



SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | March 1, 2024

6th GRADE UPDATES

Language Arts: We started our Business Letter writing project. Students learned about the structure of a professional business letter and outlined their ideas. We continued our discussions of *Island of the Blue Dolphins*.

Social Studies: We finished up our notes on the origins of Judaism, as well as the early history of Judaism. The students learned about how Judaism was formed, how it has changed over time, how it has impacted our society today, and how other religions connect to Judaism. Next week, we will be discussing the main beliefs of Judaism. The students will receive a study guide and will have a test on Judaism on Friday, 3/8

- History and Beliefs of Judaism Test - 3/8

Science: We took our test this week on the atmosphere. This led us into Chapter 9, where we will be learning about weather. This chapter should take us right up to around spring break.

Theology: We looked at the difficulties the Israelites faced on their journey through the desert. We discussed how they faced their troubles. We also began to look at the 10 Commandments. We also had a virtue quiz on prudence. Next week, we will look at the covenant God made with the Israelites at Sinai, and we will describe the purpose of the ark of the covenant.

- Chapter quiz next Thursday March 7

Math 6G1: Students learned about how to compare and order integers and about fractions and decimals on the number line. Next week, they will learn about absolute value and the coordinate plane.

- Monday, March 4 - Chapter 6 Quiz 1 (6.1 - 6.3)

Math 6G2: Students learned about 3 dimensional figures and the surface area of prisms. Next week, they will learn about the surface area of pyramids and the volume of regular prisms.

- Monday, March 4 - Chapter 8 Quiz 1 (8.1 - 8.2)
- Monday, March 11 - Chapter 8 Quiz 2 (8.3 - 8.4)

7th GRADE UPDATES

Language Arts: We we got to work on our Opinion Essay Rough Drafts. We also took some time to reflect on what we've read in *The Hobbit* so far before our characters get to their biggest battle! We will continue to work on both next week.

Social Studies: We discussed how the government within Jamestown was run. Then, we discussed the origins of the New England Colonies and how the Plymouth Colony started. Next week, we will continue to discuss Plymouth, the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and the war between settlers and American Indians.

Theology: We discussed how miracles reveal the identity and mission of Jesus. We looked at different miracles and how Jesus showed compassion. Next week, we will continue to look at the miracles and how Jesus has power over nature, sin and evil, sickness and death.

- Chapter test March 7

Science: We finished up the new material in our introduction to energy this week. We will be reviewing and exploring energy transformations further as we talk about Rube Goldberg machines and prepare for the test next week.

- Chapter 7 Test- March 7

Math 7G1: Students learned about adjacent, vertical, complementary and supplementary angles. Next week, they will learn about triangles and their angle measures.

- Thursday, March 7 - Chapter 7 Quiz 1 (7.1 - 7.3)

Math 7G2: Students learned about the volume of spheres and the surface area and volume of similar solids. Next week, they will begin to review for the Chapter 8 assessments.

- Monday, March 4 - Chapter 8 Quiz 2 (8.3 - 8.4)
- Wednesday, March 6 - Chapter 8 Vocabulary Quiz
- Thursday, March 7 - Chapter 8 Test

8th GRADE UPDATES

MARCH 20 – 8th GRADE PARENT MEETING

Hello 8th Grade Parents! We have an exciting and fun time coming up with graduation, 8th grade field trip, and 8th grade Cedar Point trip. If you would like to help organize these fun events, please come and meet with other 8th grade parents on March 20 at 7pm in the Ministry Center. Thanks so much! ~Kelly Jandernoa

MARCH 28 – 8th GRADE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Our 8th graders will be leading Stations of the Cross for other students on **March 28 at 2:30pm in the Church**. Parents are welcome to join us!

Language Arts: Students continued their Literature Circle discussions this week and started taking notes on research sources for the first topic in our Final Project. The Final Project will start to pick up from here until the end of the year. We also started our next grammar unit, Sentence Structure & Diagramming.

History: We discussed Lewis and Clark's expedition and looked at primary and secondary sources. We also had a debate about whether Lewis and Clark were respectful to the Native Americans. Next week, we will finish discussing Thomas Jefferson's presidency. We will also begin discussing the War of 1812, how it began, and the battles that took place during the war.

Science: After ending last week with our test on plants, the students have now started to learn about life processes and how these differ between types of animals. The chapter began with exploring the types of skeletal systems and how they work together with the nervous system to respond to the environment.

Math 8G1: Students learned about square roots, cube roots, and the Pythagorean Theorem. Next week, they will learn about approximating square roots, repeating decimals and how to use the Pythagorean Theorem to solve problems.

- Monday, March 4 - Chapter 7 Quiz 1 (7.1 - 7.3)
- Monday, March 11 - Chapter 7 Quiz 2 (7.4 - 7.5)

Math 8G2: Students took the Chapter 6 Test and learned about adding and subtracting polynomials. Next week, they will learn about multiplying polynomials and solving polynomial equations in factored form.

- Friday, March 8 - Chapter 7 Quiz 1 (7.1 - 7.4)

Theology: We started to discuss the Third Mark of the Church – that being Catholic. We discussed how the Church is catholic and how the church is universal. Next week, we will look at the Church's responsibility to evangelize and gain an understanding of the Eastern Catholic Churches.

- Chapter Test Thursday March 7