



# SAINT THOMAS

## the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | Aug. 26, 2022

### 6th GRADE UPDATES

**Social Studies:** It has been really fun getting to know the 6th graders this week. We have done a great deal of procedural activities. Next week we will start learning about how geography affects the different regions of the world.

**Science:** It has been wonderful getting to meet and know all of the new 6th graders! We have spent the week going over expectations, learning about lab safety, and focusing on classroom procedures. I can't wait to get to move onto material next week, as we start to learn about plate tectonics.

**ELA:** It has been such a pleasure to meet your sons/daughters!!! They are amazing individuals and have adjusted to middle school life very quickly. This week, we focused on the syllabus, getting to know each other, and a growth mindset. We emphasized the importance of embracing challenges as opportunities and creating a positive classroom environment. Next week, Canvas will be published (there were some glitches up until the end of the day Wednesday) and we will be setting up our reading/writing notebooks. We will also begin pre-reading activities for *The Cay*, our first novel of the year! There is no homework for the first week of school!

- Aug. 29 – Start of the first week of reading/ writing notebook

**Math 6G1:** This week students set up their math binders. They have a place to keep track of warm-ups, documents for notes, study guides, returned quizzes and tests. I plan to give out login information to our online text (Big Ideas Math) next week. We spent the week getting to know each other and working through various math puzzles and logic games.

**Math 6G2:** This week students set up their math binders. They have a place to keep track of warm-ups, documents for notes, study guides, returned quizzes and tests. I plan to give out login information to our online text (Big Ideas Math) next week. We spent the week getting to know each other and working through various math puzzles and logic games.

**Theology:** This week we have been learning about classroom expectations and procedures, as well as worked on developing our class Social Contract to help guide our classroom behavior. We also began to go over our weekly virtues and handed out copies of the virtue definitions and Bible passages that the middle schoolers are expected to memorize. We have gone over the process and talked about ideas to help prepare for the quizzes.

- Sept. 1 – Upcoming Quiz on Affability

## 7th GRADE UPDATES

**Social Studies:** This week we went over procedures and what to expect in history class this year. We discussed the syllabus and what the year is going to look like. Next week we will begin to discuss and examine the Ancient Greeks. We look at how they started off as individual city-states.

**Science:** We have spent the week going over expectations, learning about lab safety, and focusing on classroom procedures. I can't wait to get to move onto material next week, as we start to learn about what matter is.

**ELA:** I have missed everyone so much over the summer, and I welcome newcomers with full force :) It has been a great first week with everyone! This week, we focused on the syllabus, understanding a growth mindset, and setting up our binders and reading/writing notebooks. We emphasized the importance of embracing challenges as opportunities and creating a positive classroom environment. There is no homework for the first week of school! Next week, Canvas will be published (there were some glitches up until the end of the day Wednesday).

- Aug. 29 – Start of the first week of reading/ writing notebook

**Math 7G1:** This week students set up their math binders. They have a place to keep track of warm-ups, documents for notes, study guides, returned quizzes and tests. I plan to give out login information to our online text (Big Ideas Math) next week. We spent the week working through various math puzzles and logic games.

**Math 7G2:** This week students set up their math binders. They have a place to keep track of warm-ups, documents for notes, study guides, returned quizzes and tests. I plan to give out login information to our online text (Big Ideas Math) next week. We spent the week working through various math puzzles and logic games.

**Theology:** This week we talked about the virtues for the year. We talked about how we are doing virtue quizzes every other Thursday. I will have the virtues linked on my canvas page. We also began to work on a social contract for the class. Next week we will start looking at divine intervention and how it relates to the New Testament.

## Middle School Orientation Night

Middle school parents, please join us September 6 from 6-7:30pm for information about classes, award ceremonies, athletics, 8th grade retreat, new developments, and to meet our teachers and support staff.

## 8th GRADE UPDATES

**Social Studies:** It is hard to believe that my old homeroom students are now 8th graders. They are ready to lead the school. This week we talked about expectations and the topics we would cover this year. Next week we will talk about the Constitution Convention and the challenges that the young country faced.

**Science:** We have spent the week going over expectations, learning about lab safety, and focusing on classroom procedures. I can't wait to get to move onto material next week, as we start to learn about the characteristics of life.

**ELA:** I have missed everyone so much over the summer! It has been a great first week with everyone! This week, we focused on the syllabus, understanding a growth mindset, and setting up our binders and reading/writing notebooks. We emphasized the importance of embracing challenges as opportunities and creating a positive classroom environment. There is no homework for the first week of school! Next week, Canvas will be published (there were some glitches up until the end of the day Wednesday).

- Aug. 29 – Start of the first week of reading/ writing notebook

**Math:** This week students set up their math binders. They have a place to keep track of warm-ups, documents for notes, study guides, returned quizzes and tests. I plan to give out login information to our online text (Big Ideas Math) next week. We spent the week working through various math puzzles and logic games.

**Theology:** This week we have been learning about the virtue of affability. Students have a quiz every other Thursday where they will define the virtue, write the scripture passage that goes with the virtue, and tell about how they can show the virtue in action. We have also been working together on a social contract for our class. Next week we will have All School Mass on Monday instead of our normal Friday mass day. Please remind your son/daughter to wear mass uniforms on Monday. They will also be working on class affirmations to prepare for the upcoming retreat.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat

The 8th grade students have begun preparing for their upcoming Leadership and Unity Retreat at Camp Blodgett on Sept. 14-15. Look for an email with forms, packing lists, and more information soon.