



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Middle School Newsletter | May 15, 2026

6TH GRADE

Language Arts: We compared and contrasted the Disney movie *Hercules* with the original Greek myth of Heracles and discussed the lessons his story taught the ancient Greeks—and us! We also worked on writing the story we'll tell in our Greek Hero Podcast project.

- Friday May 22 - Novel Outline #4 due

Social Studies: We started our Ancient China Unit. We discussed what dynasties are and the first dynasties of China. We also discussed the main philosophies and religions in China. Next week, we will finish discussing the dynasties, and we will also talk about the Great Wall of China and the Silk Road. Next week, students will also receive their final exam study guide.

- Thursday, May 21 – 50 state geography quiz

Science: We began the week by reviewing and taking the Chapter 11 test. Then we started our last new material of the year, looking at our solar system. We began by learning that, for most of history, people believed in a geocentric model of the solar system. We will look more at our solar system next week.

Theology: We finished up our comic strips depicting Life after Jericho. We looked at how the Israelites began to thrive as a community. Next week, we will look at the reign of King Saul.

Math 6G1: Students finished Chapter 7 with a quiz. They also learned about what integers are and how to compare and order them using number lines. Next week, students will learn about rational numbers, absolute value, the coordinate plane, and writing and graphing inequalities.

Math 6G2: Students finished Chapter 9 with a test. Next week, they will learn about stem-and-leaf plots, histograms, box-and-whisker plots, and shapes of distributions and how to choose appropriate measures to compare data sets.

7TH GRADE

Language Arts: We discussed the growth and changes we've seen in our characters, now that we're breaking into the second act of *The Diary of Anne Frank*. We also began working on the written portion of the Anne Frank project, a Character Analysis Essay.

- Friday May 22 - Novel Outline #4 due

Social Studies: We discussed the founding fathers and mothers. The students then got to choose a founding father and mother. They will research them and create a script in which they pretend to be them. Next week, students will finish their script, present, and then will receive their Road to Revolution Final Exam Project. The students will work on this the following week and will present during their exam period.

- Founding Fathers and Mother Project - Due Thursday, May 21
- 7th Grade Field Trip Permission Slips - Due Monday, May 18
- 7th Grade Field Trip - Wednesday, May 20

Theology: We continued to delve into the book of Revelation. We looked at the different scenes in the book and broke down what they mean. Next week we will finish up Revelation, and look ahead at the church today.

Science: We have continued with the electromagnetic spectrum this week by focusing on the use of waves in wireless communication. Study guides for next week's test were available starting on Tuesday. We then reviewed at the end of the week for the test on Monday. Next week, after the test on waves and Chapter 10, we will look more at how electromagnetism is used in our daily lives.

- Monday, May 18 - Waves/Chapter 10 Test

Math 7G1: Students finished up Chapter 9 with a quiz and also learned about finding the surface area of prisms, cylinders and pyramids. Next week, students will learn about finding the volume of prisms and pyramids and also finding the cross-sections of three dimensional figures.

Math 7G2: Students finished up Chapter 9 with a test. Next week, students will learn about how to find the volume of cylinders, cones, spheres and the surface area and volume of similar solids.

8th Grade

Language Arts: We wrapped up work on our slides for the Final Project presentations, which will begin next week on Tuesday! We also reviewed for and took our Sentence Diagramming test.

- Friday May 22 - Novel Outline #4 due

History: We finished our Civil War unit. The students turned in their Civil War mini-projects, then we discussed reconstruction, and the students began their Final Exam Research Project. The students will work on their research project all next week and will present it during their exam period.

- Final Exam Research Project - Due, May 28

Science: We have focused on ecology this week and on the different types of relationships that arise when species attempt to share space. Next week, we will finish the new material and review for our final exam.

Math 8G1: Students learned about how to find the volume of cylinders, cones, spheres and the surface area and volume of similar solids. Next week, students will begin to prepare for exams.

Math 8G2: Students learned about properties of radicals and solving quadratic equations by graphing, using square roots, completing the square, and the quadratic formula. They also solved nonlinear systems of equations. Next week, students will begin to prepare for exams.

Theology: We reviewed for the ACRE test, which the students took today. It is a standardized test much like the MAP test. Next week, we will look at church teachings on various topics facing us today.

Spanish: The 8th grade Spanish class will be hosting an End-of-Year Fiesta on **Thursday, May 21**, during Spanish class time. Please use the Sign Up Genius below, according to your child's homeroom:

- [8B Fiesta Sign Up for Mr. Baxter's homeroom](#)
- [8H Fiesta Sign Up for Mrs. Hoedeman's homeroom](#)

8TH GRADE END OF THE YEAR ACTIVITIES/DATES

We are approaching the end of the school year, and for our 8th graders, this means a lot of graduation/end-of-the-year activities. Here is a list of a few of those activities:

- Memory book and graduation video pictures due to Jenn Ford – May 1
- Class trip to Mackinac Island – Monday, May 18
- Anointing Mass – May 20 - at 8:15am
- 8th Grade Exams – May 26-28
- 8th Grade Last Mass – May 27
- 8th Grade Breakfast - Hosted on the students' last day of school by parents, May 29
- 8th Grade Last day of school – May 29
- Cedar Point Trip (parent-organized; not a school-sponsored field trip) – June 1
- Graduation – June 3

2026 West Catholic Color Guard Spring/Summer Schedule:

May:

Wednesday 6 th	6-8:30 pm	Open Spin
Wednesday 13 th	6-8:30 pm	Open Spin
Wednesday 20 th	6-8:30 pm	Signups/Auditions

June:

Wednesday 3 rd	6-8:30pm	Practice
Wednesday 10 th	6-8:30pm	Practice
Wednesday 17 th	6-8:30pm	Practice
Wednesday 24 th	6-8:30pm	Practice

July:

Wednesday, 22 nd	10AM-6PM	GUARD CAMP!
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All practices will meet at WC outside the band room, unless other instruction is given. Please, let me know if you will be unavailable to attend any rehearsals as soon as you can or at least 7 days prior. Remember that all practices are important for everyone to attend. Even if you can only make part of a practice every little bit will make us better! Also, bring plenty of water and dress appropriately for the weather we may be outside. Practice schedules may change because of COVID or space restrictions.

Looking Forward To A Great Season,

-Liz

616-304-1752,
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Catholic Central Color Guard

Anyone at CC is welcome to
come to the Open Spins and
Tryouts!

7th and 8th graders are also welcome at the
Opens Spins to see what is like for when
they get to high school or for the next
winter season



Important Dates

Open Spins:

Tues May 5th 6-8:30 pm

Mon May 11th 6-8:30 pm

Tryouts:

Tues May 19th 6-8:30 pm

Where and what to bring

Located in the Catholic Central Band
Room. Wear comfortable clothing you
can move in and bring a water bottle!

Contact Info:

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