



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Middle School Newsletter | Nov. 7, 2025

Parent / Teacher Conferences

Fall conferences are Nov. 13 (evening) and Nov. 14 (daytime). Nov. 14 is a half day. Please use our [STA Parent Teacher Conference Sign Up](#) to choose a time to meet with the Middle School teachers.

The formatting of Middle School conferences is slightly different than elementary and preschool. Middle school parents will sign up for an hour block. Parents will rotate around to meet with Middle School teachers during that hour. Conferences are Thursday evening and all day Friday for middle school. We use this format to accommodate the large number of middle schoolers we have. Check out this [Corcoran's Corner explaining conferences](#). Students are expected to come to school for the half day on Friday. They will be in the lower level of Church, doing different [lessons with Mr. Corcoran](#) as well as participating in their regular specials classes.

6TH GRADE

Language Arts: We kicked off our Poetry Portfolio project; we'll work on this project all quarter long, and this will serve as the students' final exam for ELA. We started it this week by learning about and creating haikus.

Social Studies: We continued our Origins of Civilization unit. We discussed early human migration, how humans adapted to different environments, and cave art. Then, students made their own cave art! Next week, we will discuss Stone Age religion, the change from the Paleolithic to the Neolithic era, and how early humans began to modify their environments. Students will also receive their Origins of Civilizations Study Guides, and their test will be on Tuesday, November 18.

- Origins of Civilization Test - Tuesday, November 18

Science: We have been focusing on weathering and soil formation this week. We conducted a lab looking at the ways that different soils will drain or hold water. We also talked about the Dust Bowl, a natural and economic disaster that affected the Great Plains in the 1930s. We then began to discuss soil conservation.

Theology: The students finished up and presented their Marian Apparitions newscasts. They were really creative and the students did a good job on them. Next week, we will look at The Fall of Man, as we talk about Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, the Tower of Babel and Noah's Ark.

Math 6G1: Students learned about dividing whole numbers and decimals. Next week, they will take a quiz and prepare for the end of the chapter assessments.

- Tuesday, November 11 - Chapter 2 Quiz 2 (2.5 - 2.8)
- Thursday, November 13 - Chapter 2 Vocabulary Quiz
- Monday, November 17 - Chapter 2 Test

Math 6G2: Students learned about graphing ratio relationships, rates and unit rates, and converting measures. Next week they will take a quiz and prepare for the end of the chapter assessments.

- Tuesday, November 11 - Chapter 3 Quiz 2 (3.4 - 3.6)
- Thursday, November 13 - Chapter 3 Vocabulary Quiz
- Monday, November 17 - Chapter 3 Test

7TH GRADE

Language Arts: We compared a poem to a podcast to analyze how both types of media use different methods to convey the same theme, teaching us about the importance of slowing down and appreciating our lives. We also worked in teams to analyze poems, and kicked off students' Poetry Pairing Project, which will serve as the ELA exam.

Social Studies: We finished discussing the Mayans and the theories of how their civilization collapsed. Next week, we will discuss the Aztecs and the Incas. We will look at how the Aztecs rose to power and how they fell.

Theology: The students finished up and presented their Marian Apparitions newscasts. They were really good. We also started to dive into the Gospel of Matthew. The students took notes on the the first of Matthew. Next week, we will continue to dive into Matthew and his writing style.

- Matthew Chapters 1-13 Quiz on Friday, November 14

Science: We have continued to discuss the different types of chemical bonds. We finished learning about ionic bonds early in the week and then moved on to covalent bonds, spending a considerable amount of time comparing the two. We ended the week with an introduction to metallic bonds. Next week, we will finish that up and review for the test.

- Thursday, November 13- Chapter 3 Test, Part 1
- Monday, November 17- Chapter 3 Test- Part 2

Math 7G1: Students took the test for Chapter 3. They also learned about solving equations with addition and subtraction. Next week, students will learn about solving equations using multiplication and division as well as solving two-step equations.

- Monday, November 17 - Chapter 4 Quiz 1 (4.1 - 4.3)

Math 7G2: Students review for the Chapter 3 Test. Next week, they will learn about graphing linear equations, slope of a line, and graphing proportional relationships.

- Tuesday, November 18 - Chapter 4 Quiz 1 (4.1 - 4.3)

8TH GRADE

Language Arts: We practiced poetic analysis by looking at the symbolism in Langston Hughes' "Mother to Son." Students also learned which poet they'll be researching for the Poet Biography Project, which will serve as our ELA exam. I'm excited to see what we learn about all these poets!

History: We finished our Constitution unit. We discussed states and local governments, citizenship, and went over their Constitutional Webquests. The students also received their study guides for their Constitution Test next Tuesday. Next week, we will take our test and begin discussing Washington's presidency.

- Constitution Test - Tuesday, November 11

Science: We spent the first half of the week comparing the processes of photosynthesis and cellular respiration, examining how they work together to supply organisms with the energy from the sun. We then started to learn about the cell cycle, focusing on the steps in Mitosis. We will finish that up and review for the test next week.

- Thursday, November 13- Chapter 3 Test

Math 8G1: Students review for the Chapter 3 Test. They also learned about graphing linear equations. Next week, students will learn about slope of a line, and graphing proportional relationships.

- Monday, November 17 - Chapter 4 Quiz 1 (4.1 - 4.3)

Math 8G2: Students learned about graphing linear equations in standard form and slope intercept form. Next week, they will learn about transformations of linear functions and graphing absolute value functions.

- Tuesday, November 18 - Chapter 3 Quiz 2 (3.5 - 3.8)
- Thursday, November 20 - Chapter 3 Vocabulary Quiz Part 2
- Friday, November 21 - Chapter 3 Test

Theology: The students finished up and presented their Marian Apparitions newscasts. They showed their energetic and energetic sides. Next week, we will start jumping back into learning about the Name of Jesus and the importance of prayer.



SAINT THOMAS

8TH GRADE LEADERSHIP, VIRTUE, AND FAITH STUDY

*Building tomorrow's Catholic leaders –
one conversation at a time*



- Encourages faith formation and leadership development

- 📅 Father & mother led groups for 8th grade boys and girls meeting separately once or twice per month
- 💬 Parent leads discussion using Catholic curriculum
- 🕒 Meets for 25 minutes at 7:30am (with doughnuts!)
- ★ Provides positive father and mother role models

For more info, contact the school office or visit
stthomasgr.org