



# SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | Oct. 11, 2024

## Fall Book Fair is here!

The Book Fair is next week, Oct. 14-17! Middle school students will be visiting the Book Fair in their ELA class time. The book fair is open on these days/times: Monday, Oct. 14: 12-4pm, Tuesday, Oct. 15: 8am – 4pm, Wednesday, Oct. 16: 8am – 4pm and Thursday, Oct. 17: 8am – 12noon.

## 6th Grade Updates

**ELA:** We talked about flashback and discussed the previous Receiver who we met in *The Giver*. We also had our final grammar lesson, about different types of pronouns, before our Noun Quiz in two weeks.

- Book Fair on Tuesday, October 15 - Bring cash to school!
- Novel Outline due Friday, October 18
- Noun Quiz on Wednesday, October 23

**Social Studies:** We continued our unit on the basics of government this week by looking at different forms and systems of government. Then we discussed the United States government and its three branches. Next week, we will be quickly discussing the importance of the United Nations. Then we will spend a day discussing how people become citizens in the United States and the basic duties a citizen has. The students will receive their study guide on Tuesday for their Economic and Government Basics Test, which will be on Tuesday, October 22.

- Economic and Government Basics Test - 10/22

**Science:** We continued to learn about earthquakes this week by learning about seismic waves and how geologists can use the method of triangulation to find the location of the epicenter of an earthquake. Next week we will be reviewing and taking our test on Chapter 2.

- Chapter 2 Test- October 16

**Theology:** We had a great discussion on Sunday's gospel. We also talked about Cain and Abel and the meaning behind the story. Next week we talk about Noah and the flood, and the Tower of Babel.

**Math 6G1:** Students learned about adding, subtracting and multiplying fractions. Next week they will learn about dividing fractions and mixed numbers.

**Math 6G2:** Students learned about dividing decimals and whole numbers. Next week they will wrap up Chapter 2 with a test.

- Tuesday, October 15 - Chapter 2 Vocabulary Quiz
- Wednesday, October 16 - Chapter 2 Test

## 7th Grade Updates

**ELA:** We wrapped up our analysis of *The Outsiders* by determining the theme of the story. We also started to write our essays for the Rumble we'll have at the end of the quarter, and had our final grammar lesson in preparation for the Noun Quiz in two weeks.

- Book Fair on Monday October 14 - Bring cash to school!
- Noun Quiz on Wednesday October 23

**Social Studies:** We continued discussing the Roman Empire. We specifically discussed the rule of Augustus, the 200 years of peace that followed, the art and architecture that came from the Roman Empire, and how Jesus and Christianity impacted the Roman Empire. Next week, we will finish up our discussion on Christianity and the Roman Empire, and look at how the Roman Empire eventually fell. Students will receive their Roman Republic and Empire Study Guide on Wednesday and will take their test the following Wednesday, 10/23.

- Roman Republic and Empire Test - 10/23

**Theology:** We examined the Gospel of Mark. We looked at Mark's writing style and how he sets up his Gospel. Next we will continue to look at his Gospel and prepare for the test on it on Wednesday.

- Mark Test Wednesday October 16, 2024

**Science:** We have focused on the relationship between thermal energy and the states of matter this week. We conducted a lab exploring sublimation, watching carbon dioxide change state directly from a solid to a gas. We also learned about the gas laws that explain the way that gases behave under different temperatures and pressures. We will begin to review next week.

- Chapter 2 Test- October 22

**Math 7G1:** Students wrapped up Chapter 2 and began the next topic of algebraic expressions. Next week they will take a quiz over algebraic expressions and adding and subtracting linear expressions.

- Wednesday, October 16 - Chapter 3 Quiz 1 (3.1 - 3.2)

**Math 7G2:** Students learned about parallel lines and transversals and angles of triangles. Next week they will learn about angles of polygons.

- Tuesday, October 15 - Chapter 3 Quiz 1 (3.1 - 3.2)

## 8th Grade Updates

**ELA:** We we looked at diction and other literary devices in our final, eerie short story “Tell-Tale Heart.” We also began peer editing our own short stories, and had our last grammar lesson before our Noun Quiz in two weeks.

- Book Fair on Monday October 14 (8G2) and Tuesday October 15 (8G1) - Bring cash to school!
- Noun Quiz on Wednesday October 13

**History:** We began looking at life following the American Revolution. We specifically discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation and the Northwest Ordinance of 1787. Students also took their Declaration of Independence and American Revolution Test on Thursday. Next week, we will continue looking at life following the Revolutionary War as we discuss Shays Rebellion, the Constitutional Convention, and The Great Compromise.

**Science:** We spent this week focusing on the structures and functions of cell organelles and the differences between plant and animal cells. We also our understanding of cells and microscopes to study the cell theory by examining the discoveries made by the scientists who developed it. We also talked about the biomolecules that primarily make up living organisms. Next week we will learn about active and passive transport and how these processes help maintain homeostasis in the cell.

- Cell project due- October 21
- Chapter 2 Test- October 23

**Math 8G1:** Students learned about dilations, similar figures, and the area and perimeter of similar figures. Next week they will take a quiz and begin to wrap up Chapter 2.  
Tuesday, October 14 - Chapter 2 Quiz 2 (2.5 - 2.7)

**Math 8G2:** Students learned about solving absolute value inequalities. Next week they will wrap up Chapter 2.

- Tuesday, October 15 - Chapter 2 Vocabulary Quiz
- Wednesday, October 16 - Chapter 2 Test

**Theology:** We started our in-depth confirmation prep. We began the *Dynamic Catholic* series by Matthew Kelly. The students learned a great deal about being the best version of themselves and using self-control. Next week we look at God’s gift to us and what His plan is.