

Twain Times

Twain Families –

It is a new year which often brings us to a natural time to set goals and reflect on progress made. I encourage you to talk with your child about goals for school and life and what steps are needed to reach them. Goals could be school or home related. What does your child want to improve upon? Reading? Math? Completing Homework? Involve them in setting reasonable goals and keep track of their progress. Don't forget to celebrate the small steps along the way!

January brings us to the end of first semester and the beginning of second semester. Please be sure to check our calendar for important dates. A few of the highlights are listed below.

We have three fund raising nights this month: **January 5 is Domino's Pizza Night.** The Domino's on West Sunshine is our location. For every pizza sold \$1 goes back to Twain Elementary. Please call 869-3322 to order your pizza! The class with the most pizzas sold wins a free pizza party. **January 23 is McDonald's Night** for Twain. We will earn money for our school based on purchases made that evening at the McDonald's on Kansas and Battlefield. PTA is hosting a **Chuck E. Cheese Night on January 24, 3:30-9:00.** Stop by the restaurant to help PTA earn funds for their many projects.

All Pro Dad Breakfast will be **January 20 at 7:30 AM** at South Haven Church. This is a wonderful time for students and dads (or other male role models in their life) to spend time together building their relationship. We have had incredible response from those who have attended, and we would love to see you there too! Be sure to look for our flyer with more information that will come home in the next few days.

Finally, **PTA Open Forum** is **Monday, January 30 at 6:30 PM.** Come and help plan for spring events. PTA is always looking for your input and is happy to help you become more involved in activities at Twain Elementary.

Sincerely,
Stacy Manlove
Principal – Mark Twain Elementary
smanlove@spsmail.org

Items left in Lost and Found at the end of 2nd quarter will be donated to the SPS clothing bank. Please let us help you by putting your child's name in their clothing so it can be returned if lost and found.

**Please see the
calendar for
important dates
and upcoming
events!!**

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Student Council would like to say "Thank you" to everyone who helped with our food collection. We were able to help make the holidays a happier time for seven families who very much appreciate the caring and sharing shown by Mark Twain students and staff.

We collected over 1,406 items that we shared with those in need!

Mrs. Snapp's class will earn a reward from Student Council. We also had four other classes who brought in over 100 items each:

Mrs. Gardner's Class

Mrs. McCord's Class

Ms. Burton's Class

Mrs. Carroll's (4th) Class

Thank you to the following families: Albert, Amant, Boyer, Cole, Curtis, DuBrul, Rinehart and Wooten for their help in sorting and delivering food. A special thank you to Ms. Huff and Ms. Fowler for letting us sort food in the Library.

Our Newborns In Need campaign raised \$270 for this local charity. Many families and babies will have needs met as a result! Way to go Twain Comets!

Thank you to our
community members,

Sam's Club
(off South Campbell)
and

Wal-Mart
(South Campbell)

for their generous support!



Want to be in the
Yearbook???

This year parents can email pictures of school events and submit them for the yearbook!!

The email address for photo submissions is:

twainyearbook2012@hotmail.com



FROM THE HEALTH ROOM:

Dental Health Is Important!

This is the message we are trying to reinforce to the students.

With this goal in mind, Jordan Valley Dental Clinic spoke with classes about how to keep their teeth healthy. The staff also looked at the teeth of all 3rd and 5th graders to see if sealants are needed for protection. Jordan Valley is offering to provide sealants for students who need it and qualify for assistance.

Parents received a letter home requesting permission to place sealants on some of our students. This is at no cost to you and will be completed during the school day sometime after the first of the year.

Please take advantage of this great opportunity to protect your child's teeth against decay. If you received a form asking permission, complete it and return it to the school nurse. If you have questions, feel free to contact Nurse Deason.

Nurse Deason



Winter weather is here so be sure to sign up to receive e-mail notices about school cancellations. E-mail alerts are the fastest way to find out when school is canceled. As an added benefit, you'll also be on the list to get regular e-mail updates about district news and events. Sign up today and you won't ever miss out on important information again.

Sign up at:

<http://springfieldpublicschoolsmo.org/newsletters/>

Staff of the Month-

Congratulations to Molly Faulkner and Tiffany Neal! Mrs. Faulkner was selected as our December representative and Mrs. Neal is our January honoree. Below are a few comments about both of our special teachers.

Mrs. Faulkner...

*Molly shows a true enjoyment of the kids and believes in developing the students' love and talent for music. Molly always has a smile on her face!

*When you research what a music teacher should be you will find a picture of Molly!

*Molly was born to be a music teacher! Children and music are her passion, and it shows! I believe she goes above and beyond to provide opportunities for the children of Twain that will help them discover a love for music. She is the best!!

Mrs. Neal...

*Is she really a new teacher? Tiffany is calm, cool, and collected. Her sweet nature is exactly what we needed at Mark Twain. She is very creative and always has a smile on her face.

*Tiffany has a way of making you feel good just being around her! She has become a true Twainer....caring, helpful and willing to help with "whatever!" I appreciate her "can-do" response when asked to help out. We are fortunate to have a new-comer like Tiffany!

*I really appreciate how eagerly, yet calmly, Tiffany takes on new projects, like Math Night. She is an awesome support for her students and fellow teachers.



