



SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | Nov. 22, 2024

WINTER 2 GRACEAC DEADLINE – NOV. 30

GRACEAC sign up for Winter 2 sports is open! If your child is interested in playing girls basketball (grades 3-8) or joining the ski team (grades 6-8), register at <https://graceac.com/winter-ii/>. **THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS NOV. 30. THERE WILL BE A \$35 LATE FEE TO REGISTER AFTER NOV. 30.**

CANNONSBURG PUNCH CARD PASSES

Punch Card passes for the 2024 / 2025 Cannonsburg Ski Area ski season are available for purchase. Passes come in bundles of 6 or 10 discount lift tickets, as well as discounts on lessons and rentals. Use the following link: <https://cannonsburg.com/shop/> and list your sponsor school as Saint Thomas and your sponsor as Josh Szymanski. See this [Cannonsburg flyer](#) for details and contact Erin or Josh Szymanski with any questions (josh@oakmi.com).

6th Grade Updates

ELA: We learned about 2 more types of poetry: Limericks and Bio Poems. Students started writing some of each of those for their final Poetry Portfolio project. We also prepared for our quiz on the first half of our Verb Unit.

- Monday, November 25 - Verb Quiz

Social Studies: We finished up our unit on Early Humans. The students learned about the switch from hunting and gathering to farming! The students were given an Early Human study guide on Monday and will have their test this coming Monday, November 25.

- Early Human Test - Monday, November 25

Science: We began the week with a final review for the Chapter 3 & 4 test on weathering, erosion, and deposition and then took the test. Then we started Chapter 5 which focuses on the history of Earth and how scientists use the Geologic Timescale to summarize the different eras and periods. This chapter will take us to exams, where this material will be included rather than having its own test.

Theology: We discussed the life of Jacob more in depth this week. We looked at how even though Jacob is flawed God still had a plan for him, and sometimes we just have to let that plan happen. Next week, we begin to look at the life of Joseph and talk about being thankful.

Math 6G1: Students continued to learn about using tape diagrams to solve ratio problems and learned about ratio tables. Next week, they will learn about graphing ratio relationships.

Math 6G2: Students learned about percents and fractions and percents and decimals. Next week, they will learn about comparing and ordering fractions, decimals, and percents as well as solving percent problems.

- Wednesday, December 4 - Chapter 4 Quiz 2 (4.3 - 4.4)

7th Grade Updates

ELA: We rewrote a free verse poem to create a consistent rhyme scheme and compared that poem to a pop song by OneRepublic to study their similar themes of appreciating our lives. We also prepared for the quiz on the first half of our Verb Unit.

- Monday, November 25th - Verb Quiz

Social Studies: We finished discussing the Early American cultures this week. The students learned about the different regions and cultures within early North America! The students were given an Early America study guide on Monday and will have their test this coming Monday, November 25.

- Early America Test - Monday, November 25

Theology: The students finished up the second part of Luke's gospel. We looked at how Jesus invites us all to the banquet feast, and that Jesus is here for all of us. The students are finishing up their in-class assignment that reinforced these ideas. Next week, we start to look at John's gospel and look at what we are thankful for.

Science: We finished learning about the different types of chemical bonds this week by taking the Chapter 3 test on Wednesday. Chapter 4 will focus on chemical reactions. We will be learning to read and balance equations in this chapter.

Math 7G1: Students learned about solving inequalities using multiplication and division and solving two-step inequalities. Next week, they will work on the review of Chapter 4 and take a vocabulary quiz.

- Tuesday, November 26 - Chapter 4 Vocabulary Quiz
- Tuesday, December 3 - Chapter 4 Test

Math 7G2: Students prepared for the end of chapter assessments. Next week, they will learn about solving systems of linear equations by graphing and substitution.

- Monday, November 25 - Chapter 4 Test
- Friday, December 6 - Chapter 5 Quiz 1 (5.1 - 5.2)

8th Grade Updates

ELA: We studied imagery and simile in a poem called “Willow and Ginkgo” and practiced writing our own imagery and similes. We then worked on taking notes on our research sources for our Poet Bio final project and prepared for the quiz on the first half of our Verb Unit.

- Monday, November 25 - Verb Quiz

History: The students learned about the formal way amendments can be created, the importance of the amendments, the difference between state and federal governments, and the basics of citizenship in the United States. Next week, we will continue our discussion on the importance of citizenship; specifically discussing the responsibilities and duties of a citizen! Students will be given a Constitution for the United States Study Guide on Monday, and they will take their Test on Wednesday, December 4.

- A Constitution for the United States Test - Wednesday, December 4

Science: We began Chapter 4, which is an introduction to Gregor Mendel and the development of the field of genetics. We then explored the differences between theoretical and experimental probability, how traits are passed down to offspring from their parents, and how to use and read Punnett Squares. We will continue this chapter for the next few weeks.

- Chapter 4 Test- December 6

Math 8G1: Students learned about graphing proportional relationships and graphing linear equations in slope-intercept form. Next week, they will learn about graphing linear equations in standard form and writing equations in slope-intercept form.

- Thursday, December 5 - Chapter 4 Quiz 2 (4.4 - 4.7)

Math 8G2: Students learned about writing equations in slope intercept form and point slope form. Next week, they will learn about writing equations of parallel and perpendicular lines.

- Tuesday, December 3 - Chapter 4 Quiz 1 (4.1 - 4.3)

Theology: In our confirmation prep, we discussed the gift of prayer. We began to look at why prayer is so powerful and so important. Next week, we will continue examining the impact of prayer in our lives.