



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Middle School Newsletter | Feb. 6, 2026

6th Grade

Language Arts: We analyzed character motivation by looking at Karana's choice to save Rontu, the wild dog. We also talked about healthy decision-making and conflict in group projects and started brainstorming and outlining our debates.

Social Studies: The students took their First Empires Test. Then, we started our unit on the Origins of Judaism. Next week, we will continue our unit on Judaism, focusing on its main beliefs and the impact it has had on society.

Science: We are continuing to learn about the atmosphere. We focused on air pressure this week, as well as the different layers of the atmosphere and how they are divided based on temperature. We ended the week by starting to look at how energy moves through our atmosphere. This will lead us to learning how the Greenhouse effect keeps the world at the right temperature, and how human activities affect this process.

Theology: The students read about Moses and his unlikely journey to becoming a hero. We also discussed the virtue of moderation in our lives. Next week we begin to learn about the Plagues.

- Virtue Quiz on Moderation - February 12

Math 6G1: Students learned how to compare and order fractions, decimals and percents. Next week, students will learn about how to solve percent problems.

- Wednesday, February 18 - Chapter 4 Quiz 2 (4.3 - 4.4)

Math 6G2: Students prepared for a quiz and learned how to solve equations using multiplication and division. Next week, students will learn about writing equations in two variables and will prepare for the second quiz of Chapter 6.

- Thursday, February 12 - Chapter 6 Quiz 2 (6.3 - 6.4)



7th Grade

Language Arts: We discussed the contributions of side characters in *The Hobbit* and introduced *The Hobbit* final project. We also continued our Sentences unit by learning about the different parts of a sentence, and how they combine to make different sentence structures.

Social Studies: We finished our Spanish Exploration Unit. The students presented their Spanish Explorers Projects. Then, we started our unit on the French, Dutch, and English colonies. Next week, we will continue this unit, particularly discussing Roanoke, Jamestown, and Bacon's Rebellion.

Theology: The students dived deep into Pentecost and the martyrdom of Stephen. We read both accounts from Acts and began to discuss how it impacted the Apostles. Next week we will look at the second half of Acts and the growth of the Apostles.

- Virtue Quiz on Moderation February 12

Science: We have started physics this week by exploring forces and how they cause movement. We began by learning about and calculating velocity and acceleration. Physics requires students to practice their math skills during science, which always surprises them! Lesson 6.2 introduced the forces of friction and gravity. We will be looking at those into next week.

Math 7G1: Students prepared for the Chapter 5 assessments. They took the vocabulary quiz and will take the test next week. Next week, students will learn about how fractions, decimals and percentages relate to one another and the percent proportion and the percent equation.

- Monday, February 9 - Chapter 5 Test

Math 7G2: Students learned about lines of fit and two-way tables. Next week, students will learn about choosing a data display.

- Thursday, February 12 - Chapter 6 Quiz 2 (6.3 - 6.4)

8th Grade

Language Arts: We continued our discussions of *A Wrinkle in Time*; students have done a great job of analyzing characters and making predictions. We also learned about the parts of a sentence and the different kinds of phrases that appear in grammar.

History: We discussed Lewis and Clark's expeditions, whether they were respectful or not to the natives, and Pike's expedition. Next week, we will discuss British impressment and the Embargo Act, which caused the start of the War of 1812.

Science: We finished up Chapter 5 this week by first looking more closely at current advances in genetics, and then reviewing in preparation for the test we took on Thursday. Next week, we will jump to Chapter 7 and begin to explore the plant kingdom.

Math 8G1: Students learned about scatterplots and lines of fit. Next week, students learn about two-way tables and choosing data displays.

- Tuesday, February 10 - Chapter 6 Quiz 1 (6.1 - 6.2)

Math 8G2: Students learned about solving equations by graphing, graphing linear inequalities in two variables, and systems of linear inequalities. Next week, students will wrap up Chapter 5.

- Tuesday, February 10 - Chapter 5 Quiz 2 (5.5 - 5.7)
- Thursday, February 12 - Chapter 5 Vocabulary Quiz
- Wednesday, February 18 - Chapter 5 Test

Theology: We continued to learn about the Eucharist and its importance to the Catholic faith. Next week, we will finish talking about the Eucharist.

- Virtue Quiz on Moderation - February 12