



SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | Sept. 13, 2024

Middle School MAP Testing

The Middle School will hold MAP Testing from 9:13-10:47am on the following dates. Please ensure students get a good night's sleep and eat a healthy breakfast beforehand. Students should bring snacks and a water bottle. Please try to avoid scheduling appointments during these times, if possible:

Thursday, September 19	Math
Tuesday, September 24	Science
Tuesday, October 1	Reading
Thursday, October 3	Language Usage

6th Grade Updates

ELA: We we talked about the society of *The Giver*, and the ways they relate to emotions and celebrations. We also introduced our first writing assignment of the year, the Character Analysis Essay. We will begin working on this next week.

Social Studies: We finished our 5 Themes of Geography projects, had a discussion about 9/11, and talked about globes, maps, and map distortions. Next week we will start by continuing our discussion of map distortions, and then change gears to start discussing the basics of economics. We also will discuss the constitution due to it being CONSTITUTION DAY on Tuesday!! Students will also have their first vocab quiz on Friday 9/20. They will receive their study guide on Monday, and we will go over the study guide on Thursday.

- Geography Vocab Quiz - Friday, 9/20

Science: We began to learn about plate tectonics this week by introducing Alfred Wegener and his theory of continental drift. Next week, we will learn about the geological processes that cause that the movements on the Earth's surface.

Theology: We discussed the different genres of the Old Testament. The students also did a scavenger hunt helping them get more familiar with the Bible. They also took their virtue quiz on circumspection. Next week we will continue to delve more into how scripture is God's saving world, as we look at the Old and New Testament.

Math 6G1: The students took the first quiz of Chapter 1 and they learned about prime factorization. Next week they will learn about the greatest common factor and least common multiple.

Math 6G2: Students took the first quiz of Chapter 1. They also learned about prime factorization, greatest common factor, and least common multiple. Next week we will wrap up Chapter 1 with the second quiz, a vocabulary quiz, a review of the chapter and the Chapter 1 Test.

- Tuesday, September 17 - Chapter 1 Quiz 2 (1.4 - 1.6)
- Thursday, September 19 - Chapter 1 Vocabulary Quiz
- Friday, September 20 - Chapter 1 Test

7th Grade Updates

ELA: We talked about stereotypes in *The Outsiders*, and students practiced using textual evidence to write a newspaper article about the inciting incident of our story. We also practiced writing Hamburger Paragraphs in preparation for our first quarter presentation project, which we will introduce next week.

Social Studies: We discussed society in the ancient Roman Republic; including men's and women's roles, the rich and the poor, slavery, and religion. Students started their comparison essay between the United States society today and ancient Rome's society, which will be due Wednesday, 9/18. Next week we will also discuss the Punic Wars. Students will read a section, create a poster, and teach their section of the Punic War to the rest of the class. We also will discuss the constitution due to it being CONSTITUTION DAY on Tuesday! Friday, students will be given their first study guide for their first vocab quiz, which will be on Tuesday, 9/24.

- Roman Society vs USA Society - Due Wednesday, 9/18
- Roman Vocab Quiz - Tuesday, 9/24

Theology: We talked about Jesus as our savior, the Trinity and the image of Mary in the Church. The students also took their virtue quiz on Circumspection. Next week we talk about Jesus as a friend, and examine Jesus as the Son of Man.

Science: We have continued to focus on matter this week by learning about the Periodic Table. We discussed how to measure volume, mass, and density, then practiced by calculating the densities of different types of candy. Next week, we will focus on the ways that matter can change, both physically and chemically.

- Chapter 1 Test- September 26

Math 7G1: Students took the first quiz of Chapter 1 and learned about subtracting integers and subtracting rational numbers. Next week we will wrap up Chapter 1 with the second quiz, a vocabulary quiz, a review of the chapter and the Chapter 1 Test.

- Monday, September 16 - Chapter 1 Quiz 2 (1.4 - 1.5)
- Wednesday, September 18 - Chapter 1 Vocabulary Quiz
- Thursday, September 19 - Chapter 1 Test

Math 7G2: Students took a quiz. They also worked on reviewing Chapter 1 and took the vocabulary quiz. Next week they will take the Chapter 1 Test. They will then learn about translations, reflections, rotations, and congruent figures.

- Monday, September 16 - Chapter 1 Test

8th Grade Updates

ELA: We wrapped up our discussion of our first short story, "Checkouts," by analyzing the conflict and theme of the story. We also started brainstorming and outlining for our Short Story writing assignment. Next week, we will discuss our next story, "The Chaser."

History: We finished up our discussion on the Declaration of Independence and started discussing the Revolutionary war. Next week we will continue discussing the Revolutionary War, specifically foreign aid, and Valley Forge. Students will learn about the harsh winter at Valley Forge. Students will then write a short essay about whether they would've quit or stayed in the army following Valley Forge. This will be due Monday, 9/23. We also will discuss the constitution due to it being CONSTITUTION DAY on Tuesday!

- Valley Forge Mini Essay - Due Monday, 9/23

Science: We have focused on classification this week by learning about the naming system introduced by Linnaeus in the 1700s and the eight-level classification system used for organisms today. We also practiced using taxonomic keys for identification. Next week, we will focus more on the different types of organisms in the four kingdoms in the domain of Eukarya and how organisms have changed over time.

- Chapter 1 Test- September 24

Math 8G1: Students learned about solving equations with variables on both sides and rewriting equations and formulas. Next week they will take a quiz and begin to review for the end of Chapter 1 Assessments.

- Monday, September 16 - Chapter 1 Quiz 2 (1.3 - 1.4)
- Wednesday, September 18 - Chapter 1 Vocabulary Quiz
- Monday, September 23 - Chapter 1 Test

Math 8G2: Students learned about solving equations with variables on both sides and solving absolute value equations. Next week they will learn about rewriting equations and formulas and will begin to wrap up Chapter 1.

- Thursday, September 19 - Chapter 1 Quiz 2 (1.4 - 1.6)
- Monday, September 23 - Chapter 1 Vocabulary Quiz
- Tuesday, September 24 - Chapter 1 Test

Theology: We looked at the different images of the Church. We discussed the Church as the Body of Christ, the Temple of Christ and the Bride of Christ. We also looked at the role of Mary. The 8th graders also took their virtue quiz on Circumspection. Next week we look at God's master plan for us and trace our faith from David to Jesus.