



SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | Oct. 20, 2023

6th GRADE UPDATES

Language Arts: We wrapped up the rough drafts of our descriptive scenes and started to wrap up our work with *The Giver*. We'll discuss the book as a whole this week and next week, finish up our descriptive scene final drafts next week, and then begin our poetry unit at the end of the month!

Social Studies: We finished up the economic basics unit. We discussed systems of economies, personal finances, and students took their unit test. Next week, we will discuss government basics, such as different types of governments, the three branches, and how governments cooperate with each other.

Science: We have continued with plate tectonics this week by focusing on earthquakes. We completed a lab this week demonstrating the forces of plate tectonics, and then we are focusing on seismic waves and the measuring systems used. Next week, we will finish up the chapter by looking at how and why we monitor earthquakes before we review for our test.

- Chapter 2 Test – October 27

Theology: We described and explained Abraham's faith and his obedience to God. We also looked at the choices made by the Hebrews and how it affected God's plan. We also started to look at the mission of Jacob in carrying out God's plan.

- Monday, Oct. 23 – Open book and note test
- Thursday, Oct. 26 – Virtue Quiz on sincerity

Math 6G1: Students learned about adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals. Next week, they will wrap up Chapter 2 with assessments.

- Tuesday, October 24 - Chapter 2 Quiz 2 (2.4 - 2.6)
- Thursday, October 26 - Chapter 2 Vocabulary Quiz
- Friday, October 27 - Chapter 2 Test

Math 6G2: This week students learned about properties of addition and multiplication, the distributive property and how to factor expressions. Next week, students will wrap up Chapter 3 with assessments and learn about the area of parallelograms.

- Monday, October 23 - Chapter 3 Quiz 2 (3.3 - 3.4Extension)
- Wednesday, October 25 - Chapter 3 Vocabulary Quiz
- Thursday, October 26 - Chapter 3 Test



Parent Seminar: May I Have Your Attention Please?

Join us on **Monday, Oct. 30, at 6:15pm in the Ministry Center** as Mary Ashby, Teacher Consultant for All Belong, explores: the causes and components of ADHD, how ADHD may impact children academically, socially, and emotionally, and strategies for creating an ADHD-friendly home environment. Check out this [All Belong flyer](#) for more information.

7th GRADE UPDATES

Language Arts: We focused all of our reading and writing on Nonfiction. Students turned in rough drafts of their how-to essays and started learning about the different ways we can write nonfiction works, including narrative and informative nonfiction. We'll finish up learning about and writing nonfiction in the coming two weeks, and then we'll dive into some poetry.

Social Studies: We continued to read the book *Who Was Jesus?*. This discusses who Jesus was as a person, the political landscape of the Roman Empire at the time, and how Christianity spread throughout the Empire and world following his death. The students also took a vocab quiz on Friday. Next week, we will discuss the fall of the Roman Empire – more specifically, the end of Pax Romana, and the late Empire, and its ultimate collapse.

Theology: We looked at what the everyday life of Jesus was like and discussed the traditions and customs of the Jews at the time. We also gained a better insight of why the Samaritans were not liked by the Judaians and Galileans. Next week, we will look at the significance of the infancy narratives.

- Thursday, Oct. 26 – Virtue Quiz on sincerity

Science: We took our Chapter 2 test. Then we have moved into focusing on the structure of atoms and the periodic table. The students were given a list of atomic symbols to memorize by the Chapter 3 test in a few weeks. We will be continuing with this topic next week.

Math 7G1: Students learned about adding and subtracting linear expressions and factoring expressions. Next week, students will learn about solving equations using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

Math 7G2: Students learned about angles of polygons and using similar triangles. Next week, students will wrap up Chapter 3 with assessments and learn about graphing linear equations and the slope of a line.

- Tuesday, October 24 - Chapter 3 Vocabulary Quiz
- Wednesday, October 25 - Chapter 3 Test



8th Grade Confirmation Forms Due Soon!

Just a reminder to get these Confirmation documents turned in. Please complete and return this [Confirmation Sponsor Declaration](#) and the [Confirmation Registration form](#) to the office or via email (timhorst@stthomasgr.org) by October 23.

8th GRADE UPDATES

Language Arts: Students finished up rough drafts of their short stories, and we began studying different types of nonfiction. Students learned the many sub-genres of nonfiction and analyzed examples of the writing. We'll continue these nonfiction lessons through the end of the quarter, and then move on to poetry.

History: We discussed the Articles of Confederation, what it is, and the strengths and weaknesses of it. Next week, we will discuss Shay's Rebellion, the Constitutional Convention, and the creation of the Bill of Rights. We will be looking at a variety of primary sources.

Science: We discussed the compounds that are cells need and also how materials enter and leave the cell through passive or active transport. We will be presenting our cell projects next week before reviewing for the test on Thursday.

- Cell Project- due October 23
- Chapter 2 Test- October 26

Math 8G1: Students learned about perimeters and areas of similar figures and dilations of figures. Next week, students will wrap up Chapter 2 with assessments and learn about parallel lines and transversals and the angles of triangles.

- Tuesday, October 24 - Chapter 2 Vocabulary Quiz
- Wednesday, October 25 - Chapter 2 Test

Math 8G2: Students wrapped up Chapter 2 with assessments. Next week, students will learn about functions, linear functions and function notation.

- Friday, October 27 - Chapter 3 Quiz 1 (3.1 - 3.3)

Theology: Students worked on researching saints and other Catholics that impacted science. They wrote a research paper and made posters to share with the lower grades for All Saints' Day. Next week, they will create a scavenger hunt for the lower grades and then we talk about being a people of service. We will look at how we can impact others by serving them.

- Thursday, Oct. 26 – Virtue Quiz on sincerity