



# SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | Jan. 20, 2023

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Winter Community Dinner

Saint Thomas Winter Community Dinner: The Saint Thomas Knights of Columbus is hosting a Winter Community Dinner on Jan. 28. They are looking for high school and middle school volunteers to help bus tables and clean up after the dinner from 7:30- 9pm.

If your child is interested, please use this [Winter Community Dinner Sign Up Genius](#).  
If you would like to attend the dinner, please use this [Winter Community Dinner RSVP](#).

### Drop and Dine Valentine

Drop and Dine Valentine: Saint Thomas is hosting a Drop and Dine Valentine event on Feb. 11, 5:30-8pm in the gym. We are looking for high school and middle school volunteers to help play games and do crafts with young kids. This would be a great way to get service hours!  
If your child is interested, please email Veronica Perdue ([veronicaperdue@stthomasgr.org](mailto:veronicaperdue@stthomasgr.org)).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Middle School Awards Ceremony

Save the date – Feb. 8 at 2:40pm – for our next Middle School Award Ceremony. Parents, please join us!

### Middle School Shine Rally

The Middle School “Shine” Youth Rally is Sunday, March 26, 1-6:30pm. This event is open to 6th-8th graders.  
If your child is interested, please contact Leah Green ([youthministry@stthomasgr.org](mailto:youthministry@stthomasgr.org)), the Saint Thomas Youth Minister, and check out this [Shine Youth Rally flyer/permission slip](#) for more information.

## 6th GRADE UPDATES

**ELA:** This week, we continued discussing subjects and predicates. We will be reviewing them next week and will have a quiz on Thursday of next week. We also finished the reading/analysis portion of our short story unit this week. Therefore, we began our unit project—writing our own short stories applying the elements we have analyzed in other stories into our own writing. We are currently at the brainstorming stage of this project.

- Thursday, January 26—Subject/Predicate Quiz
- 3rd Quarter Reading/Writing Notebook starts next week! We did not have it this week due to the end of the quarter.

**Social studies:** This week we talked about the Rise of Kush as an Egyptian empire. We looked at the Geography Kush and the impact that it had on the empire. Next week we will review for the test which will be on Friday January 27.

**Science:** We finished up our chapter on energy resources this week. We spent the majority of our time this week reviewing for our test on chapter 6 on Thursday. Then we began chapter 8, talking about Earth's atmosphere.

**Theology:** We have been focusing on the story of Jacob and Esau. Next we will be moving into Jacob's sons who eventually became the 12 tribes of Israel and the story of Joseph. We have also been discussing the virtue of orderliness.

- Virtue Quiz on Perseverance- February 2

**Math 6G1:** This week students started a chapter about polygons. They learned about the area of parallelograms. Next week they will learn about the area of triangles and will take a quiz over those concepts.

- Friday, January 27 - Chapter 4 Quiz 1 (4.1 - 4.2)

**Math 6G2:** This week students continued learning about converting between the customary system and the metric system. Next week they will begin reviewing for the Chapter 5 Test.

- Tuesday, January 24 - Chapter 5 Vocabulary Quiz
- Wednesday, January 25 - Chapter 5 Test

## 7th GRADE UPDATES

**ELA:** This week, we moved onto other parts of the sentence and started studying verb phrases. In addition, we read through Chapter 10 of *Dragonwings*, analyzing vocabulary, point of view, the effect of figurative language on a reader, and character motivation. Next week, we will finish analyzing literary elements in Chapter 10 and will introduce a fun project which synthesizes information learned in the text with outside sources regarding the San Francisco earthquake of 1906.

- There was no reading/writing notebook this week. 3rd Quarter Reading/Writing Notebook will start next week.

**Social studies:** This week we discussed the different cultures of North America and how they adapted to their surroundings. We also talked about unintended consequences of European exploration. Next week we will begin to take a look at European exploration in North America and the impact that it had.

**Theology:** This week we discussed the effects of Baptism. Next week we look at how the sacrament of Confirmation.

**Science:** We have been talking about concentration of solutions and about the characteristics of acids and bases. Next week we will be experimenting with pH paper and other indicators to identify different acids and bases. Then we will begin to review for our Chapter 5 test on the 1/30.

- Chapter 5 Test- January 30

**Math 7G1:** This week students started a chapter about ratios and proportions. They learned about ratios, rates and proportions. Next week they will learn writing and solving proportions.

**Math 7G2:** This week students took the test for Chapter 5. Next week they will start new concepts that relate to functions, both linear and nonlinear, how to write them from graphs and how to analyze and sketch them.

- Friday, January 27 - Chapter 6 Quiz 1 (6.1 - 6.3)

## 8th GRADE UPDATES

**ELA:** This week students finished their totem pole projects. They look great! We also reviewed *Red Badge of Courage* Chapters 1-2 Pre-Reading/Vocabulary activity, and we read through Chapter 2 of *The Red Badge of Courage*. Students finished the week making comic strips of the main events in chapters 1-2 in order to help them with understanding the novel. Next week, we will delve into analysis activities for the novel.

- There was no reading/writing notebook this week. 3rd Quarter Reading/Writing Notebook will start next week.

**History:** This week we talked about Texas Independence and the causes of the Mexican-American War. Next week we continue to talk about the war with Mexico.

**Science:** This week we have continued to learn about inheritance of traits in humans as well as how mutations can occur during cell replication and division. Next week we will be working on research projects on genetic disorders that we will be presenting to the class towards the end of the week and into the next.

**Math:** This week students took the test for Chapter 5. Next week they will start new concepts that relate to functions, both linear and nonlinear, how to write them from graphs and how to analyze and sketch them.

- Monday, January 30 - Chapter 6 Quiz 1 (6.1 - 6.3)

**Theology:** This week students finished work on Chapter 8: A Church that is Catholic. Next week starts the virtue of perseverance. Students will also start Chapter 9: An Apostolic Church, which finishes up Unit 2.

- Thursday, January 26 - Chapter 9 Quiz