



# THE TWAIN TIMES



Mark Twain Elementary

## OCTOBER 2021

Attendance: 797-7213  
Office: 797-7200

Vicki Moss      Principal  
Susan Kaul      Secretary  
Kelley Knapp      Attendance  
Jenna Martin      School Nurse  
Feven Woldeab      Health Aide  
Serena Casale      School Counselor

### Important Dates To Remember...



1st grading period ends	10/08
NEA/OEA Day NO SCHOOL	10/15
Scholastic Book Fair	10/18 to 10/22
School Conferences	10/21 and 10/22
PTA Meeting @ 7:00	10/26
Fall Parties and Parade @ 2:00	10/29

### OCTOBER 21ST AND 22ND

**PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES** are at the end of the month! These are VERY important for you to attend as it is a time for you and your child's teacher to talk about his/her progress. Communication between parents and teachers is VITAL to a student's success. One of the biggest predictors in a student's success is parent involvement with education. If you have not scheduled a conference with your child's teacher, please contact the office at 614-797-7200.



### FALL BOOK FAIR

OCTOBER 18 THROUGH OCTOBER 22



### YEARBOOK ART CONTEST



OCTOBER 18TH TO OCTOBER 29TH

### FALL PARTIES AND PARADE

Weather permitting, our parade will start at 2:00 PM, Friday, October 29th

**Costumes:** NO weapons, NO fake blood, NO violence, and NO scary masks! Please make sure they're school appropriate. ONLY Kindergarteners are to wear their costumes to school. All other students will be given the opportunity to change.



# MARK TWAIN ATTENDANCE



## MARK TWAIN ATTENDANCE

### Reporting an Absence

If your child is going to be tardy or absent from school, please remember to call SafeArrival.

This line is available 24 hours a day. Please report all absences by 9:00 a.m.



### Doctor Notes

Headed to school after a morning doctor or orthodontist appointment or leaving early to get to an afternoon appointment? Please remember to ask for a doctor's excuse so that the absence or tardy can be properly coded as a medical excuse.

### Encouraging Good Attendance

The 2021-2022 school year has begun and our teachers and staff have exciting learning opportunities planned and high academic expectations for all of our students. We are committed to supporting all students to achieve their dreams and to experience an excellent school year. I am seeking your commitment to support your child's educational growth by making sure your child attends school every day possible this year. Good attendance starts early.

The evidence is clear: children with good attendance are more likely to be successful in school. High attendance rates correlate to high student achievement. This is true for every grade. Regular school attendance is essential to successful learning.

Every day counts. Missing school for any amount of time can have a negative impact on academic achievement. Students with good attendance perform better academically. Research has shown that the attendance habits established early have lasting effects on students throughout their education. Your child needs to be in school and engaged in learning to reach his or her full potential.

I realize that every family faces challenges. Please let your child's teacher, counselor or me know if you are dealing with a challenge affecting your child's good school attendance. Your school family will help to ensure that your child's school attendance stays on track.

Thank you for all you do to support your child's school success and well-being. I look forward to working with you this year and to having your child learn and grow. Best wishes for a safe, respectful, responsible and successful school year.

HAPPY  
FALL  
Y'all

### LOST AND FOUND

Are you missing a shoe, a lunch box or a coat? Please remember to check the Lost and Found for misplaced items before the end of the month. All unclaimed items will be donated to W.A.R.M.



When your child arrives late or checks out early at school. He/she misses the teacher's instructions and the introduction or closure to the lesson. Frequent lateness can seriously disadvantage your child because of the considerable time lost learning in the classroom

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals days worth of teaching lost in a year.
5 Minutes	3.4 Days
10 Minutes	6.9 Days
15 Minutes	10.3 Days
20 Minutes	13.8 Days
30 Minutes	20.7 Days



SCHOOL BEGINS AT 9:05 a.m. Please help your child to be punctual.

## MARK TWAIN REMINDERS AND REALLY USEFUL INFORMATION!

### Clinic News

Below is some guidance about when we should make sure students are washing their hands with soap and water and when it's okay for them to use hand sanitizer. It's important to understand that washing your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds is more effective and should be the preferred method of keeping our hands clean. Hand sanitizer can be used throughout the day, but students should also be encouraged to wash their hands frequently with soap and water.

#### When to wash hands with soap and water:

1. Before eating
2. After going to the bathroom
3. If your hands are visibly greasy or dirty
4. After recess when hands are likely dirty from playing outside

#### When to use hand sanitizer

1. If soap and water are not available
2. When switching from one area of the building to another



#### Additional Information:

1. Antibacterial soap is not more effective than regular soap and is not recommended for use in the school setting
2. Hand sanitizer CANNOT be used when hands are visibly dirty- it is not effective to clean dirt or grime off hands
3. Using warm water does not increase effectiveness- cold and warm are both acceptable

Jenna Martin RN BSN LSN  
School Nurse



PTA MEETING  
October 26th  
7:00 P.M.

### NO SCHOOL

Oct 15h NEA/OEA DAY  
Oct 21 & Oct 22 SCHOOL CONFERENCE



## LIBRARY NEWS AND INFORMATION

# School Library Update by Mrs. Todd

Welcome back to another great year at Mark Twain. The Library is open and anxious to share new books with our students. Some of our new titles include:

Bringing Back the Wolves  
Even Superheroes Have Bad Days  
Wonder Woman to the Rescue  
10 Little Ninjas  
My Book of Rocks and Minerals  
Puppy Place, Bitsy

.....and many more!

Your child has library every week on the same day. Check the chart below to see your child's teacher days so you can return books on time.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Seabury	Breckenridge	Garrett AM	Frashier	Burkhart
Lee	Boehm	Mantenieks	Hynes	Lysaght
Ey	Ivery AM	Campbell	Amici	Hostetler
McCoy	Ivery PM	Garrett PM	Walker	Calhoun
Martin	Hines	Matchack	Strain	Hafner
	Louden	Glaser		



## WESTERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

**LIBRARY LINK.....**Books delivered to you at school!

Students and teachers, save yourself a trip to the library! Request free delivery of books, movies and music to your school.

### How does it work?

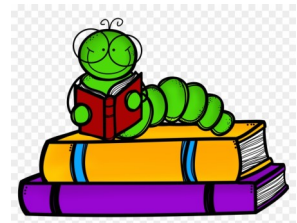
**Who** Students, teachers, and staff can receive items.

**What** Pick up or return Westerville Public Library items at your school, including books, audiobooks, movies, and more.

**When** Weekdays during school hours.

**Where** To any school building in the Westerville district.

**How** With your Westerville Library card, [reserve an item](#). Select your school as your location.



To be eligible for deliveries, you must have a Westerville Library card account in good standing. Contact the Westerville Public Library. to apply for a library card or resolve issues with your account.

How do I pick up or return an item?

When your item's status appears as "ready for pickup", you will receive a notification. Your item will then be checked out to you and delivered to your school, usually within 1-2 business days.

To find out where to pick up and return items at your school, contact your school office, your school library, or the Westerville Public Library. If you do not pick up your item within 7 days, it will be returned to the library and checked in.

Contact Us

Questions? Contact us at 614-259-5034 or [schools@westervillelibrary.org](mailto:schools@westervillelibrary.org).

## PTA NEWS AND INFORMATION



### DISTRICT POLICY REGARDING BIRTHDAY TREATS

As we start the 2019-2020 school year, Mark Twain Elementary School is taking an active role in promoting, supporting, and modeling healthy eating habits for our students. While we recognize that our children love to celebrate special events such as birthdays with their peers and teachers, we also recognize that we have a tremendous opportunity to promote healthy behaviors and to show students how to enjoy special moments such as birthdays without making food the focus of our celebrations. In an effort to nurture healthy choices and to strengthen our school-wide commitment to wellness, we will be implementing new practices for individual student celebrations (birthdays, moving to a new school, etc.) and we will no longer allow students to distribute edible treats for these events. Instead, we have identified other celebration options. Below are our school's approved choices for alternatives to food treats:

- Donate a book to your child's classroom or to our school library's Birthday Book - Club. You may want to contact your child's teacher for book suggestions.
- Donate an indoor recess game to your child's classroom.
- Distributed small tokens such as stickers, birthday pencils, or pencil toppers to the class.
- Provide an autograph book or tee shirt for your child that classmates can sign.

We appreciate your partnership as we implement our new school practices. Please note that any food-item sent to school will NOT be opened or distributed and will be returned home with the child. We will continue to have school wide celebrations such as the Fall Party, Winter Party and Valentine Party, at which we will continue to share nutritious snacks and will allow classrooms to share some treats. Children embrace being recognized by their peers and teachers for special occasions and our new practices will ensure the focus of our celebrations are on the student and not the edible treat. We invite our Mark Twain school community to join us in our efforts to promote lifelong, healthy, and nutritional habits in our students. We will continue our class parties with food but will have limitations for all students to enjoy.

### 2021 WALK A THON

While this year's walk-a-thon looked different on the day of, We are OVER THE MOON pleased to say our Mark Twain kids did not let us down. They raised \$14,364.11!!! This will help greatly to get our kids the things they need this year. A huge thanks to the AMAZING teachers and staff who ran the day of and gave the kids a great walk-a-thon event!

--your PTA

## 2021 REFLECTIONS

Does your student enjoy art, music and dance or have an interest in writing, producing films and taking photos? Then our PTA invites them to have fun unleashing their inner artist with the 2021 [PTA Reflections](#) art celebration & contest! Reflections is a National PTA program that starts at the school level, then to districts, state and national. Past Westerville students have been selected for top honors. Will that be your child?

**2021 Theme: "I Will Change the World By..."**

**Categories:**

- Dance choreography, Film production, Literature, Music composition, and Photography

**Visual arts**

**How to Join:** Pick up submission guidelines and an entry form today from Mrs. Kaul in the office or Mr. K in the art room. This packet has more detailed information for each art category.

**Grade Divisions:** Primary (K - Grade 2) & Intermediate (Grades 3 - 5)

**Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities may participate in one of two ways:

**Enter in Special Artist Division** to receive non-artistic accommodation and assistance from an adult. Students are recognized and awarded prizes as part of the Special Artist Division. The Special Artist Division is an optional division of the Reflections program, accepting students in all grades whose physical, cognitive or mental health challenges meet guidelines set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act. National PTA will honor one special artist from across all arts categories to receive an Outstanding Interpretation Award. Up to six additional special artists will receive a National PTA Award of Excellence.

**Enter in grade division most closely aligned to the student's functional abilities.** Students are recognized and awarded prizes as part of the general student population without regard to special needs or challenges. In this case, students follow all general rules and arts category rules but may submit their entries in the grade division most closely aligned to their cognitive or functional abilities.

**Deadline:** Return projects with completed entry forms to Mrs. Kaul in the office by Fri., Oct. 28, 2021 at 3 p.m.

**Prizes and scholarships** available! School winners will be announced Nov. 8, 2021, and submitted to the District Level.

For inspiration, visit the Reflections virtual art gallery by scrolling down on the [PTA.org/Reflections/Awards](https://pta.org/Reflections/Awards) page, where you can also learn more about prizes and scholarships.

**Questions?** Contact Mark Twain Reflections co-chairs, Abby Fisher & Jen Arnold, at [mtreflections2021@gmail.com](mailto:mtreflections2021@gmail.com).

Art is a fantastic way for our kiddos to express themselves and bring their emotions to life. Considering the past few years, we hope this provides a great outlet for creative expression. We can't wait to see what our students come up with!