

November Newsletter: Santa Fe Trail High School

Welcome to the November newsletter of Santa Fe Trail High School! This issue features the latest updates and highlights from our high school community.



by Kyle Ellis

SANTA FE TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL



Message from the Principal

Dear Students, Staff, and Parents,

As we navigate the crisp November air and the vibrant hues of autumn, I'm filled with a sense of gratitude for the continued growth and achievements of our students. It's inspiring to witness the incredible energy and enthusiasm within our school community. The dedication and hard work demonstrated by our students continues to amaze us.

As the school year has progressed, we've seen a surge in student engagement across various academic and extracurricular activities. From thought-provoking discussions in classrooms to captivating athletic competitions to the upcoming performances on stage, our students are leaving their mark.

As we approach the holiday season, we encourage everyone to embrace the spirit of giving, kindness, and togetherness. Let's make this a time of reflection, gratitude, and joy. Please join us at our events and activities to both foster a sense of community and celebrate our students.

I want to extend my sincere thanks to our dedicated teachers and staff for their tireless efforts in creating a supportive and stimulating learning environment. Their commitment to fostering intellectual curiosity and personal growth is invaluable.

As we move forward, let's continue to celebrate our successes, learn from our challenges, and strive for even greater heights. Together, we can create a vibrant and enriching community where every student thrives.

Wishing you all a wonderful November and a joyous holiday season!

Sincerely

Kyle Ellis



Class Updates

Art

Submitted by Stephanie Kitten

Gobble, gobble, gobble, Chargers! We are in the second quarter. Time is flying. Holidays are right around the corner. Make sure to check out all of the wonderful artwork classes created this year, either online or at the High School display cases.



Thanks to Nick from Kansas City Art Institute for presenting all the amazing things KCAI offers.



Art Calendar of Events:

- The Kansas City Art Institute came on Oct. 8th and discussed what it is like to go to the KCAI.
- Nov. 15th Advanced Students to the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
- End of Semester Fine & Practical Arts Show Dec. 12th from 6-7:00 pm in Art room 120 and commons.

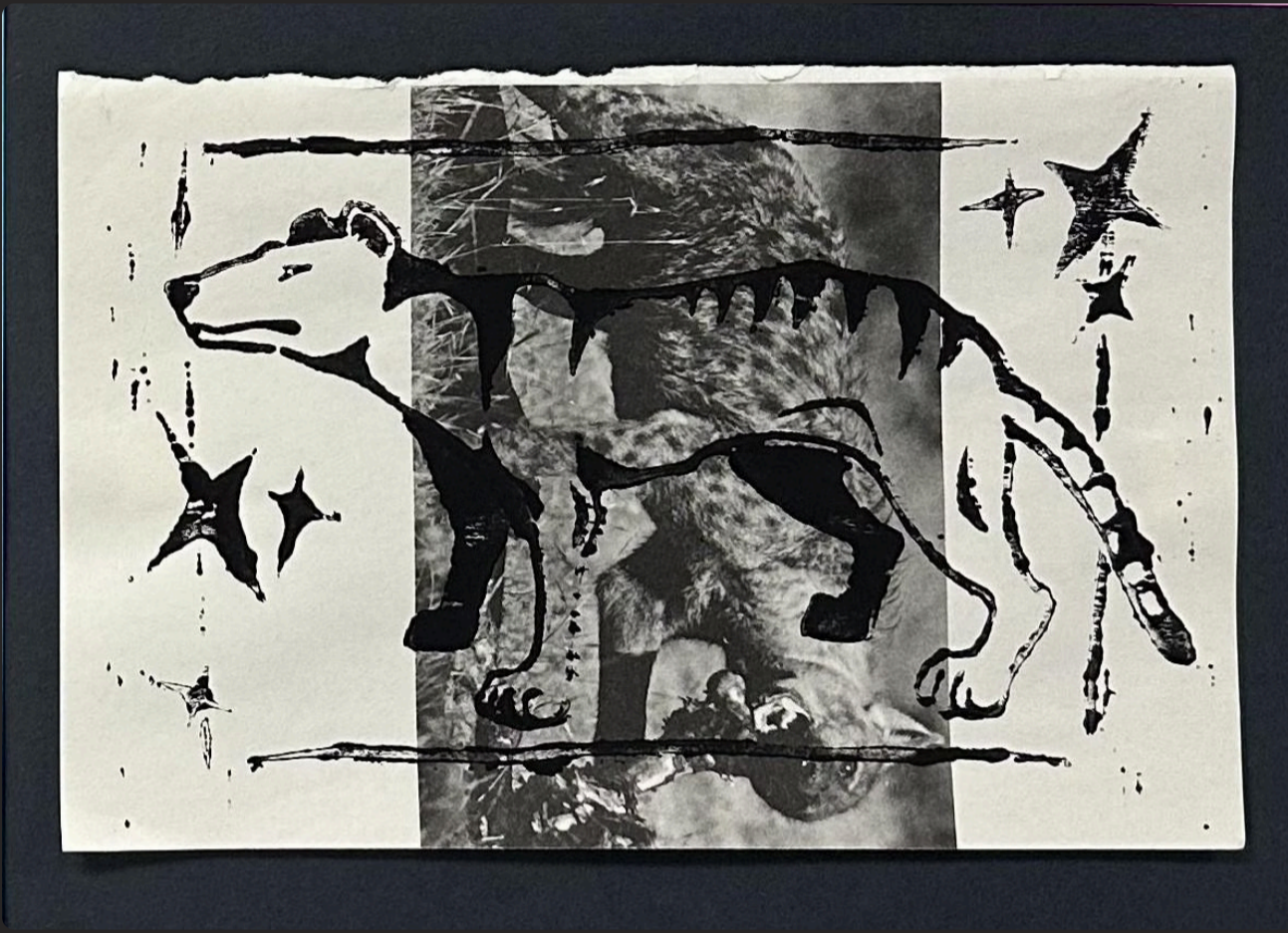
Online

Check out the SFTHS Art Department Facebook Page. If you haven't already, please like and follow us.



Congratulations to Reese Phillips for being nominated for the "Artist of the Week" contest for grades 10 to 12.

Arsonia



The holidays are coming! I have uploaded over 300 pieces of art with more to come. Support your student and the Art Department in one-stop shopping for unique gifts with students' artwork on it. Arsonia donates 20% of your purchases to the SFTHS Art Department. Find all the information you need here at <https://www.artsonia.com/>



Please feel free to contact me via email with any questions. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and a safe journey for everyone traveling. Artfully, Mrs. Kitten

Biology

Submitted by Michele Herren

Biology students just finished a unit on Chemical Reactions in Living Systems. One fun activity they got to participate in was making elephant toothpaste. Different groups of students used different components in the experiment to see how those components affected the reaction. They also discovered what component acted as the catalyst in the experiment.



Emergency Medical Responder

Submitted by Kayla Chiddix

EMR students have been working on their patient assessment skills. Part of their experience has also included working alongside our athletic trainer during the home football games. Students have already become certified in Basic Life Support as part of their training this semester.



Yearbook

Submitted by Julie Smith



Sales goal smashed! The yearbook staff hit the ground running with ad sales, meeting their goal well ahead of our ad sales blitz day. We celebrated meeting this goal at The Mud Room in Topeka, painting pottery. Thank you to our local business partners who said yes to purchasing an ad. Your purchase keeps book prices low for our students and will help fund camera upgrades so our staff can continue to provide high quality photos in our publications.

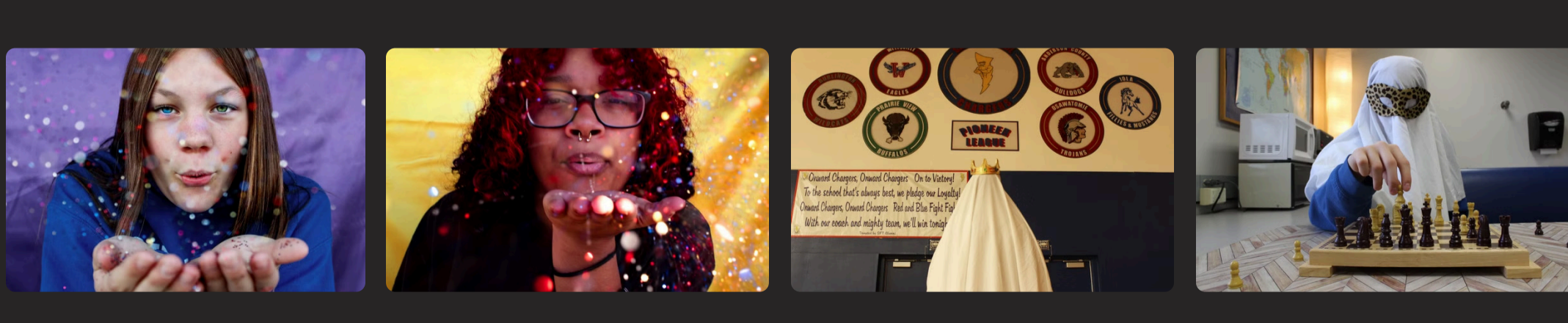
3 Important Yearbook Things:

1. Books are the lowest they'll be all year. Order a yearbook prior to November 24 and your student's name will be placed into a drawing for a \$25 gift card. Get a form from Mrs. Smith, or order online at jostens.com.
2. Senior tributes are now on sale. Emails went out to all senior parents, if you need more information, or have questions, email jsmith@usd434.us.
3. Follow us on Instagram and TikTok! @the_charger_yearbook

Photo Imaging

Submitted by Julie Smith

Students in Photo Imaging have been learning the exposure triangle and rules of composition. They've enjoyed practicing these elements of photography with a variety of props and settings.



Photos Created by (left to right) Olivia Roberts, Paige Davidson, Tyler Shreve, Seth Dain

ACC Spanish

Submitted by Emma Fernandez

The ACC Spanish class traveled to Washburn University to participate in a Spanish immersion Day of the Dead experience. It included short stories, a scavenger hunt, presentations and dancing. A great group of high school students.





Message from the Athletics & Activities Director

The 2024-25 school year is off to a fantastic start! Our fall sports and activities have been in full swing, and winter sports are just about ready to begin. Students planning to participate in winter sports should ensure all eligibility paperwork is completed and submitted to the office. Our Basketball, Wrestling, Cheer, Dance, Debate, Scholars' Bowl, Band, Choir, and Musical are all gearing up for an exciting season of performances and competitions. Congratulations and Good Luck to all!!! Go Chargers!!!

- Winter Parents Meeting will be Thursday, November 7 at 6 pm in the auditorium.

We look forward to the busy season ahead, with plenty of opportunities to support our students and teachers. Get out and cheer them on when you can! Go Chargers!

Kris Henry

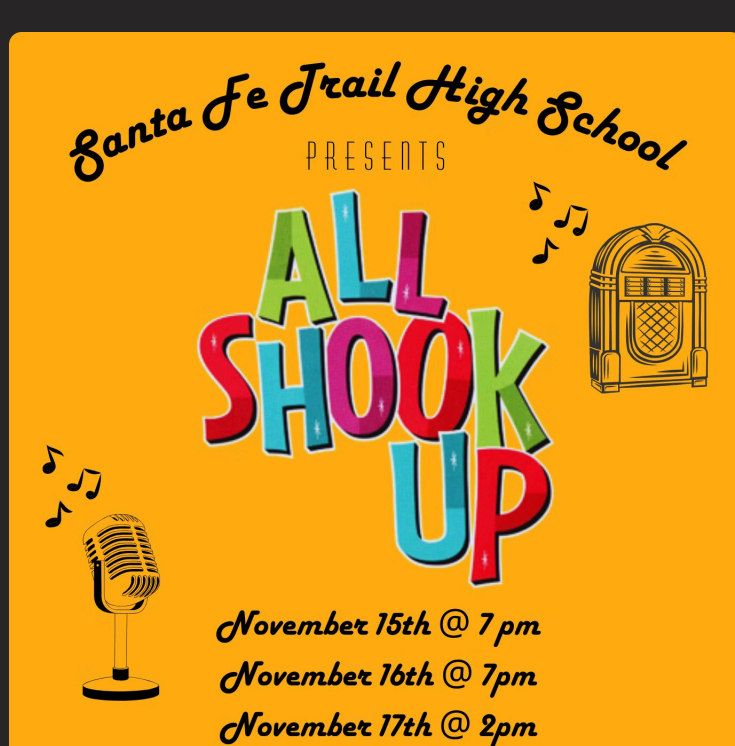


Activities Update

Musical

Submitted by Kara Holbert

IT'S ALMOST TIME! The 2024 Fall Musical, "All Shook Up!" has performances later this month! **SAVE THE DATES: November 15th @ 7:00 PM, November 16th @ 7:00 PM, and November 17th @ 2:00 PM.** The legendary Rock n' Roll music of **ELVIS** comes alive in our Fall Musical "All Shook Up." Inspired by Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, "All Shook Up" follows a small Midwestern town in the mid-1950's that is thrown into a frenzy with the arrival of Chad, a good-looking, motorcycle-riding roustabout, who rides from town to town with a guitar on his back, blue suede shoes on his feet, and a song in his heart. Repressed by their crazy mayor, the town begins to come alive once more under Chad's influence. Many people meet and cross unlikely paths, in the pursuit of their dreams, all in one zany night that will change the town forever. "All Shook Up" is a rocking, heartwarming tale about following dreams, finding love, and the power of music.



Don't Be Cruel, you Hound Dogs! We hope to see your temperature rising with *Burnin' Love* at our performances - we know you *Can't Help Falling in Love!*

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for senior citizens and kids.

Scholars Bowl

Coach Michaelis and the members of the Scholars Bowl team are off and running with their first varsity meet scheduled for Monday, November 4th at West Franklin. They finished in third place only after a four-way tie had to be broken by total points scored. The first junior varsity meet is on Thursday, November 6th. The only home event will be a JV tournament on December 11th beginning at 4:30 PM. The season boasts ten tournaments including the culminating league championship on January 15th. Good luck to all!



Choir

Submitted by Kara Holbert

SFTHS Choirs had a fantastic first performance of the school year last month. We are so excited to see the growth within our program this year! They are now working on music to perform at our Holiday Concert, which is on Thursday, December 19th at 7:00 PM in the SFTHS Auditorium. Join us for a wonderful evening of festive music to showcase our amazing singers here at Trail, and get you in the holiday spirit before winter break! We hope you can make it out! Admission is FREE!

Band

Submitted by McKenzie Rice

The Santa Fe Trail High School Band has been working extremely hard this past month! They have presented three different halftime performances in the month of October. As we near the end of football season, we are looking forward to diving into our winter concert music and pep band tunes for basketball season. We would also like to wish our 14 students auditioning for the district honor band in November much luck. These students have been working independently on music and scales to audition against approximately 800 other students for limited spots in our district honor bands which will perform in December.

Green Team

Submitted by Eric Staab

Eight members of the Green Team spent their free time on Friday, October 18th priming the restrooms at the Overbrook Park. This will be part of a larger project completed by government students on November 6th. Plans are underway to continue with sprucing up public restrooms at both the Scranton and Carbondale City Parks as well as a tentative outing with Brookside residents to a local basketball game. And in April, the Green Team will host their annual "Tree Give-Away." Stay tuned for more information on how the SFTHS Green Team is impacting our community. If you're interested in becoming a part of the Green Team, see Mr. Staab in room 124.



National Honor Society

Submitted by Allison Folger

National Honor Society sponsored the second annual Powder Puff Brisketball Tournament on Oct. 2. Freshmen, sophomore, junior and senior teams competed, with the senior team being victorious. All proceeds from the event benefited the Susan G. Komen Foundation.



NHS members are now preparing for the Winter Formal. Winter Formal will be Saturday, December 7th at 8 PM. Tickets are \$5 in advance and will go on sale for students mid-November.

KAY

Submitted by Mary Burgett

KAY Club is getting geared up to host their Annual Blood Drive on November 11th. Donors are desperately needed. See the flyer below for more details.



FBLA

Submitted by Julie Smith

In October's chapter meeting members signed up for District Conference Events. Trail's own Tyler Bolt will organize the district conference in his role as Kansas FBLA District VII Vice President held at Washburn University on January 29. If you're interested in volunteering as an event judge, test monitor, time keeper, or prep room monitor please contact Tyler at kfbladistrict7@gmail.com.



FBLA members also hosted trunks at two of our community's trunk or treat events.



Santa Fe Trail Chargers

Fall Athletics Update

Girls Golf

Submitted by Mary Burgett

Bailey Anshutz is the first 2024-25 Charger state medalist and a girls golf state medalist for the third year in a row! Bailey placed 16th as an Individual in the 4A State Girls Golf tournament held in Hesston, Kansas on October 21st & 22nd. (There were 92 total 4A state competitors!)

Bailey completed her SFTHS girls golf career as an individual medalist in every 2024 season tournament she played in. In the August 4A State Invitational Preview tournament she was the 8th place individual medalist. Her other regular season tournaments always had Bailey finishing in the top three Individual spots. She had three 3rd place and three 2nd place finishes. Bailey was the 1st place individual medalist at the SFT Invitational that ended in a three-way tie. She won the top spot after a three hole scorecard playoff!

Bailey earned All League Team selection for the Pioneer League every year. She has worked hard year-round to be a competitive golfer and has committed to play golf for the women's golf team at Baker University next year. Congratulations to Bailey. We wish her continued success. We are SFT Charger Proud!



Volleyball

Submitted by Jami Potter

Charger volleyball posted a 11-1 league record this year and a near 75% win record overall with 29 wins and 10 losses. They finished their season at 3A substate on Saturday, October 26th at Royal Valley High School in Hoyt.



During several volleyball games, fans were treated to an amazing performance of the National Anthem sung by freshman volleyball player Lilly Barnes.

Football

Submitted by Greg Slade

Santa Fe Trail football ended the regular season strong with a record of 5-3 after defeating the Cyclones of KC Bishop Ward 33-20 on Friday, October 25th.

On Friday, November 1st, the Chargers faced Perry-Lecompton at home for the first round of the 3A Kansas State football playoffs. Unfortunately, the Kaws played the better game, winning 35-0.

Congratulations to the team for a winning season of 5-4 and to the three seniors, Tage Skocny, Blake Slavin, and Rylan Anspaugh, for their commitment to Santa Fe Trail football.



Cross Country

Submitted by Michele Herren

At the Sabetha regionals on Saturday, October 26, the girls had two state qualifiers! Lea Roberts took 5th with a time of 20:51.2 and Alexa Heder came in 14th with a PR of 22:07.8. A great finish was also made by Eva Branstetter who finished with 24:42.5 and Lucy Hatfield with a time of 29:57.9.



The boys placed 2nd as a team at the Sabetha regionals, qualifying them for state as well. Congratulations to Bryce Roberts, Holden Tantaros, KJ Roberts, Ryland Roberts, Josh Wessel, Drake Kirby, and Daniel McKee. Cody Cooper, Isaiah Jones, and Coalton Zoch will be training and traveling with the team as well. Individually, Bryce Roberts placed 2nd with a time of 16:58 and Holden Tantaros had a PR at 17:59 finishing in 10th. Strong performances were had by KJ Roberts with a time of 18:26 (17th), Rylan Roberts 19:07 (23rd), Josh Wessel 19:46 (36th), Drake Kirby 10:10 (42nd and a PR), and Daniel McKee 21:01(55th).

The Kansas 3A Cross Country State Contest was held at Rim Rock in Lawrence on a rainy November 2nd. The boys finished 8th as a team with Bryce Roberts as the 11th place State Medalist. PR's were earned by Holden Tantaros at 17:43, Josh Wessel at 19:15 and Daniel McKee at 20:04. In addition, KJ Roberts ran an 18:12, Rylan Roberts finished at 19:42, and Drake Kirby had a time of 10:16.

The girls also performed well at the 3A State Meet. Alexa Heder PR'd with a time of 22:01 and Lea Roberts was a State Medalist placing 20th with a time of 20:29.

Congratulations to all the runners for a great season!



Winter Athletics Update

Wrestling

Submitted by Tyler Gonzales

All boys and girls interested in wrestling for the 2024-2025 season, need to make sure they have checked in with the Athletic Secretary in the main office to confirm that they have all necessary documents submitted. You are only eligible to begin practicing when all forms are turned in. In addition, all wrestlers also need to stop in and talk with Coach Gonzales for information on joining the Team Remind and Google Classroom. If you have any remaining questions about wrestling, see Coach Gonzales immediately!



Boys Basketball

Submitted by Thatcher Decker

SFT Boys Basketball practice starts with "H*** WEEK" (also known as a not so enjoyable cardiovascular experience) on November 18th at 6:00 AM in the morning. For those boys playing, be sure you are eligible by turning in all necessary forms in the main office. If you have any questions, stop by and see Coach Decker as soon as possible.

SENIORS

Things To Do

SENIOR CLASS OF 2025

TOP PRIORITIES

- 1 Complete Legal Name Validation, on Tab(H) in the online enrollment forms
- 2 Order Gap and Gown Package
- 3 3-4 childhood/baby pictures and one senior picture for the slideshow-email tsmith@usd434.us
- 4 Pay Class dues
Set up a fee payment plan if needed

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- College Visits
- Senior Photo Sessions
- Letters of recommendation - for college apps and scholarships
- Grad Party Plans
- Mrs. Julie Smith is accepting senior pictures for the yearbook and senior tribute ads(more info to come) jsmith@usd434.us

Time Frame	TASKS
December	FAFSA and start applying for scholarships
January	Apply for local scholarships
February	Check your fee balances with the office
March	Senior Profiles w/County Paper

SAVOR THE MOMENT

WATCH THE SUNSET	VOLUNTEER TOGETHER	MAKE A PHOTO BOOK	COLLEGE PREP SHOPPING	WRITE A LETTER TO YOUR GRADUATE
CREATE YOUR IDEAL FUTURE	JOB APPLICATIONS	WATCH THE SUNSET	COOK A MEAL TOGETHER	SUPPORT THEM AT THEIR EVENTS
TAKE THEM ON A SPECIAL OUTING	ENJOY THEIR QUIRKS	WRITE A THANK YOU LETTER TO A TEACHER	CREATE A LIST OF IMPORTANT NUMBERS	FAMILY TIME
TALK ABOUT BUDGETS	SELF CARE	LOOK THROUGH OLD PICS	WATCH THE SUNRISE	LAUGH WITH THEM
GET THEM A DEBIT/CREDIT CARD	PLAY BOARD GMAES	TEL THEM YOU ARE PROUD OF THEM	COOK A RECIPE	TALK ABOUT THEIR INTERESTS

DO IT SOON

- October Order Cap & Gown package- shipping gets more expensive the longer you wait.
- October 3-4 childhood/baby pictures and one senior picture for the slideshow-email Tasha Smith @ tsmith@usd434.us

NEXT MONTH

- November
Part-time senior? Early Graduation

NOTES

- Copy and paste the link below to find the required graduation items.
- https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/productDetail/1071076/SANTA-FE-TRAIL-HIGH-SCHOOL/Cap-and-Gown/2415312637/CATALOG_REPO
- SITORY/Cap-Gown-Tassel-and-Custom-Stole/2415312643ink
-
-

Senior Night

Santa Fe Trail hosted two senior nights for fall athletes. On October 10th, seven volleyball players received recognition for their talent and dedication. And on October 25th, during the pregame of the varsity football contest versus KC Bishop Ward, twenty-five senior members of football, girls golf, cross country, dance, band, and cheer received their recognition alongside their parents. For complete color programs of senior night participants (as well as seasonal sports programs and rosters), scan the QR code below.



SCAN ME



Upcoming Events - November

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>4</p> <p>NO SCHOOL. Professional Development Day</p> <p>4:00pm:V Scholars Bowl at West Franklin</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Girls Basketball @ Prairie View</p>	<p>5</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Girls Basketball @ Anderson County</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Boys Wrestling @ Perry-Lecompton</p>	<p>6</p> <p>4:15pm:JV Scholars Bowl at Eudora</p> <p>5:30pm:OAC SITE Council</p>	<p>7</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Boys Wrestling @ Osawatomie</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Girls Basketball @ Iola</p> <p>6:00pm:SFT HS Winter Parent Meeting in the Auditorium</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:00am:HS and Jr. High KAY Regional Conference @ Olathe Santa Fe Trail Middle School in Olathe</p> <p>7:00pm:HS V FB Regionals TBD</p>	<p>9</p> <p>ECKMEA Honor Ensemble Auditions @ GEHS</p> <p>9:00am:JH Boys Wrestling @ Emporia</p>
<p>11</p> <p>Veterans Day</p> <p>KSHSAA Fall Buffer Week</p> <p>8:00am:Blood Drive at SFT HS Main Gym</p> <p>9:30am:Veterans Day Assembly @ CAC</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Girls Basketball vs Wellsville</p> <p>4:00pm:V Scholars Bowl at Council Grove</p>	<p>12</p> <p>KSHSAA Fall Buffer Week</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Boys Wrestling @ Iola</p> <p>4:30pm:JH Girls Basketball @ Abilene</p>	<p>13</p> <p>KSHSAA Fall Buffer Week</p> <p>6:00pm:Board of Education Meeting</p>	<p>14</p> <p>KSHSAA Fall Buffer Week</p> <p>4:00pm:V/JV Scholars Bowl at Mission Valley</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Girls Basketball vs Burlington</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Boys League Wrestling @ Burlington</p>	<p>15</p> <p>KSHSAA Fall Buffer Week</p> <p>7:00pm:HS V FB Sectionals TBD</p> <p>7:00pm:HS Musical in Auditorium</p>	<p>16</p> <p>KSHSAA Fall Buffer Week</p> <p>8:15am:JH Boys Wrestling @ Silver Lake</p> <p>7:00pm:HS Musical in Auditorium</p>
<p>18</p> <p>Winter Practice Starts</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Girls Basketball @ Osawatomie</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Thanksgiving Meal (2nd & 3rd Grade)</p> <p>9:00am:HS STUCO League at Burlington</p> <p>4:15pm:V Scholars Bowl at Eudora</p> <p>7:00pm:5th Grade Band Concert @ CAC</p>	<p>21</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Girls Basketball vs Prairie View</p>	<p>22</p> <p>HS Dance Game Day State Competition</p> <p>7:00pm:HS V FB Sub State TBD</p>	<p>23</p> <p>HS Cheer Game Day State Competition</p> <p>JH Girls Basketball League Tournament @ AC or Burlington</p>
<p>25</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Girls Basketball vs Anderson County</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>SFT Thanksgiving Break</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Thanksgiving SFT Thanksgiving Break</p>	<p>29</p> <p>SFT Thanksgiving Break</p> <p>1:00pm:HS V FB State Championship at Hutchinson</p>	<p>30</p>

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, I'm grateful for the dedication and enthusiasm of our Santa Fe Trail High School community.

