

Twain Times

Twain Families –

Welcome Back! We also extend warm greetings to all of our new families. We look forward to getting to know you and hope you find yourself at home in the Twain Community. Each school year always brings some updates and changes. Here are a few to get you caught up:

- Shannon Bossing will serve as our new Assistant to the Principal.
- Tiffany Neal joins our Fourth-Grade team. She is replacing Mr. Timm who moved to Field Elementary.
- Mrs. Bax is moving down to 1st grade.
- Mrs. Gardner moved down to 2nd^d grade.
- Nicole McCord joins our Third-Grade team. She comes to us from Weaver Elementary.
- Julia Fuller will serve as our part-time Title 1 Reading Specialist. She replaces Mrs. McCormick who moved to Portland Elementary.
- Susan Goodman is our new Art teacher, replacing Judy Wells who retired last year.
- Tammy Rhodes will join our Special Education team.
- Karen Stoneking is our new Physical Education teacher, replacing Nancy Easter who retired last year.

Thanks to all the parents who helped on our **PTA Parent work day** – WOW we got a lot done! If you are looking for a way to get more involved we can help you! PTA is currently looking for parents to help chair various committees for events throughout the year. Each position is unique in responsibilities and time obligations. Please see the PTA information in the Meet the Teacher Packet with further details. We would be glad to help you find a place to share your talents & strengths to help our school.

During the year there will be many activities to keep up with and important dates. There are a few ways you can **keep informed throughout the school year**. First, our web site: <http://spsmk12.mo.us/twain/> has the calendar for the whole year and our Twain Times Newsletter will be posted each month. Second, the Twain Times comes out once a month and contains information specific for each month. You can receive this via email or backpack. It is also posted on our website. Third, each classroom teacher communicates classroom information through newsletters and emails (this method will vary from teacher to teacher). And finally, we also have the Alert Now system which is a phone system used to remind you days we are not in school and other events.

Throughout the year we have **Parkview A+ tutors** and other community volunteers who work in our classrooms. Classroom volunteers do have to clear a background check prior to working in our school. If you do **NOT** want your child working with A+ tutors or community volunteers, please talk to your child's teacher or submit a request in writing.

Our school Mission remains “We will equip ourselves with the skills and knowledge necessary to become self-motivated, life-long learners.” And our motto is “Work Hard, Make a Difference!” We look forward to partnering with you to work hard and make a difference in the lives of students this year.

Sincerely,
Stacye Manlove
Principal – Mark Twain Elementary

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

Emergency Drills:

Mark Twain conducts fire, duck and cover, and lock-down drills in efforts to be prepared for an emergency situation. Students are taught the proper procedures they will need to know to be safe should an emergency occur. Practicing these routines will assist students in remaining calm and responding appropriately in the event of an actual emergency.

If it becomes necessary to evacuate the Mark Twain building, students will relocate to South Haven Baptist on the corner of Campbell and Broadmoor for parent pick-up. For the safety of the students, anyone picking up a child will be required to show a picture ID and will have to be listed on a student enrollment card or emergency information page.

Counselor Corner:



Hi, my name is Julie Baxter and I am returning to Mark Twain for my fourth year as school counselor. Prior to working at Twain, I was a counselor for three years and a teacher for six years. I absolutely love my job and I am passionate about working with our students. The Twain counseling program involves a three-tiered approach through classroom guidance, individual and small group counseling opportunities. If you should have questions or need to contact me my office phone number is 523-4360.

10-11 Class Pictures

Missed getting a class picture last year?? We still have some available for purchase. They are currently on sale in the office and there is a limited supply. They are currently on sale at a reduced cost for \$3.00 each.

Freedom Walk...

On Friday, September 16th, we will be remembering the 10th anniversary of 9-11 and observing Constitution Day with a Freedom Walk.

This marathon walk will be held on the Twain track from 9:00 AM—3:00 PM.

The purpose of the walk is to honor those

who were lost and those who are still serving to preserve our freedom. Students will have the opportunity to participate during their recess time or PE time.

Students will be encouraged to wear Red, White, and Blue as they walk. Families are encouraged to participate as well. Please sign in at the office and leave animals at home.



Volunteer Corner:

PTA Chairs: PTA is need of volunteers to help with many activities throughout the year. Please check out the information provided in the Meet the Teacher Packet.

Notes from the Librarian

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a safe and restful summer!

Encouraging summer reading has always been one of our library goals. I hope many Mark Twain students participated in the summer reading program at the public library. As soon as I receive a list of participating students they will receive recognition for using some of their "summer" time wisely!



Please look in your child's student information packet for more information about the library!

Anita Huff
Library Media Specialist

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Welcome Back to School! The Mark Twain Student Council serves the students and families of Mark Twain, by offering opportunities to improve our school spirit through spirit days, school improvement projects and serving our community through various projects. Just last May, the students of Mark Twain raised over \$2,000 for the Joplin Convoy of Hope Relief Efforts. Students in grades 3-5 please consider representing your class, look for election information to be distributed the week of August 29th.

Introducing Mrs. Stoneking...

I am Mrs. Stoneking, your child's P.E. teacher. This will be my first year teaching at Twain. For the past 5 years, I have taught P.E. at Hickory Hills Elementary and Rountree Elementary. Prior to that I was at Weaver Elementary. I am so excited to be at Twain this year! I will no longer have to be at a different building each day!! I have heard so many great things about Twain, and I am so excited to embark in this new journey.

*I am married and have two children, a 16 year old and a 2 year old. See my bulletin board in the gym to find out more about me. You may also visit my website to learn more about our Physical Education program and what your child will be doing.
<http://wix.com/kstoneking/pe>*