



# SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**Middle School Newsletter | Feb. 20, 2026**

## MIDDLE SCHOOL Announcements

**2026-27 Enrollment:** Enrollment for the 2026-27 school year is open! You should have received an email from Finalsite Enrollment with information about enrolling. **Please complete your enrollment ASAP.** By completing enrollment, you can save a spot for your child for next year. If you have any questions, please contact our Admissions Director Cammi Lawrence ([clawrence@stthomasgr.org](mailto:clawrence@stthomasgr.org)).

**Red Glasses Movement:** We are excited for our 7th Grade students to take part in the Red Glasses Movements to honor the legacy of Audrey Jandernoa, who was a preschool friend and classmate to many of the 7th-grade students, and to participate in the Red Glasses Movement (living boldly, loving big, and passing it on). On Thursday, February 26, an Artist Creating Together (ACT) representative will visit STA to speak with our students and kick off an art supply drive. The students will take leadership in organizing the drive and inviting our school community to participate by sharing some big, bold love through donated art supplies to support this inclusive art program. On Monday, March 30, ACT will return to lead students in a special art project as we celebrate the conclusion of the supply drive. Also, students will have the opportunity to volunteer at the Special Olympics Spring Games on Saturday, May 2. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mr. Walsh.

**Student Council:** Student Council will have its second meeting on Monday, February 23rd. This will be held in Mr. Walsh's room, from 11:35 - 12:20 (during lunch and recess). We have a lot of ideas to discuss following the first meeting, and want to start narrowing down what we will do this year. Please come prepared to share ideas, ready to listen to others, and also ready to plan events in the future!

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

**Language Arts:** We took our Sentences quiz. Students also began drafting the essays they'll use in their debate projects, practicing writing strong claims, using specific evidence, and clear reasoning.

**Social Studies:** We started our Ancient Egypt unit. We discussed the importance of the Nile River and the social classes in Ancient Egypt. Next week, we will continue our Ancient Egypt unit. We will discuss their polytheistic religion, the mummification process (we will mummify a hot dog!), and make a pamphlet that describes three of the important Egyptian Pharaohs.

- Egyptian Pharaoh Pamphlet - due Monday, March 1

**Science:** We have continued to learn about how the atmosphere affects our lives. We focused on the three different ways that heat can move through our atmosphere: convection, conduction, and radiation. We also began to learn about what causes winds. We will continue with wind to start next week. Then we will review for the test on Chapter 8 test on Friday.

- Friday, February 27- Chapter 8 Test

**Theology:** We are continuing to work on Ten Plagues case files. The students are investigating each plague and the mindset of Pharaoh. Next week we present our findings and then start talking about the reluctant leader named Moses and his relationship with God.

- Virtue Quiz Perseverance February 20

**Math 6G1:** Students wrapped up Chapter 4 with a quiz. Next week, students will take the Chapter 4 Test and will learn about algebraic expressions and how to write expressions.

- Monday, February 23 - Chapter 4 Test

**Math 6G2:** Students wrapped up Chapter 6 with assessments. Next week, students will learn about finding the area of parallelograms, triangles, trapezoids, and kites.

- Monday, March 2 - Chapter 7 Quiz 1 (7.1 - 7.3)

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

**Language Arts:** Students took their Sentences quiz. We also paused to reflect back on Bilbo's character growth from the beginning of our story and made predictions about what challenges he might face and how he'll respond to them, as they approach Smaug and the Lonely Mountain.

**Social Studies:** We continued our discussion of Jamestown. We look at different sources that discuss the many hard conditions that initially caused the settlers to struggle to survive at Jamestown. The students also received their study guide for their First Colonies Test next Wednesday. The essay will act as their written response question on the test. Next week, students will have a day to work on their essay, will have a study guide day, and will take their test. Then, we will begin our unit on the 13 colonies!

- First Colonies Test - Wednesday, February 25th
- Jamestown Essay - Due Wednesday, February 25th

**Theology:** We are continuing to work on Acts of the Apostles Shoe Box Museum. The students are getting really creative with them. Next week we continue to work on them and then have our museum tour.

- Virtue Quiz Perseverance February 27, 2026

**Science:** We focused on Sir Issac Newton and his laws of motion this week. We looked at Newton's life and his many accomplishments, such as the invention of calculus and his law of universal gravitation, and then we started looking at each law of motion specifically. We investigated Newton's law of inertia by collapsing towers of cups. Then we used a computer simulation to explore the relationships among mass, force, and the

rate of acceleration, the focus of Newton's 2nd Law. Next week, we will look at Newton's 3rd Law, as well as momentum and free fall.

**Math 7G1:** Students prepared for a quiz over fractions, percents, the percent proportion and the percent equation. Next week, students will learn about percent of increase and decrease in the way of markups and discounts and simple interest.

- Monday, March 2 - Chapter 6 Quiz 2 (6.4 - 6.6)

**Math 7G2:** Students wrapped up Chapter 6 with assessments. Next week, students will learn about relations and functions, representations of functions and linear functions.

- Monday, March 2 - Chapter 7 Quiz 1 (7.1 - 7.3)

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

**Language Arts:** Students reviewed for next week's Sentences quiz. We also finished doing research and began outlining our Final Project essays. The more detailed our outlines, the easier it'll be to draft our essays!

**History:** Students studied and took their Adams and Jefferson Presidencies Test. Next week, we will start our unit discussing the War of 1812. Students will learn why the war started, do some research into the battles of the war, and complete a project in which they will have to do a news report on the events that occurred leading up to, or during, the War of 1812.

- War of 1812 "Breaking News" project - Due Monday, March 1

**Science:** We have continued with plants this week. We focused on plant classification and investigated differences between vascular and nonvascular plants. We will look at plant structures and reproduction next week.

**Math 8G1:** Students learned about choosing data displays and prepared for a quiz. Next week, students will wrap up Chapter 6 with assessments.

- Monday, February 23 - Chapter 6 Quiz 2 (6.3 - 6.4)
- Wednesday, February 25 - Chapter 6 Vocabulary Quiz
- Thursday, February 26 - Chapter 6 Test

**Math 8G2:** Students wrapped up Chapter 5 with the test on Wednesday. They also began to learn about properties of exponents and radicals. Next week, students will learn about exponential functions in the way of exponential growth and decay.

- Friday, February 27 - Chapter 6 Quiz 1 (6.1 - 6.4)

**Theology:** We are currently working on connecting the Eucharist and Lent. The students are reading about Jesus in the Desert. They are then assigned a temptation and are investigating what that temptation symbolizes in our lives. Next week, we will look at how the Eucharist feeds us during Lent.

- Virtue Quiz Perseverance - February 27