPTIONAL PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES!

Optional conferences are on Tuesday, Feb 15th and Friday, Feb 18th. If we feel like we have something to discuss regarding your child, we will contact you to set up a time. If you feel that you have concerns you would like to discuss, please set up a time on the [Middle School Sign Up](#).

