Saint Thomas the Apostle
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Middle School Newsletter | Oct. 30, 2026

Upcoming Fieldtrip

Our Middle School will be attending the Catholic Central play "Puffs" on Tuesday, Nov. 3. We will walk to Aquinas in the afternoon. Please remember to sign your student's permission slip for this event.

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Middle School Awards Ceremony

Save the date – Nov. 11! We will have our next Middle School Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, Nov. 11 at 2:45pm in the Church. Join us!

6th Grade

Upcoming Vocations Awareness Day: All the 6th graders in the Diocese will gather to celebrate and promote Vocations Awareness Week. Check out this Vocations Awareness letter for more information.

Language Arts: We continued to read *The Giver.* We talked about how one of the themes of our book is the idea of human dignity, and how we learn about the importance of human dignity in the book. We talked about how the book removes human dignity from people. We also discussed the growth of the main character, Jonas, and how he develops and matures compared to other characters, such as his parents. Next week, we will start our prewrite for character analysis of Jonas.

Social Studies: We finished our unit on citizenship and began studying for our Government and Economic Basics Test. Next week, students will take their test, and we will start our Origins of Civilizations unit. We will also do a mock election so students understand the importance of next week's election in Michigan.

Science: We finished Module 2, learning about our solar system at the start of this week. We focused on the items in our solar system that were created from all of the leftover material that did not become part of the Sun or the planets. We then prepared for Friday's test, which we took Friday. These tests should be graded and returned in time for test corrections to be included on first quarter report cards.

Theology: We discussed different Old Testament stories and how they have influenced the New Testament. We did servant leadership with the lower grades this week, and our Protecting God's Children lesson on technology and decision-making. Next week, we will build the Tower of Babel and look at Noah's Ark.

- Virtue Quiz - November 6

Math 6G1: Students learned to add, subtract, and multiply decimals, and to divide whole numbers. Next week, students will learn about dividing decimals.

- Monday, November 9 - Chapter 2 Quiz 2 (2.5 - 2.8)

Math 6G2: Students took a test and learned about ratios, using tape diagrams and ratio tables to understand relationships. Next week, students will prepare for and take a quiz over this material.

- Thursday, November 5 - Chapter 3 Quiz 1 (3.1 - 3.3)

7th Grade

Language Arts: We finished our debate papers and started our debates. We started with an introduction and evidence for our debate. While students debated, their classmates recorded the evidence they used. Students will use the evidence to help create rebuttals. Next week, students will start their rebuttals and finish the unit on *The Outsiders.* Next, they will start their unit on poetry, looking at figurative language.

Social Studies: We finished our Roman Empire unit, and students took their Roman Empire test. Then, we began our Early North American Peoples Unit. Next week, we will continue by discussing the Mayans in depth. We will also do a mock election so students understand the importance of next week's election in Michigan.

Theology: We had good discussions this week about interpreting different Bible verses. We did servant leadership with the lower grades this week, and our Protecting God's Children lesson on technology and decision-making. Next week, we will dissect the Gospel of Mark.

- Virtue Quiz November 6

Science: Students spent the early part of the week in Science class reviewing kinetic and potential energy and preparing for Thursday's test. On Friday, we began Module 3: Electromagnetic Forces by introducing magnetism.

Math 7G1: Students learned about writing equivalent expressions and factoring expressions. Next week, they will take a quiz and prepare for the assessments at the end of Chapter 3.

- Tuesday, November 3 - Chapter 3 Quiz 2 (3.3 - 3.4)
- Thursday, November 5 - Chapter 3 Vocabulary Quiz
- Friday, November 6 - Chapter 3 Test

Math 7G2: Students took a test and learned about parallel lines, transversals, and the angles of triangles. Next week, students will learn about angles of polygons and using similar triangles to solve problems.

- Tuesday, November 3 - Chapter 3 Quiz 1 (3.1 - 3.2)
- Tuesday, November 10 - Chapter 3 Quiz 2 (3.3 - 3.4)

8th Grade

Language Arts: Students peer-edited and edited their short stories. They also read the short story "The Tell-Tale Heart." Students then looked at how Poe used figurative language to create the mood, and students looked at the importance of word choice when creating a story. Next week, students will take what they learned from their short story unit to learn about poetry.



History: We continued our Constitution for the USA unit. Students had a debate on Federalists versus Anti-Federalists, and learned about the importance of the Bill of Rights. Then, students started their Bill of Rights project, which will be due on Tuesday. Next week, we will continue our unit by finishing up the projects and doing a deep dive into the Constitution. We will also do a mock election so students understand the importance of the election occurring next week in Michigan.

- Bill of Rights Booklet Project - Due Tuesday, November 3

Science: We began the week with the Module 2 test. Then we started Module 3: Biodiversity in Ecosystems. We learned how scientists gather data on populations within ecosystems and used models to calculate biodiversity across different biomes. Module 2 test corrections are due by the end of the school day on Tuesday.

Math 8G1: Students learned about parallel lines, transversals, and the angles of triangles. They took a quiz over this material. Next week, students will learn about angles of polygons and using similar triangles to solve problems.

- Monday, November 9 - Chapter 3 Quiz 2 (3.3 - 3.4)

Math 8G2: Students prepared for end-of-chapter assessments. Next week, students will take the Chapter 2 test. They will also learn about functions, the characteristics of functions, linear functions, and function notation.

- Monday, November 2 - Chapter 2 Test

Theology: Students examined and discussed different Bible passages, as well as learned more about the five precepts of the Catholic Church. We discuss the precepts more in depth next week. We had our Protecting God's Children lesson on technology and decision-making.

- Virtue Quiz Moderation November 6