



# SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | Sept. 15, 2023



## Saint Thomas Picnic in the Park this Sunday!

Join our Saint Thomas community for friendship, food and fun! Please bring blankets/chairs to sit on. There's still time to volunteer – visit our [Picnic in the Park Sign Up Genius](#) to volunteer. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Leaders, this is an opportunity to volunteer and stretch your leadership muscles.

If you're coming, consider bringing a baked good to donate to the Bake Walk! (In the event of rain, we will gather in the Church Lower Level for lunch, entertainment, crafts and drumming.)

## 6th GRADE UPDATES

**Language Arts:** We've begun our study of *The Giver*, and continued learning about the 4 main Parts of Speech (Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives, and Adverbs). This weekend, they'll read and take notes on 5 short chapters of *The Giver* to read – the story starts to pick up right about now! Next week, we'll learn the other 4 parts of speech, and talk about predictions for *The Giver*.

**Social Studies:** We have been continuing to learn about map projections, distortions, and the basics of geography. Next week we will go over the 5 themes of geography and work on their study guide for the first test. Monday is Constitution Day, which means we will be discussing the Constitution all day!

- Test on Friday September, 22nd. Students will be given their study guide on Tuesday, and will be given time to work on it both Wednesday and all of Thursday.

**Science:** We have been continuing to learn about the nature of science by focusing on how to design a controlled experiment and how to clearly share findings, by using the Claim, Evidence, and Reasoning format. Next week, we will begin to learn about plate tectonics.

**Theology:** This week we read and wrote about the first story of creation. We learned that everything God created is good. We also dissected each of the days that God created and how they tied into each other. We also had a virtue quiz on Docility. Next week we look at the second creation story, and how we are stewards for God.

- Test on Thursday Sept, 21. Students can use their study guides and notes to help them prepare for the test. The test will be open note and book.

**Math 6G1:** This week students learned about prime factorization and how to find the greatest common factor of numbers using a list. Next week, they will learn about how to find the greatest common factor using prime factorization, how to find the least common multiple of numbers and adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers.

**Math 6G2:** This week students learned about how to find the greatest common factor and least common multiple of numbers and adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers. Next week, they will take a test over the material in Chapter 1. They will also begin learning about multiplying and dividing fractions. For the vocabulary quiz, students should be reviewing the vocabulary from Chapter 1. Terms are in the notes and also in their binder in the “vocabulary” section. The test is a review of the two quizzes that they have already taken. Quizzes should be in the “quiz/test” section of their binder.

- Tuesday, September 19 - Chapter 1 Vocabulary Quiz
- Wednesday, September 20 - Chapter 1 Test



## Middle School Planners

The Middle School Team will be using homework planners for all students.

Teachers will prompt students at the end of class to write down any homework assignments. Your child can pick out a planner of their choice.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact

Marygrace Tyrrell ([marygracetyrrell@stthomasqr.org](mailto:marygracetyrrell@stthomasqr.org)).



## 7th GRADE UPDATES

**Language Arts:** We've continued studying fiction by looking at character motivation and backstories with a short story called "Thank You, M'am." We've also been looking at the first 4 parts of speech. We'll look at the remaining parts of speech next week. This weekend, students should read and answer questions about the short story "Zebra" on Canvas.

**Social Studies:** This week we finished up our notes on the Roman Government, and took our first content quiz. This was over the beginning of the Roman empire and the Roman empire government. Next week, we will continue to discuss the Roman empire, specifically what society was like in the Republic and the struggles that they endured.

- Vocab Quiz Friday September, 22.

**Theology:** We learned about Jesus. The students researched information and wrote a paper about Jesus' life. They gained insight about his life and his teachings. We also learned that Scripture and tradition are the best sources to learn about Jesus. Next week we will continue to talk about Scripture and tradition and review for the chapter test.

- Test on Thursday Sept, 21. Students can use their study guides and notes to help them prepare for the test. The test will be open note and book.

**Science:** We have been continuing to learn about matter this week by focusing on the ways that matter is classified as either a pure substance (an element or compound) or a mixture, as most things are found. Next week we will focus on the ways that matter changes through chemical and physical reactions. At the end of next week, we will begin working on the Chapter 1 Study Guide. This is completed using resources, like the class notes and textbook. We will then review the study guide to ensure correct answers and review the material again as a class.

- Chapter 1 Test- September 26

**Math 7G1:** This week students learned about dividing integers and prepared for the Chapter 1 Test. Next week they will take the Chapter 1 Test and also learn about rational numbers and how to add rational numbers. The test is a review of the two quizzes that they have already taken. Quizzes should be in the "quiz/test" section of their binder.

- Monday, September 18 - Chapter 1 Test
- Friday, September 22 - Chapter 2 Quiz 1 (2.1 - 2.2)

**Math 7G2:** This week students wrapped up the end of Chapter 1 with their second quiz of the chapter. They also took the vocabulary quiz and the test. Next week they will learn about congruent figures, translations, reflections and rotations.

- Monday, September 25 - Chapter 2 Quiz 1 (2.1 - 2.4)

## 8th GRADE UPDATES

**Language Arts:** Before the 8th graders went on retreat, we talked about making predictions based on details and dialogue in the story, "The Chaser." Next week, we'll look more broadly at the elements of fiction, and focus on tone with "The Tell-Tale Heart" before beginning our Creative Writing unit!

Students should read and answer questions about "The Tell-Tale Heart" on Canvas by Monday night.

**History:** This week we talked about 9/11, and discussed the Revolutionary War. Next week, we will continue to discuss the Revolutionary War, and the students will have their first content quiz on Friday, September 22. Study guides will be handed out Tuesday, we will work on them in class on Wednesday and Thursday. Monday, we will discuss the Constitution because it is Constitution Day!

- Content Quiz on Friday September 22, over the Declaration of Independence and the beginning of the Revolutionary War.



**Science:** We have been focusing on how organisms are organized and classified according to their characteristics. We will be continuing to look more closely at the different levels of organization, including investigating the role of evolution in the way that organisms are classified. This will take us to the end of the chapter, so we will start study guides soon.

- Chapter 1 Test- September 27

**Math 8G1:** This week students learned about solving equations with variables on both sides of the equation and rewriting equations and formulas. Next week they will wrap up Chapter 1. They will take the second quiz of Chapter 1, the vocabulary quiz and the test. For the vocabulary quiz, students

should be reviewing the vocabulary from Chapter 1. Terms are in the notes and also in their binder in the "vocabulary" section. The test is a review of the two quizzes that they have already taken. Quizzes should be in the "quiz/test" section of their binder.

- Tuesday, September 19 - Chapter 1 Quiz 2 (1.3 - 1.4)
- Thursday, September 21 - Chapter 1 Vocabulary Quiz
- Friday, September 22 - Chapter 1 Test

**Math 8G2:** This week students learned about solving absolute value equations and rewriting equations and formulas. Next week they will wrap up Chapter 1. They will take the second quiz of Chapter 1, the vocabulary quiz and the test. For the vocabulary quiz, students should be reviewing the vocabulary from Chapter 1. Terms are in the notes and also in their binder in the “vocabulary” section. The test is a review of the two quizzes that they have already taken. Quizzes should be in the “quiz/test” section of their binder.

- Tuesday, September 19 - Chapter 1 Quiz 2 (1.4 - 1.5)
- Thursday, September 21 - Chapter 1 Vocab Quiz
- Friday, September 22 - Chapter 1 Test



**Theology:** The students learned about the importance of Salvation History and God’s Revelation to us. We looked at different bible stories that showed examples of Salvation History. Next week we talk about the Communion of Saints and review for the Chapter test.

- Test on Thursday Sept, 21. Students can use their study guides and notes to help them prepare for the test. The test will be open note and book.