



# SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | March 11, 2022

## 6th GRADE UPDATES



**Social studies:** This week we talked about early civilization of the Indus river valley. We also discussed the caste system and its impact on India. Next week we will look at how Hinduism grew out of the Vedas and how Hinduism supported people and society in Ancient India. We will also look at the impact of Hinduism on India.

**Science:** We have continued learning about weather this week. We learned more about clouds and made models of different cloud types using cotton balls. We have also learned more about the water cycle and air masses. We will continue with air masses next week and then work on a project where the students research different types of severe weather.

**ELA:** Grammar—This week, we continued studying pronouns, focusing on object and possessive pronouns. We also reviewed sentence boundary errors, subjects in unusual order, and types of sentences. Next week, we will continue working on pronouns. *The Giver*—This week, we read through Chapter 20 and focused on our analysis skills with concepts in the novel. Next week, we will be finishing *The Giver*. Just a reminder for students to keep up with their reading/writing notebook as the quarter progresses. (At the end of this week, students should have five weeks worth of journaling in their notebooks.)

- Tuesday, March 22 – *The Giver* Unit Test

**Math 6S:** This week students learned about comparing and ordering fractions and decimals on the number line and absolute value. Next week they will learn about pi on Pi Day and the rest of the week we will focus on the coordinate plane.

**Math 6B:** This week students learned about surface area and volume of 3-dimensional figures. Next week they will learn about pi on Pi Day and the rest of the week they will take a quiz and review for the Chapter 8 Test.

- Wednesday, March 16 – Chapter 8 Quiz 2 (8.3 - 8.4)
- Friday, March 18 – Chapter 8 Vocabulary Quiz
- Friday, March 18 – Chapter 8 Notebook Check
- Monday, March 21 – Chapter 8 Test



**Theology:** This week we completed our 10 Commandments book. The class had some great discussions about the applications of these commandments to their own lives, and we talked about ways that each of the commandments can be followed. Next week we will return to studying Moses and the Israelites in the desert.

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 studied the influences of early colonial governments. We also began to examine the causes and effects of the French and Indian War. Next week we will discuss and delve into the French and Indian War further and look at how tensions developed between the British and the Colonies. For the month of March each Wednesday we are pairing up with Mrs. Casey's 1st grade class to be their reading buddies.

**Science:** We finished learning new material on heat transfer and thermal properties. We also used what we know about heat transfer, conductors, and insulators to build thermoses to keep water hot. After finishing the project, we will be reviewing next week for our Chapter 8 test.

- Wednesday, March 16 – Upcoming Test:

**ELA:** Grammar–This week, we focused on action and linking verbs. We also reviewed previous concepts for a quiz on Tuesday next week. Poetry unit–This week we focused on learning the elements of narrative poetry with “Casey at the Bat.” Students loved this poem. We worked on analysis of narrative poetry as well. Next week, we will be finishing our poetry unit and reviewing for a final test. Just a reminder for students to keep up with their reading/writing notebook as the quarter progresses. (At the end of this week, students should have five weeks worth of journaling in their notebooks)

- Tuesday, March 15 – Grammar Quiz One (Subjects and Predicates, Verb Phrases, Kinds of Sentences, Action and Linking Verbs)
- Thursday, March 17 – Poetry Unit Test

**Math 7:** This week students reviewed the concepts of Chapter 8 and took the test. Next week they will learn about pi on Pi Day and the rest of the week they will learn about the surface area of prisms, pyramids, and cylinders

- Monday, March 21 – Chapter 9 Quiz 1 (9.1 - 9.3)

**Theology:** We discussed more aspects of Lent this week and continued to talk about the Sacraments of Confirmation where we receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Eucharist. Specifically, we discussed God's love as a free gift that we do not need to earn.

- Wednesday, March 16 – Quiz on Unit 3 lessons 4-8. The students will have a study guide.

## 8th GRADE UPDATES

**Social Studies:** This week we talked about the bombing at Ft. Sumter and how it was the beginning of the Civil War. We also examined the advantages of the North and South and the different battle strategies for each side. Next week we will look at the early phases of the war and how the Southern forces dominated the early phases of the war.

**Science:** Over the past week, the 8th-grade class has spent time being introduced to many of the major body systems. We have focused on how all of the systems were together to help our bodies to function and stay healthy. We have gotten into specifics on how particular body systems work together to carry out body processes. Next week we will be learning specifically about bones and muscles, as well as the ways that our bodies regulate changes.

**ELA:** Grammar—This week, we continued working with object pronouns. Next week, we will begin looking at possessive pronouns and pronoun agreement. *To Kill a Mockingbird*—This week, we read through chapter 19, focusing on analyzing characters and credibility of witnesses in the Tom Robinson trial. Just a reminder for students to keep up with their reading/writing notebook as the quarter progresses. (At the end of this week, students should have five weeks worth of journaling in their notebooks.)

- Tuesday, March 15 – Grammar Quiz

**Math 8G1:** This week students learned about scatter plots and lines of fit. Next week they will learn about pi on Pi Day and the rest of the week they will learn about two-way tables and data displays.

- Friday, March 18 – Chapter 9 Quiz 2 (9.3 - 9.4)

**Math 8G2:** This week students learned about special products of polynomials, solving polynomial equations, and factoring. Next week they will learn about pi on Pi Day and the rest of the week they will learn more about factoring polynomials.

- Monday, March 21 – Chapter 7 Quiz 2 (7.5 - 7.8)
- Wednesday, March 23 – Chapter 7 Vocabulary Quiz
- Thursday, March 24 – Chapter 7 Test

**Theology:** This week we talked about the Theological and Cardinal Virtues. We also talked about the impact that monasteries had on the new Christians. We will continue to look at the impact of monasteries next week.

- Wednesday March 16 – Open book and open note test



## ALL-SCHOOL ICE SKATING PARTY – SATURDAY, MARCH 12

Saturday, March 12 – Party in your Parka, 6pm, Southside Ice Arena (566 100<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Byron Center, MI 49315). This is a free school-family event – all skates are free. Please complete this [Skating Party Waiver](#). We recommend helmets (especially for beginners) and they should all bring their own (bike or ski helmets work great). Concessions will be open for purchases. Thank you, Mike and Meredith Slobodnik, for sponsoring this event!



## MUSTARD SEED MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR CONCERT



SUNDAY MARCH 27TH  
AT 6PM  
SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE  
CHURCH PROPER

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PLEASE HAVE CHOIR STUDENTS AT CHURCH  
AT 5:30PM IN SCHOOL UNIFORMS. EMAIL  
[KATHYPROULX@STTHOMASGR.ORG](mailto:kathyroulx@stthomasgr.org) IF YOUR  
STUDENT CANNOT ATTEND OR IF YOU HAVE  
ANY QUESTIONS.

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Saint Thomas the Apostle  
Catholic Parish and School