



# SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | May 3, 2024



## MIDDLE SCHOOL FIELD TRIP NEXT WEEK!

### Lincoln Developmental Center Service Trip – Thursday, May 9

Our middle school students will be going on a service trip to Lincoln Developmental Center on Thursday, May 9. They will be taking a bus to get there. Our students will play in a baseball game alongside students with disabilities and help them with art activities. Look for a permission slip soon.

## 6th GRADE UPDATES

**Language Arts:** We discussed Greek myths about creation, the origin of man, and the origin of evil, and compared and contrasted these stories with the same stories in the Bible. Students also found out their topics for the Greek Mythology Final Project, which will serve as their ELA final exam.

**Social Studies:** We discussed Buddhism, Hinduism, and the Mauryan Empire. Next week, we will spend the week discussing Chinese Dynasties. The students will have a test on ancient India and China the following week, on May 15. The students will receive their study guides on Friday.

- Ancient India and China Test – Tuesday, May 15

**Science:** We finished Chapter 11 about the interactions between Earth, our moon, and the sun and how these interactions affect us. We reviewed on Wednesday and Thursday and took the test on Friday. Our final chapter before exams will start next week, moving further out into the solar system.

**Theology:** We looked at how God punished the Israelites for their continued complaining and saved them when Moses made the Bronze Serpent. We also looked at the differences between Mortal and Venial sins. We discussed different scenarios about each. Next week, we will continue looking at the differences and talk about what happens when the Israelites enter the Promised Land.

**Math 6G1:** 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 rectangular prisms.

- Friday, May 10 – Chapter 8 Quiz 2 (8.3 - 8.4)

**Math 6G2:** Students learned about mean absolute deviation and started to review for the end of Chapter 9 assessments. Next week, students will learn about stem-and-leaf plots and histograms.

- Monday, May 6 – Chapter 9 Test
- Friday, May 10 – Chapter 10 Quiz 1 (10.1 - 10.2)

## 7th GRADE UPDATES

**Language Arts:** We talked about life in the Netherlands during the Nazi occupation to learn more about the lives of Anne Frank and the other characters in her story. We also got introduced to our Anne Frank final project, which will serve as our ELA final exam.

**Social Studies:** We finished discussing the French and Indian War. Then, We began talking about the causes of the American Revolution. Next week, we will continue discussing the causes of the American Revolution. Students will take a test on the French and Indian War and the causes of the American Revolution on May 15.

- Headed towards Revolution Test – Wednesday, May 15

**Theology:** We discussed the impact of the Beatitudes. We talked about how they impact us and how we can live them out in our lives. We are working on a Beatitudes project right now in which they are rewriting the Beatitudes and then finding famous people who live the Beatitudes. Next week, we will continue to work on the project and then began looking at the impact of the Epistles.

**Science:** We have been learning about the different waves of the electromagnetic spectrum this week and how we use them in our lives. We will be talking specifically about digital vs. analog communications.

- Chapter 10 Test – Tuesday, May 14

**Math 7G1:** Students learned about the volume of prisms and pyramids. Next week students will learn about cross sections of 3-dimensional figures and begin to review for the end of Chapter 9 assessments.

- Thursday, May 9 – Chapter 9 Quiz 2 (9.4 - 9.5 Extension)
- Monday, May 13 – Chapter 9 Vocabulary Quiz
- Tuesday, May 14 – Chapter 9 Test

**Math 7G2:** Students learned about solving one step inequalities using multiplication and division and also solving two step inequalities. Next week students will begin to review for the end of Chapter 11 assessments.

- Tuesday, May 7 – Chapter 11 Quiz 2 (11.3 - 11.4)
- Friday, May 10 – Chapter 11 Vocabulary Quiz
- Tuesday, 14 – Chapter 11 Test

## 8th GRADE UPDATES

**Language Arts:** We worked together to create MLA citations for our final project research sources. Citations are daunting, but everyone did great, and we'll have plenty of time to work on this in-class if students need help! We also learned about conjunctions, and soon we'll start actually diagramming sentences.

**History:** We finished discussing Andrew Jackson's presidency. We specifically discussed the Bank War, the Panic of 1837, and the Trail of Tears. The students also started their "Andrew Jackson - Good or Bad President?" Essay. This is due on Tuesday, 05/07. The students will finish up their essays in class on Monday. Then, we will shortly discuss Manifest Destiny and the Oregon Trail, the Mexican-American War, and the California Gold Rush.

**Science:** We began the week by taking our ecology test, covering material from Chapters 11 and 12. Then we started our unit on the human body. This unit will be a brief introduction to the structures and functions of the major body systems. This material will be on the final exam and will not be assessed on its own.

**Math 8G1:** Students reviewed for the assessments for Chapter 9. Next week, students will learn about exponents, product and quotient of powers properties, as well as zero and negative exponents.

**Math 8G2:** Students learned about properties of radicals and how to solve quadratic equations by graphing. Next week, they will learn about how to solve quadratic equations by using square roots.

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

**Theology:** We began to look at how the early church survived constant persecutions from the Roman authorities. We are looking at the impact of Martyrs on the church. Next week, we continue talking about early Martyrs and look at the Fathers of the Church.



### 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE CHICAGO FIELD TRIP – MAY 14

The 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:nicolehoedeman@stthomasgr.org)).

MAY  
**10**



**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 [7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade dance Sign Up Genius!](#)