



SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

Middle School Newsletter | Jan. 31, 2025



MIDDLE SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

GRACEAC Spring sports registration is open!

Registration is open for Spring GRACEAC sports, which includes: boys baseball, boys & girls lacrosse, girls soccer, girls softball, boys & girls tennis, boys & girls track and field. Sign up at www.graceac.com.

MS Awards Ceremony

We will be holding our Middle School Awards Ceremony on **Wednesday, Feb. 5 at 2:40pm** in the Church. Please sign in at the back of Church if you will be attending.

6th Grade Updates

ELA: We looked in our Island of the Blue Dolphins for evidence of Karana's key character traits, and for evidence of predictions about the future of the story. We also began outlining and writing our Opinion Essays about the best type of conflict in fiction.

Social Studies: We finished discussing Sumer, Akkad, and Babylon. We looked at the first code of law, called Hammurabi's Code. Then, we started our discussion on the Assyrians and the Persians. Next week, we will finish discussing the Persians and the students will start a research project about Persian Emperors. This will be due Friday, February 7.

- Persian Emperor Research Project - Due Friday, February 7

Science: We have started learning about our atmosphere this week. We have discussed the composition of the air around us and what air pressure is. Next week, we will learn about the layers of the atmosphere and what the greenhouse effect is.

- Chapter 6 Test Corrections due Tuesday, 2/4

Theology: It was a fun week this week in Theology. We learned about the Moses and his early life, we discussed why the Egyptians felt fearful of the Hebrews and how Moses became the leader of the Hebrews. Next week we will learn about the 10 plagues.

Math 6G1: Students wrapped up Chapter 4. The test will be Monday. Next week they will learn about what algebraic expressions are and writing expressions.

- Monday, February 3 - Chapter 4 Test
- Thursday, February 13 - Chapter 5 Quiz 1 (5.1 - 5.2)

Math 6G2: Students took a vocabulary quiz and a test. They also learned about writing equations in one variable and solving equations using addition and subtraction. Next week they will learn about solving equations using multiplication and division as well as writing equations in two variables.

- Tuesday, February 4 - Chapter 6 Quiz 1 (6.1 - 6.2)
- Wednesday, February 12 - Chapter 6 Quiz 2 (6.3 - 6.4)

7th Grade Updates

ELA: We talked about Bilbo's character growth throughout The Hobbit so far by comparing his actions with Gollum in the goblins' caves to his earlier choices. We also kicked off our Hobbit project by beginning to brainstorm ideas and write our retellings of the exposition of our novel.

Social Studies: We discussed a very difficult topic, the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. We also discussed Martin Luther and his reformations. We also began discussing the first Dutch, French, and English colonies. Next week, we will continue discussing the first Dutch, French, and English colonies, and what life was like in these colonies.

Theology: The students began to learn about the Acts of the Apostles this week. We learned about why Luke wrote it and its structure. Next week we will continue to learn about part 1 and have a quiz on Thursday.

- Quiz on Thursday 2/6

Science: We have moved out of chemistry and into physics! This week, we began with an introduction to forces and focused on friction and gravity. We will continue with that into next week, but we will also start to explore Newton's Laws of Motion.

- Chapter 5 Test Corrections due Tuesday, 2/4

Math 7G1: Students learned about fractions, decimals, and percents as well as the percent proportion and the percent equation. Next week they will learn about percent of increase and decrease, such as discounts and mark-ups as well as simple interest.

- Monday, February 3 - Chapter 6 Quiz 1 (6.1 - 6.3)
- Wednesday, February 12 - Chapter 6 Quiz 2 (6.4 - 6.6)
- Friday, February 14 - Chapter 6 Vocabulary Quiz

Math 7G2: Students learned about relations, representations of functions and linear functions. Next week they will learn about comparing linear and nonlinear functions as well as analyzing and sketching graphs.

- Tuesday, February 4 - Chapter 7 Quiz 1 (7.1 - 7.3)
- Wednesday, February 12 - Chapter 7 Quiz 2 (7.4 - 7.5)
- Friday, February 14 - Chapter 7 Vocabulary Quiz

8th Grade Updates

ELA: students did a fantastic job of continuing to run their own class discussions of A Wrinkle in Time, making comparisons to pop culture and predicting coming events. We also started taking notes on the second essay topic for our final projects.

History: We finished discussing John Adams's Presidency and began our election of 1800 campaign poster project. The project is due Monday, February 3rd. Next week, we will discuss Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton. Then, we will discuss Thomas Jefferson's presidency. The students will have a First Presidencies Test on Tuesday, February 11th, and will receive their Study Guide next Tuesday.

- Campaign Poster Project - Due Monday, February 3rd
- First Presidencies Test - Tuesday, February 11th

Science: We spent this week researching different genetic disorders in preparation for sharing them with the class at the end of the week. Next week, we will start Chapter 7, which focuses on plants.

Math 8G1: Students took the test over Chapter 5. They also learned about scatter plots. Next week they will learn about lines of fit.

- Thursday, February 6 - Chapter 6 Quiz 1 (6.1 - 6.2)

Math 8G2: Students wrapped up Chapter 5. Next week they will take the vocabulary quiz and the test. They will also learn about properties of exponents and radicals and rational exponents.

- Monday, February 3 - Chapter 5 Vocabulary Quiz
- Tuesday, February 4 - Chapter 5 Test

Theology: The students this week continued to prepare for Confirmation. They learned about the importance of the Bible and how to use it as part of the prayer process. We also talked about the importance of forming good habits. Next week we will continue to look at the importance of the Bible and the importance of having good friends.