



# SAINT THOMAS

## the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | Oct. 14, 2022

### 6th GRADE UPDATES

**ELA 6G1:** *The Cay*—This week, we looked at how to read an informational text and answer questions based on the content. We used an article on Malaria, a disease mentioned in *The Cay*. In addition, we read through Chapter 12 of *The Cay* and made comparisons between characters, cultural connections with the historical context of the novel, and identified different types of conflict within the novel, emphasizing person vs. person, person vs. self, and person vs. nature. Grammar—We finished talking about nouns and their jobs and started to review the study guide for their nouns test next week.

- October 19—nouns test.
- 6G1 Create a Map Project Due October 26.
- 6G2 Create a Map Project Due October 24—I had the wrong date last week and decided to not have it due on Friday but on Monday :).
- Reading/writing notebook due October 24. Students should have 7 weeks worth of work done.
- Binder checks and grade October 26. Students should have a neat and organized binder with all of the handouts and assignments in the appropriate places. This will be a grade for the first quarter.

**Social Studies:** This week we learned about the different economies of the world. We had a quiz today on different types of governments and economies. Next week we will begin to explore Ancient Mesopotamia.

**Science:** The sixth graders got the opportunity to discuss earthquake safety and design earthquake resistant buildings out of marshmallows and toothpicks and then test them on the shake table. We then finished up our chapter on earthquakes this week and spent a few days reviewing for our test that we took on Friday. Next week, we will be starting a chapter on weathering, erosion, and deposition.

**Theology:** We have been continuing to focus on the story of Adam and Eve this week. The class has been enjoying taking the Bible story and turn it into a comic strip. Next week, we will be moving to the story of Cain and Abel, and we will begin to discuss the virtue of honesty.

- Virtue Quiz on Honesty: October 27



### MIDDLE SCHOOL SIGN UP PARTY – STILL TIME TO SIGN UP!

Parents who would still like to purchase tickets for the Middle School sign-up party on February 4 may do so by sending \$25 cash or check to Betsy Edgerton in the office along with the student name(s).

It is going to be a great time!

**Math 6G1:** This week students learned about multiplying fractions. They also spent time reviewing the concepts of common factors and simplifying fractions. Next week they will learn about dividing fractions and mixed numbers.

**Math 6G2:** This week students learned about adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals. Next week they will wrap up Chapter 2 with the last quiz, a vocabulary quiz and the test.

- Monday, October 17 - Chapter 2 Quiz 2 (2.4 - 2.6)
- Wednesday, October 19 - Chapter 2 Vocabulary Quiz
- Thursday, October 20 - Chapter 2 Test

## 7th GRADE UPDATES

**ELA:** Grammar—We discussed the differences between independent and dependent clauses and began talking about the use of the colon in writing. Poetry—We reviewed for the Sonnet Quiz and took the quiz on Friday. Definition Essay—As we finished the poetry unit, we introduced a writing assignment (the definition essay). Students will be defining the concept of family and what it means to them using personal experience and other individual's opinions. We began to brainstorm this at the end of the week and looked at rhetorical strategies for defining in writing.

- Reading/writing notebook due October 24. Students should have 7 weeks worth of work done.
- Binder checks and grade October 26. Students should have a neat and organized binder with all of the handouts and assignments in the appropriate places. This will be a grade for the first quarter.

**Social Studies:** This week we talked about the beginnings of Rome. We looked at what its culture was like during the republic and the empire. We also discussed whether or not Ceasar's murder by the Senate was justified. Next week we will talk about the beginnings of the Roman Empire. We will look at how the Empire expanded and the different technologies that were created by the Romans.

**Theology:** This week we looked at the different literary forms of the New Testament and began to understand the audiences for each of the Gospel writers. Next week we will continue to look at the writing structure of the Gospels.

**Science:** We have been learning about the states of matter this week, and what causes substances to move between the solid, liquid, and gas states. We have used online simulations to observe particles in motion and had the opportunity to work with dry ice, as it skips over the liquid stage, moving directly from solid to gas. We will be finishing the chapter towards the end of the week.

- Chapter 2 Test: Tuesday, October 18

**Math 7G1:** This week students took a quiz and worked on reviewing Chapter 2. Next week students will take the Chapter 2 Test and also learn about algebraic expressions.

- Tuesday, October 18 - Chapter 2 Test

**Math 7G2:** This week students wrapped up Chapter 2 with the test. Next week students will learn about parallel lines and transversals and the angles of triangles and other polygons.

- Thursday, October 20 - Chapter 3 Quiz 1 (3.1 - 3.2)

## STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE

Congratulations to your middle school student council classroom representatives.  
Thank you to all the candidates who ran.

6B

Jayden Gregory  
Ben Maczka (Alt.)

6S

Charlie Irwin  
Caroline Berkemeier

7

Claudia Grabar  
Vince Braselton  
Tommy Preston

## 8th GRADE UPDATES

**ELA:** Grammar—This week we delved into apostrophe's and the appropriate use of the colon (quite a joke as it is not the human colon as learned in science!). *Touching Spirit Bear*—We reviewed character development for Chapters 7-10. In addition, we worked on vocabulary for chapters 10-15. We also read through Chapter 13 of the novel and analyzed point of view in depth for these chapters. Finally, we introduced our first major essay—an argumentative essay for chapter one—and began brainstorming ideas for this essay.

- Reading/writing notebook due October 24. Students should have 7 weeks worth of work done.
- Binder checks and grade October 26. Students should have a neat and organized binder with all of the handouts and assignments in the appropriate places. This will be a grade for the first quarter.

**History:** This week we began to look at the causes of the War of 1812. We talked about the advantages of each side. Next week we will look at the importance of the Great Lakes during the war and then look at the strategies that each side used during the war.

**Science:** We spent time this week exploring the use of microscopes by looking at prepared slides and also creating our own wet mount slides using onion skin and stain. We then began to discuss the organelles found in plant and animal cells and their functions.

- 3-D Cell Project due: Monday, October 24
- Chapter 2 Test: Wednesday, October 26

**Math:** This week students learned about similar figures and the perimeter and area of similar figures. Next week they will learn about dilations and they will start to wrap up Chapter 2.

- Wednesday, October 19 - Chapter 2 Quiz 2 (2.5 - 2.7)
- Friday, October 21 - Chapter 2 Vocabulary Quiz

**Theology:** This week students finished learning about the early Christians and the six models of the Church. They also continued to work on the beads for their rosary project. Next week they will learn about the virtue of honesty. They will also learn about prayer.

- Monday, October 17 - Chapter 3 Quiz