



# SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**Middle School Newsletter | March 13, 2026**

## MIDDLE SCHOOL FIELDTRIP

Middle School students will be attending the Catholic Central dress rehearsal of *The Addams Family* musical at Aquinas College on Tuesday, March 17. You should have received a permission slip for your child to attend. If you have not turned in a permission slip, please contact your child's homeroom teacher. The students will be walking over to and back from the Aquinas theater.

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

**Language Arts:** We wrapped up our discussions of *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by reviewing and analyzing Karana's growth and the themes of our novel. We also finished editing the final drafts of our Debate essays, which students will present in front of the class next week.

**Social Studies:** We finished our Egypt unit. We discussed the ancient Kushites, their major accomplishments, and their relationship with the Egyptians. Then, the students studied for their Egypt and Kush Test on Monday. Next week, students will take their test, and then we will begin our Ancient Greek unit. We will learn about Greek Mythology, and start a Greek Mythology Project.

- Egypt and Kush Test - Due Monday, March 16
- Greek Mythology Project - Due Monday, March 23

**Science:** We continued to talk about clouds and precipitation this week. We made models of the different types of clouds using cotton balls and experienced making clouds inside plastic water bottles. Next week, we will be focusing on air masses and the different types of storms that can occur.

**Theology:** We continued to discuss life in the desert for the Israelites. We are doing a simulation where the students are in the desert and different scenarios are thrown at them. We have had some good reflections and discussions. Next week, we will discuss the Ten Commandments and the spies in the desert.

**Math 6G1:** Students wrote equivalent expressions using the distributive property and factored expressions. They also learned about pi and had a treat of pie! Next week, students will review for a quiz and will prepare for the end of Chapter 5 assessments.

- Wednesday, March 18 - Chapter 5 Quiz 2 (5.3 - 5.4)
- Friday, March 20 - Chapter 5 Vocabulary Quiz
- Monday, March 23 - Chapter 5 Test

**Math 6G2:** Students learned about the surface area of pyramids and the volume of rectangular prisms. They also learned about pi and had a treat of pie! Next week, students take a quiz and prepare for the end of Chapter 7 assessments.

- Monday, March 16 - Chapter 7 Quiz 2 (7.4 - 7.7)
- Wednesday, March 18 - Chapter 7 Vocabulary Quiz
- Thursday, March 19 - Chapter 7 Test

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

**Language Arts:** Students discussed the Resolution of *The Hobbit* and reflected on the power of reconciliation in Bilbo and Thorin's friendship. We also continued working on our Hobbit final projects; we've got some hard-working, creative students in here!

**Social Studies:** We discussed the Middle Colonies, specifically Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey. Then, we started talking about the Southern Colonies, specifically Georgia, the Carolinas, and Virginia. We will finish with the Southern Colonies next week and begin our 13 Colonies Brochure Project.

- 13 Colonies Brochure Project - Due Monday, March 23

**Theology:** We discussed Paul's Letters this week. We looked at why he wrote them and his purpose. We wrote letters in class to each giving each other advice. Next week we will look at the letter to the Romans.

**Science:** We started Chapter 7 this week, which covers energy. We started with the two main types of energy: kinetic and potential, and how an object can transform its energy back and forth between the two types. We conducted a virtual lab and used a tennis ball and a meter stick to explore the relationship between kinetic and potential energy. Next week, we will focus on the other forms of energy and the law of conservation of energy.

**Math 7G1:** Students learned about what probability is and the difference between experimental and theoretical probability. They also learned about pi and had a treat of pie! Next week, students will take a quiz and will learn about compound events.

- Wednesday, March 18 - Chapter 7 Quiz 1 (7.1 - 7.2)

**Math 7G2:** Students prepared for the end of Chapter 7 assessments. They also learned about pi and had a treat of pie! Next week, students will take the test and will learn about exponents. They will learn about the product and quotient of powers properties as well as zero and negative exponents.

- Monday, March 16 - Chapter 7 Test

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

**Language Arts:** Students finished outlining our Final Project essays and reviewed Intro & Conclusion Paragraphs and In-Text Citations, so that next week, we'll be prepped and ready to begin drafting! We also had our final discussion of *A Wrinkle in Time*.

**History:** We finished discussing the War of 1812. Then, we began discussing James Monroe and the events that occurred during his presidency. We discussed sectionalism, the Missouri Compromise, and Henry Clay. We also talked about two major landmark court cases. Next week, we will continue to discuss James Monroe's presidency. We will learn about how the United States gained Florida and the Monroe Doctrine. Students will also receive their Study Guides for the War of 1812 and Monroe Presidency Test.

- War of 1812 and Monroe Presidency Test - Monday, March 23

**Science:** We finished up Chapter 7 on plants this week, and then the students demonstrated their learning with a test on Thursday. These tests will get handed back early next week, and students will have two days to do their test corrections. We ended the week by starting our unit on the human body, covering Chapters 9 and 10.

**Math 8G1:** Students learned about comparing linear and nonlinear functions as well as analyzing and sketching graphs. They also learned about pi and had a treat of pie! Next week, students will begin to review for the end of Chapter 7 assessments.

- Wednesday, March 18 - Chapter 7 Quiz 2 (7.4 - 7.5)
- Friday, March 20 - Chapter 7 Vocabulary Quiz
- Monday, March 23 - Chapter 7 Test

**Math 8G2:** Students wrapped up Chapter 6 with a test. They also learned about pi and had a treat of pie! Next week, students will learn about adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing polynomials. They will also learn about special products of polynomials and solving polynomials in factored form.

- Tuesday, March 24 - Chapter 7 Quiz 1 (7.1 - 7.4)

**Theology:** Congrats to the 8th graders on Confirmation; it was a wonderful night. We are practicing for the Stations of the Cross on Holy Thursday. We are also looking at the Gifts of the Spirit. Next week, we will continue rehearsing the Stations and look at the Fruits and Gifts on how we can use them during Lent.