



# SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**Middle School Newsletter | Jan. 30, 2026**



## MIDDLE SCHOOL AWARDS CEREMONY

Mark your calendars – our next Middle School Awards Ceremony is Wednesday, Feb. 4 at 2:45pm.

## PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Our Spring 2026 parent teacher conferences are next week – Thursday, Feb. 5 and Friday, Feb. 6.  
Thursday's conferences will run 4-8pm. Friday's conferences will be 12noon-3pm.

Please use our [2026 Parent Teacher Conference Sign Up](#).

## 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

**Language Arts:** We discussed the rising action of *Island of the Blue Dolphins* and analyzed Karana's decisions and actions now that she is alone on the island. We also kicked off our Sentences grammar unit, and worked with our teams to make a plan for our Debate project.

**Social Studies:** We finished up presenting our Persian Empire Project. Then, we discussed the Phoenicians. This was the last part of our Mesopotamia Unit. The students received a study guide and will have their First Empires Test next Tuesday. Next week, following their test, we will begin discussing the origin of Judaism.

- First Empires Test - Tuesday, Feb. 3

**Science:** We began the week by finally taking our Chapter 6 test on Energy Resources. Our next topic is the Earth's atmosphere. We will be spending the next few weeks learning about its composition, how temperature, altitude, and pressure relate, and how energy moves through the atmosphere, causing winds and weather.

**Theology:** The students began to learn about Moses this week. We looked at the first two chapters of Exodus. Next week, we will continue to delve more into the life of Moses and how he becomes the Greatest Reluctant Leader.

**Math 6G1:** Students continued to practice changing percents into decimals and decimals into percents. They also began to prepare for a quiz. Next week, students will learn how to compare and order fractions, decimals and percents

- Tuesday, February 3 - Chapter 4 Quiz 1 (4.1 - 4.2)

**Math 6G2:** Students took the test for Chapter 5 and began to learn about writing and solving equations. Next week, students will learn about solving equations using multiplication and division and writing equations in two variables.

- Wednesday, February 4 - Chapter 6 Quiz 1 (6.1 - 6.2)

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

**Language Arts:** We discussed foreshadowing in *The Hobbit* and met Gollum; we're starting to see Bilbo embracing his adventurous spirit! We also began our Sentences grammar unit.

**Social Studies:** We finished discussing Spanish conquistadors. In particular, we discussed the Transatlantic Slave Trade, how it started, and the long-term effects of it. Then, students began their Spanish Explorers Research Project. This will be due on Wednesday next week. Then, we will begin discussing the French, Dutch, and English explorers.

- Spanish Explorers Research Project - Due, Feb. 4th

**Theology:** The students began to do a deep dive into the Acts of the Apostles. We looked at the different structures and formats of the first 12 chapters. We learned that Jesus is still the star of the story. Next week, we will continue to look at Acts, discuss some of the big stories in it, and ultimately, what is Luke's goal when writing.

**Science:** Due to snow days and Catholic Schools Week activities, we were short a few class periods this week, but after rearranging classes, we were able to review and take the Chapter 5 test. Next week, we will move into the physics portion of the year, learning about force and motion.

**Math 7G1:** Students prepared for a quiz that covers writing and solving proportions, graphs of proportional relationships and scale drawings. Next week, students will wrap up Chapter 5 with the end of chapter assessments. They will also learn about fractions, decimals, and percents.

- Wednesday, February 4 - Chapter 5 Vocabulary Quiz
- Thursday, February 5 - Chapter 5 Test

**Math 7G2:** Students learned about scatterplots. Next week, students will learn about lines of fit and two-way tables.

- Thursday, February 5 - Chapter 6 Quiz 1 (6.1 - 6.2)

## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

**Language Arts:** Students continued their Literature Circles with the exposition of *A Wrinkle in Time*. I am blown away by their in-depth ideas, analyses, and theories! We also began researching for their Final Projects, and kicked off the Sentences grammar unit.

**History:** We continued our Jefferson unit. We discussed the policies that Jefferson kept the same and changed when he got into office. Then, we discussed the major court case of *Marbury V. Madison*. Next week, we will discuss the importance of the Lewis and Clark expedition, and debate how they treated the native americans based on primary and secondary sources. Lastly, we will also discuss the expedition of Zebulon Pike.

**Science:** We have continued to look at human inheritance patterns this week, as well as the advances being made in the field of genetics. We will finish Chapter 5 at the start of next week and then review and take the test.

- Wednesday, January 28- Chapter 5 Test

**Math 8G1:** Students reviewed for the Chapter 5 test. Next week, students will take the test and also learn about scatterplots and lines of fit.

- Monday, February 2 - Chapter 5 Test
- Monday, February 9 - Chapter 6 Quiz 1 (6.1 - 6.2)

**Math 8G2:** Students learned about solving systems of linear equations by elimination and solving special systems of linear equations. Next week, students will learn about solving equations by graphing, graphing linear inequalities in two variables, and systems of linear inequalities.

- Tuesday, February 3 - Chapter 5 Quiz 1 (5.1 - 5.4)

**Theology:** The students learned about the purpose of the Eucharist this week. We talked about how it is THE most important element of our faith. It is the one thing that separates us from the different religions. Next week we will continue to look more closely at the Eucharist.