

SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | March 25, 2022



IMPORTANT MIDDLE SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Parents of future 7th and 8th grade band and choir students!

Saint Thomas is exploring having our 7th and 8th grade students join the Catholic Central Middle School Band or Choir next year. Catholic Central teaches 7th and 8th grade students from the Diocesan grade schools on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday morning from 7:30-8:30am. Parents would drop their 7th or 8th grade child at Catholic Central at 7:30am, and the school will provide bus transportation back to Saint Thomas. [Please fill out this survey](#). If you have questions, we will be having a parent meeting about this after Spring Break. ***Please note: Originally this meeting was scheduled for March 31, but we are re-scheduling for after Spring Break.**

Middle School choir concert THIS SUNDAY!

If your Middle School student is in choir, be sure to mark your calendar for the upcoming concert on Sunday, March 27. If your son or daughter is unable to attend, please let Mrs. Kathy Proulx know.

MS Award Ceremony on April 1

Please join us for the MS Award Ceremony at 2:45pm on Friday, April 1. Students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade will receive awards based on their GPA, Service, and Leadership.

Parents back at 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.

8th grade Spanish note (8th graders only)

¡Hola! We will be having a "comida latina" lunch next Thursday (3/31) for **ALL 8th grade students**. This is a tradition for my 8th grade classes after finishing a unit on latino foods. Most Spanish students have volunteered to purchase/ prepare and bring a dish/ item to class for sharing with everyone (28 students). I'm attaching a spreadsheet here so that parents and students know what to bring for that day. Please bring any meat/beans in a crockpot so that they can stay warm in the Spanish classroom until lunchtime. Also, please make sure that 8th grade students do NOT order a school lunch that day. If you have any questions, please email me (rebeckakeane@dogrschools.org). Mil gracias, Sra. Keane

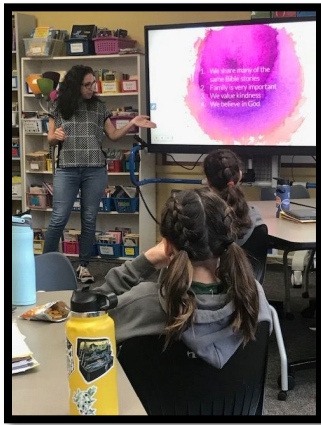


6th GRADE UPDATES

Social Studies: This week we continued to learn about the ideas of Buddhism and how they spread throughout India. We did an activity about the Eightfold Path and how it is the cornerstone of Buddhism. Next week we will talk about the growth of the Maurya Empire.

Science: The class finished up and turned in their Severe Storm presentations. Then we have been studying how meteorologists make and share their weather predictions based on the data that they have collected. Then we started to review for our Chapter 9 test next week. We will finish reviewing on Monday for the test on Tuesday.

- Tuesday, March 29 – Upcoming Chapter 9 Test



ELA: This week, we finished our *Giver* unit and took an end of unit test. We also started talking about World War II and the Holocaust in preparation for our new novel, *Devil's Arithmetic*. On Thursday, we had the pleasure of having Professor Lutwick-Deaner from Grand Rapids Community College as a guest speaker to help us understand the Jewish faith and important Jewish holidays, connecting this information to the novel we will be starting next week.

Math 6S: This week students reviewed for the Chapter 6 test. The test is next week. Next week students will learn about writing one-variable equations.

- Monday, March 28 – Chapter 6 Test

Math 6B: This week students learned about statistical measures such as mean and measures of center. Next week they will continue with measures of variation and mean absolute deviation.

- Tuesday, March 29 – Chapter 9 Quiz 1 (9.1 - 9.3)

Theology: We finished up our new material on the Book of Exodus this week. We finished watching another movie version of the story. Then we worked on a timeline, reviewing the events of Moses's life and story. We will continue to review Moses and the 10 Commandments for our test on Wednesday, March 30.

- Wednesday, March 30 – Upcoming Test: 3/30

7th GRADE UPDATES

Social Studies: The students are working in groups and are going to create movie trailers that will describe the French and Indian War. They are working on these during class. Next week we start to talk about the conflicts between the colonists and the British. Each Wednesday during the month of March, we are pairing up with Mrs. Casey's 1st grade class to be their reading buddies. Go GREEN MACHINE!!!

Science: We have been discussing the properties of waves this week, such as frequency, amplitude, and wavelength. We used Slinkies to demonstrate the different types of waves and see some of those wave properties in action. We will be finishing that chapter next week.

ELA: This week, we finished our poetry unit and took an end of unit test. Also, we began discussing the Holocaust and WWII in preparation for our book studies with *Night* and *The Book Thief* starting next week.

Math 7: This week students learned about volumes of prisms and pyramids. Next week they will review for the Chapter 9 Test

- Monday, March 28- Chapter 9 Quiz 2 (9.4 - 9.5 Extension)
- Wednesday, March 30 - Chapter 9 Vocabulary Quiz
- Wednesday, March 30 - Chapter 9 Notebook Check
- Thursday, March 31 - Chapter 9 Test

Theology: This week we took a unit test to end the quarter. It has been a joy to be here at Saint Thomas for this short time. Thank you for the opportunity to teach your children. You will be in my prayers.



8th GRADE UPDATES

Social Studies: This week we talked about the everyday lives of soldiers during the Civil War. We discussed the supplies they needed, the food they ate and how they survived in camp. We also started to look at the Battle of Antietam, and the tactics used there. Next week we will talk about how Antietam led to the Emancipation Proclamation and also how momentum changed in favor of the North.

Science: We spent most of this week learning about the skeletal and muscular systems and how they work together. We finished up the week with dissecting chicken wings and exploring the way the bones, ligaments, and muscles work together. We will be working on the integumentary system next week.

- April 14 – Chapter 9 Test: 4/14

ELA: This week, we analyzed the persuasive strategies used in Atticus Finch's closing statement in the Tom Robinson trial and drew conclusions about the effectiveness of those strategies. We also finished discussing intensive and reflexive pronouns.

Math 8G1: This week students reviewed for the Chapter 9 test. Next week they will work on some special activities to solidify their understanding of recent concepts.

Math 8G2: This week students reviewed for the Chapter 7 test, to be taken next week. Next week they will learn about graphing quadratic functions.

- Wednesday, March 30 - Chapter 7 Test

Theology: This week we talked about the Great Schism and the Crusades. We looked at the impact that the Crusades had on Europe. Next week we will continue to look at how the Church expanded into educating people. We will also look at the life of St. Francis next week.

- Thursday, March 31 – Open Book Test

