



SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | April 26, 2024

6th GRADE UPDATES

Language Arts: We did an overview of the structures, characters, and stories of Greek Mythology, and compared them to the parables that Jesus taught us. Students also learned about the Greek Mythology research project, which will serve as their ELA final exam.

Social Studies: We continued our discussion on Ancient India. Specifically, we discussed the two big religions in India. These are Hinduism and Buddhism. Next week we will finish discussing India, and start discussing ancient Chinese dynasties.

Science: We have continued to learn about the sun, the moon, and Earth, and how these three bodies interact. We have focused on the phases of the moon and eclipses, and also how the moon and sun affect our tides. Next week we will finish up this chapter and review for the test on Friday.

- Chapter 11 Test- Friday, May 3

Theology: We discussed the importance of the Bronze Serpent and how it relates to faith. We also discussed how, like Moses, Jesus lifted us up to save us. Next week, we will discuss the importance of penance. We looked at the differences between Mortal and Venial sins. We will also review for the chapter test and virtue quiz which will be on Monday, May 6.

- Chapter and Virtue Quiz May 6

Math 6G1: Students completed the assessments for Chapter 7. Next week, they will learn about 3-Dimensional figures and the surface area of prisms and pyramids.

- Friday, May 3 - Chapter 8 Quiz 1 (8.1 - 8.2)

Math 6G2: Students learned about measures of center and variation. Next week, students will learn about mean absolute deviation.

- Wednesday, April 24 - Chapter 9 Quiz 1 (9.1 - 9.3)
- Wednesday, May 1 - Chapter 9 Quiz 2 (9.4 - 9.5)
- Friday, May 3 - Chapter 9 Vocabulary Quiz
- Monday, May 6 - Chapter 9 Test

7th GRADE UPDATES

Language Arts: We started our unit on the play, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, with some background on World War II and Anne Frank herself, and went over the structure of a play script. Our project for this play will be introduced next week and will serve as the students' final exam for ELA.

Social Studies: We discussed the French and Indian War. Next week, we will discuss Pontiac's Rebellion and then "taxation without representation." This entails discussing the Sugar Act, the Stamp Act, the Townshend Act and how this led to the Boston Massacre.

Theology: We finished up MAP testing and then began discussing the Beatitudes. Next week, we will continue to talk about the Beatitudes and apply them to our lives.

- Chapter test Monday May 6

Science: We finished up with the introduction to waves this week and took our Chapter 9 test on Wednesday. We then have moved into electromagnetic waves and how they are used in our lives.

Math 7G1: Students learned about the surface area of prisms, pyramids and cylinders. Next week, students will learn about the volume of prisms and pyramids.

- Tuesday, April 30 - Chapter 9 Quiz 1 (9.1 - 9.3)
- Thursday, May 9 - Chapter 9 Quiz 2 (9.4 - 9.5 Extension)

Math 7G2: Students learned about writing, graphing and solving inequalities. Next week, students will continue to solve one step inequalities using multiplication and division and also solving two step inequalities.

- Tuesday, April 30 - Chapter 11 Quiz 1 (11.1 - 11.2)
- Tuesday, May 7 - Chapter 11 Quiz 2 (11.3 - 11.4)

8th GRADE UPDATES

Language Arts: We started writing our final project papers. For now, we're focusing on our body paragraphs; we will go over introduction and concluding paragraphs, as well as citing sources, in the coming days.

History: We discussed John Quincy Adams and Andrew Jackson. Next week, we will discuss the multiple events that occurred during Jackson's presidency, especially the Bank War, the Crisis of 1837, and the Trail of Tears.

Science: We focused this week on some of the cycles that move materials through the biotic and abiotic parts of ecosystems, such as the nitrogen cycle. We then reviewed for our test on ecosystems, which was moved to Monday. After the test next week, we will be learning about the major human body systems.

- Chapter 11/12 Test- Monday, April 29

Math 8G1: Students learned about two-way tables and choosing appropriate data displays. Next week, students will review for the assessments for Chapter 9.

- Tuesday, April 30 - Chapter 9 Quiz 2 (9.3 - 9.4)
- Thursday, May 2 - Chapter 9 Vocabulary Quiz
- Friday, May 3 - Chapter 9 Test

Math 8G2: Students started to review for the end of chapter assessments. Next week, they will take the test and start a new topic. Students will learn about properties of radicals and how to solve quadratic equations by graphing and using square roots.

- Monday, April 29 - Chapter 8 Vocabulary Quiz
- Tuesday, April 30, - Chapter 8 Test

Theology: We reviewed for the ACRE test, which we took on Thursday. The ACRE test is a standardized theology test. Next week, we will talk about how the Church was a house built on a rock. We will start by talking about how martyrs gave witness for the faith.



8th GRADE SPANISH FIESTA – MONDAY, APRIL 29

¡Hola! We've finished our unit on Latino foods, and it's time for the 8th Grade Fiesta! We will have the fiesta in the classroom on Monday, April 29 during recess and lunch. Each student is responsible for bringing (and potentially preparing) at least one item. ALL FOODS MUST BE PREPARED AT HOME BEFORE SCHOOL. Please make sure that you send a labeled serving utensil with any food items. Please use the [8th Grade Fiesta Food Sign Up Genius](#). I will have power strips available for crockpots and instant pots (please label the pot as well). Please note: Students must be able to take their utensils/pot home that same day when school dismisses. Please let me know if you have any questions (rebeccakeane@dogrschools.org). ¡Gracias!

8th GRADE CHICAGO FIELD TRIP – MAY 14

The 8th grade Chicago field trip will be Tuesday, May 14. We will be leaving Saint Thomas at 7:30am, visiting the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, and then returning at 9pm. Students will need to bring a sack lunch and money for souvenirs. There will be a Sign-up Genius coming soon to sign up for snacks on the bus. The return trip will feature pizza! Permission slips will come home Monday, May 6, 2024. We still need a few chaperones. If you would like to chaperone, let me know and I will put you on the list on a first-come, first-served basis. Questions? Please contact Nicole Hoedeman (nicolehoedeman@stthomasgr.org).

MAY
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**7TH & 8TH GRADE
DANCE
FRIDAY, MAY 10TH**

**IHM Gym
7-9pm**

ALOHA! Please join us for a night of fun at IHM!

Dress in your Hawaiian best and be ready to HULA!

(Pst...there's a prize for the best dressed)

DJ, Dancing, Limbo and Free Throw contest, snacks and more!

There will be chaperones from IHM, STA, and SPA at the dance.

If you have any questions, please contact Kellie Berkemeier at 616.240.3120

Sign up to bring treats to the dance using our [7th/8th grade dance Sign Up Genius!](#)