



# SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | March 4, 2022

## SWEET ISSUE

Parents, we are having an issue with candy/gum in the Middle School. We are asking parents not to send candy/gum to school and to reinforce to your middle schooler that candy and gum are not allowed in class or church. We thank you for your cooperation.



## 6th GRADE UPDATES

**Social studies:** This week we looked at early Egyptian achievements and the accomplishments of Kush. Next week we will begin to learn about how life developed in the Indus River Valley. We will also talk about some of the achievements of the Indus River valley civilizations.

**Science:** During class this week, we have spent time focusing on clouds and cloud types. Next week, we will continue with our chapter on weather and learn about types of precipitation, air masses, and weather fronts.

**ELA:** Grammar—This week, we began studying pronouns, focusing on subject and object pronouns. Next week, we will focus on reviewing object pronouns and introducing possessive pronouns. *The Giver*—This week, we finished peer-editing and conferencing on our persuasive paragraph 2. We also read through Chapter 16 and worked on comparing the values of the community to the tenets of our Catholic faith, analyzing conflict in the novel, and forming opinions about our reading with evidence to support our opinions.

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 4 weeks' worth of journaling in their notebooks.)

- Thursday, March 10 – Grammar Quiz (Subjects in Unusual Order, Kinds of Sentences, Fragments and Run-Ons)

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.



**Math 6S:** This week students learned about comparing and ordering integers and fractions and decimals on the number line. Next week they will learn about absolute value.

- Wednesday, March 9 – Chapter 6 Quiz 1 (6.1 - 6.3)

**Math 6B:** This week students took a test for Chapter 7. Next week they will learn about surface area and volume of 3-dimensional figures.

- Wednesday, March 9 – Chapter 8 Quiz 1 (8.1 - 8.2)

**Theology:** Over the course of this week, we have spent more time focusing on the specific commandments. We also spent time learning about the history and traditions of both Mardi Gras and Ash Wednesday. Next week, we will finish our 10 Commandments booklet project, and then we will return to studying the book of Exodus.

## 7th GRADE UPDATES

**Social Studies:** This week we will look at early colonial society and early colonial government. For the month of March on Wednesdays we are doing reading buddies with Mrs. Casey's 1st grade class. It was really great to see the 7th graders' enthusiasm for reading with them. Next we will discuss and delve into the French and Indian War.

**Science:** The 7th grade class began their exploration of thermal energy and the three methods of heat transfer this week. We have finished learning the methods of transfer and will explore the uses of these methods in roasting marshmallows next week. After that, we will move into thermal properties, such as conductors, insulators, and specific heat. The students will then have the opportunity to build and test "thermos" designs to minimize heat loss.

**ELA:** Grammar—This week, we focused on identifying different types of sentences. Next week, we will focus on action and linking verbs. Poetry unit—students created their own sonnets, peer-edited their sonnets, and revised their sonnets. They were responsible for not only appropriate content of a sonnet, but also rhyme scheme and meter as well. Next week, we will be transitioning into narrative poetry with "Casey at the Bat" (an all-time favorite!!).

- Monday, March 7 – Final draft of sonnets due.
- Tuesday, March 15 – Grammar Quiz One (Subjects and Predicates, Verb Phrases, Kinds of Sentences, Action and Linking Verbs)

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 4 weeks' worth of journaling in their notebooks)

**Math 7:** This week students learned about the area of circles and the area of composite figures. Next week they will work on reviewing the concepts from Chapter 8.

- Monday, March 7 – Chapter 8 Quiz 2 (8.3 - 8.4)
- Wednesday, March 9 – Chapter 8 Vocabulary Quiz
- Thursday, March 10 – Chapter 8 Test

**Theology:** We talked about Lent and prepared for Ash Wednesday and Confession. The students have a quiz they can correct to improve their overall quiz grade.

- Monday 3/7 – Quiz corrections due
- Monday 3/7 – Missing assignments due

## 8th GRADE UPDATES

**Social Studies:** This week we looked at the impact of the Dred Scott decision on the country and how it hastened the tensions between North and South. We also read about and discussed the importance of the election of 1860, and how the victory for Lincoln led to war. Next week we will talk about the bombing at Ft. Sumter and start to look at the different war strategies for the North and South.

**Science:** We spent time this week reviewing for our Chapter 7 test on plants. We completed and reviewed our study guide and played some review games using the Blooket program. The test took place on Thursday. Next, we will be moving into learning about the human body and the ways that the systems work together.

**ELA: Grammar:** This week, we worked on subject pronouns and object pronouns. Next week, we will review object pronouns and begin looking at possessive pronouns. *To Kill a Mockingbird*—This week, we read through chapter 14, focusing on making connections between themes in the novel to the tenets of our Catholic faith, forming opinions about injustices of the time period, understanding how historical context of the novel affects the plot and characters, and supporting our opinions of themes with textual evidence and personal examples.

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 4 weeks' worth of journaling in their notebooks.)

- Monday, March 7 – Quiz on Chapters 14-16 (Vocabulary, Plot, Analysis)
- Thursday, March 10 – Grammar Quiz (Kinds of Sentences, Subjects in Unusual Order, Sentence Boundary Errors)

**Math 8G1:** This week students reviewed Chapter 8. Next week they will take the test and start a chapter about data displays.

- Monday, March 7 – Chapter 8 Test
- Friday, March 11 – Chapter 9 Quiz 1 (9.1 - 9.2)

**Math 8G2:** This week students took the Chapter 6 Test and started a chapter about polynomials. Next week students will learn about special products of polynomials, solving polynomial equations, and factoring.

- Thursday, March 10 – Chapter 7 Quiz 1 (7.1 - 7.4)

**Theology:** This week we talked about how the Church was a rock for many Christians during turbulent times. Next week we will discuss the formation of monasteries and the theological and cardinal virtues.

- Thursday March 10 – Open book and open note test



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 IF YOUR  
STUDENT CANNOT ATTEND OR IF YOU HAVE  
ANY QUESTIONS.

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Saint Thomas the Apostle  
Catholic Parish and School