



# SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**Middle School Newsletter | Sept. 19, 2025**

## MAP Testing

Here is our Fall 2025 MAP Testing schedule:

- Tuesday, September 23 (Math, 9:13 - 11:35am)
- Thursday, September 25 (Language Usage, 9:13 - 10:47am)

Please try to avoid students missing school during these times.

## Keeping our students organized

We are now four weeks into the school year! It is starting to feel like there is routine in our days. We, as teachers, structure our classes to help our students be successful. Starting the school year can be overwhelming – particularly for our new 6<sup>th</sup> graders. If your students feel like they need help staying organized, encourage them to check in with a teacher. At the end of each class, students are reminded to check Canvas and write down what they have to do that night. Additionally, during study hall, students are told to check Canvas, get homework organized for the day and catch up on missing assignments. Middle school students all have weekly assignments. Their weekly assignments are: IXL, Discussion Board, Current Event, Gospel Reflection, and Grammar assignment. Students are advised to work ahead on these so that they don't save them all for Thursday night!

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Language Arts:** We talked about sameness in *The Giver* and how it connects to our lives.

**Social Studies:** Students took their first test. We discussed how test corrections work, and students who received under an 80% are expected to do test corrections. These will be due on Monday. We also discussed the Constitution on Constitution Day, and began our economics unit! Next week, we will continue our unit on economics, particularly discussing opportunity cost, supply and demand, and shortages and surpluses. Due to MAP testing, students missed two class periods and will do the same next week.

- Test Corrections - Due Monday, 9/22

**Science:** Due to MAP Testing, we missed two class periods this week and will do the same next week. We have learned about Alfred Wegener and Marie Tharp, and how their contributions have brought us to an understanding of Plate Tectonics. We will continue to focus on how convection causes the plates to move over the next week.

- Wednesday, October 1- Chapter 1 Test

**Theology:** The students this week learned about the different styles and sections of the Old Testament. Next week they will continue to learn about the Law books.

- Quiz on Magnanimity Next Friday September 26

**Math 6G1:** Students learned about prime factorization, greatest common factor, and least common multiple. Next week, they will learn more about the least common multiple and will plan for a quiz.

- Friday, September 26 - Chapter 1 Quiz 2 (1.4 - 1.6)
- Tuesday, September 30 - Chapter 1 Vocabulary Quiz
- Wednesday, October 1 - Chapter 1 Test

**Math 6G2:** Students wrapped up Chapter 1 with a vocabulary quiz and a test. Next week, students will learn about adding, subtracting and multiplying fractions.

## 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENT GATHERING!

**7th Grade Parents:** A favorite Saint Thomas tradition is parent class parties! We would be so grateful if you would be willing to host a parent gathering for your child's class! You select the date, time and venue. It can be in your home, if you prefer, and it can also be BYOB/potluck style, so everyone contributes to making it happen! This is a great opportunity to reconnect or meet new parents in a fun and relaxed setting outside school.

\*Consider using the new preschool as a free, convenient venue for your class party!  
If interested, please contact Genevieve Boyle at [genevieveboyle@stthomasgr.org](mailto:genevieveboyle@stthomasgr.org).

## 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

**Language Arts:** We started working on our Serba Scholarship essays.

**Social Studies:** Students took their first test. We refreshed on how test corrections work, and discussed that students who received under an 80% on the test are expected to do test corrections. These will be due on Monday. This week, we also discussed the Constitution on Constitution Day and began our unit on the Roman Empire. Next week, we will continue to discuss the Roman Empire. We will particularly discuss the Punic Wars, and students will present the poster that they are working on in class. We will also talk about the pains that came with expansion, how Rome transitioned from a Republic to an Empire, and how Julius Caesar played an important role in that transition.

- Test Corrections - Due Monday, 9/22

**Theology:** We began looking at the role of the church. We looked at Christ as its head. Next week, we will continue to look at Christ as the head of the church

- Virtue Quiz on Magnanimity September 26, 2025

**Science:** We reviewed this week to prepare for the Chapter 1 Test on Friday. Next week, we will begin Chapter 2, which focuses on the different states of matter and how materials move between these states.

**Math 7G1:** Students took the vocabulary quiz and the test for Chapter 1. They also learned about multiplying and dividing integers. Next week they will take a quiz and learn about converting between fractions and decimals.

- Tuesday, September 23 - Chapter 2 Quiz 1 (2.1 - 2.2)

**Math 7G2:** Students took the Chapter 1 Test, did some MAP testing, and learned about translations. Next week, they will do some MAP testing and learn about reflections and rotations.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Language Arts:** We made predictions and looked at literary devices in the short story, *The Chaser*. Noun quiz next Wednesday.

**History:** We continued our discussion on the Revolutionary War. We talked about Native Americans in the war, the war moving to the south, Benedict Arnold and how he betrayed America, and how the British surrendered at Yorktown. We also discussed the Constitution on Constitution Day! Next week, we will finish our unit on the Revolutionary War and discuss the six main reasons for the American victory, and students will receive their first study guide on Monday for Friday's test.

- American Revolution Test - Friday, 9/26

**Science:** We have spent this week learning about Charles Darwin and how his theory of evolution changed the way that organisms are classified. Next week, we will begin by reviewing Chapter 1 to prepare for the test. After we take the test, we will be moving into Chapter 2: Introduction to Cells.

- Wednesday, September 24- Chapter 1 Test

**Math 8G1:** Students took the assessments for Chapter 1 and learned about translations and reflections. Next week, students will learn about rotations and congruent figures. They will also plan for a quiz.

- Friday, September 26 - Chapter 2 Quiz 1 (2.1 - 2.4)

**Math 8G2:** Students took a quiz over the second half of Chapter 1 and started the review for Chapter 1. Next week, students will take the vocabulary quiz and the test for Chapter 1.

- Monday, September 22 - Chapter 1 Vocabulary Quiz
- Wednesday, September 24 - Chapter 1 Test

**Theology:** We continued to learn about decision making, and MAP tested.

- Virtue Quiz on Magnanimity Friday, September 26