

April Newsletter BOE

Overbrook Attendance Center



Principal - Mrs. Lorle Bolt

A message from our principal

Dear Charger Families,

We will begin our second and third grade state assessments this month. We will also complete our K-3 Spring Fastbridge Assessment starting on April 28th. This can be a stressful time for our students. Here are some tips to help ease their minds:

Testing Schedule for 3rd Grade

- ✦ **Mathematics** – April 8th & April 9th (Morning)
- ✦ **English Language Arts** – April 15th & April 16th (Morning)

Testing Schedule for 2nd Grade (Pilot Assessment)

- ✦ **Mathematics** – April 4th (Morning)
- ✦ **English Language Arts** – April 3rd (Morning)



- Reassure your child that he or she does not have to answer all the questions correctly to pass. It is not expected that students answer every question correctly. There is always room for error. Knowing that they do not have to be perfect will help eliminate some of the stress that comes with testing.
- Tell your child to attempt to answer all of the questions and not to leave any blank. There is no penalty for guessing and students can get partial credit on the open-ended items. Teach them to eliminate ones that they know are wrong first because it gives them a higher chance of getting the correct answer if they are forced to guess.
- Remind your child that the test is important. It sounds simple, but most children will put forth their best effort when they know it is important to their parents.
- Ensure that your child gets a decent night's sleep and a good breakfast before taking the test. These are essential to how your child performs. You want them to be at their best. Failing to get a good night's rest or good breakfast can cause them to lose focus quickly.
- Make the morning of the test a pleasant one. Try to do extra things that make them laugh, smile and relax.
- Get your child to school on time the day of the test. Give yourself extra time to get to school that morning.
- Encourage your child to stay focused on the test, even if other students finish early. It is human nature to want to speed up when others around you are already finished. Teach your child to start strong, stay focused in the middle, and finish just as strong as you started.

Quarter 3 Attendance Awareness Notification

As part of our ongoing efforts to support student success, we are working to reduce chronic absenteeism as a building-wide goal. Research shows that students who miss 10% or more of school days—whether excused or unexcused—are at a higher risk of falling behind academically. To help increase awareness, families with quarterly attendance below 90% will receive a notification letter outlining the number of days their student has been absent. **Please note that this is simply an informational letter and does not indicate truancy.** Our goal is to keep families informed and work together to support consistent attendance, which plays a key role in student learning and success.

We appreciate your partnership in helping our students stay engaged and on track. If you have any questions or need support regarding attendance, please feel free to reach out. For additional

information regarding our attendance policy please review the following information from our Overbrook student handbook.



OAC Attendance Policy .pdf

[Download](#)
105.5 KB

Upcoming Dates:

April 1st: Talent Show Sign Up by this date

April 4th: No School for Kindergarten Only due to Kindergarten Round-Up

1st Grade Field Trip to Science City

April 7th: 3rd Grade State Assessment Kick Off Celebration @ 6pm

Talent Show Auditions

April 10th: 2nd Grade Music Concert @ 6:00pm & 3rd Grade Music Concert @ 7:00pm

- Students can arrive 20 minutes early to meet with teacher.
- Students are encouraged to dress nice with slacks or dresses (and shorts or tights underneath dresses for girls).
- Parents may pick their child up after the concert in the cafeteria and/or large gym we will make an announcement based on availability

April 18th: NO SCHOOL

April 21st: NO SCHOOL

April 25th: Kindergarten Field Trip to Topeka Zoo & Discovery Center

Second Grade Field Trip to Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead

Join Us for State Assessment Kickoff Night -- 3rd Grade Parents

Mark your calendars for **Monday, April 7th, at 6 PM**, and bring your child for a fun-filled evening as we celebrate the upcoming state assessments with SITE Council and Title!

This exciting event will help students feel confident and prepared. They'll review important testing tips and tricks, while teachers share valuable strategies to support success at home.

Then, get ready for some friendly competition! We'll be inviting parent-student teams to participate in a variety of games—competition style—with **PRIZES** for the winners!

This is a fantastic opportunity to encourage and celebrate your child while making state test prep fun. We look forward to seeing you there!



A flyer for a 3rd Grade Student-Parent Meeting. The background is blue with yellow and white decorative elements. At the top left is the OAC logo (an open book with a sun-like shape above it) and the text 'OAC'. Below this is the title '3RD GRADE STUDENT-PARENT MEETING' in large, bold, white and yellow letters. To the right of the title is a circular inset showing a smiling female teacher in a red shirt looking at a notebook with a male student. Below the title is a stylized atom icon. To the right of the atom is a globe icon. Further right is a white circle containing the text 'MONDAY 7 APRIL' in blue. Below the title and atom icon is a paragraph of text: 'Join OAC 3rd grade staff to have a kick off assembly for your child before state assessments start!'. Below this paragraph is a list of three items, each preceded by a yellow checkmark icon: 'Play Fun Games with your child & learn test taking strategies', 'Win Prizes', and 'Celebrate your child's hard work'. Below the list is a blue rounded rectangle containing the text 'Time: 6:00-7:00PM' in white. To the right of the list is a lightbulb icon. At the bottom right is a circular inset showing a family (mother, father, and child) sitting around a round table. A stylized rocket ship icon is at the bottom center.

OAC

3RD GRADE STUDENT-PARENT MEETING

MONDAY
7
APRIL

Join OAC 3rd grade staff to have a kick off assembly for your child before state assessments start!

- ✓ Play Fun Games with your child & learn test taking strategies
- ✓ Win Prizes
- ✓ Celebrate your child's hard work

Time:
6:00-7:00PM

Spring Concerts

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming **2nd and 3rd Grade Spring Concerts** on **April 10th!** Below are the important details:

- **2nd Grade:** Arrive at **5:40 PM** and meet your teachers in the **SFTHS Library**. The concert will begin at **6:00 PM**.
- **3rd Grade:** Arrive at **6:40 PM** and meet your teachers in the **SFTHS Library**. The concert will begin at **7:00 PM**.

Please continue to check for notifications from the school regarding reminders and attire for the event. We look forward to a wonderful evening of music and celebration!

Mark your Calendars

SPRING Time

Music Performance by

• 2nd Grade •

April

Thursday

10

2025

6:00 pm

Santa Fe Trail High School

Questions?

anelson@usd434.us



Kindergarten Parents: Mark your Calendars

K Parents Only: There will be no school for kindergarten students on April 4, 2025. This allows the incoming preschoolers who will be kindergarten students in the 2024-2025 to experience kindergarten round-up! All other students (1st - 3rd) will have school that day as regularly scheduled.

Please join us for Kindergarten Round Up at Overbrook Attendance Center



Who: Incoming students who turn five on
or before August 31, 2025

When: April 4, 2025

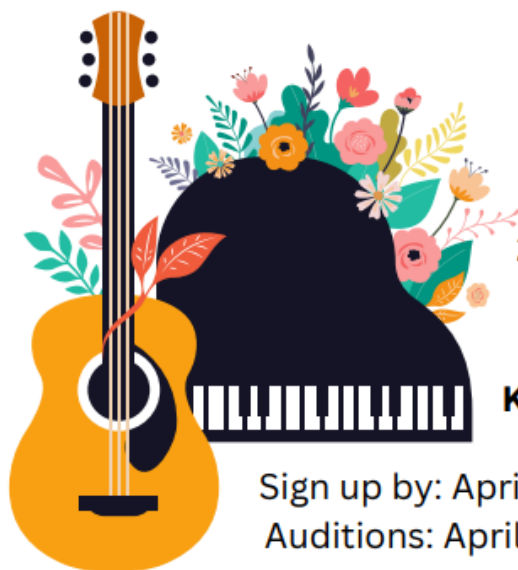
Time: 9:00-10:50am

To register call: (800)836-9525

Talent Show

Does your child have a talent they would like to share with their teachers and classmates? Please speak with them at home regarding talent show signups. We had a phenomenal turn out last year and would love to continue this tradition.

5.16.25 OAC Talent *show*



2nd: 10:00am
3rd: 11:00 am
1st: 12:35 pm
Kinder: 1:45 pm

Sign up by: April 1st
Auditions: April 7th

Parents are welcome to attend!

Our school wide talent show will take place on May 16th during specials. They can perform individually or as a group. Some ideas include singing, a skit, dancing, jokes, gymnastics, and instruments.

Kansas Teacher of the Year Tour

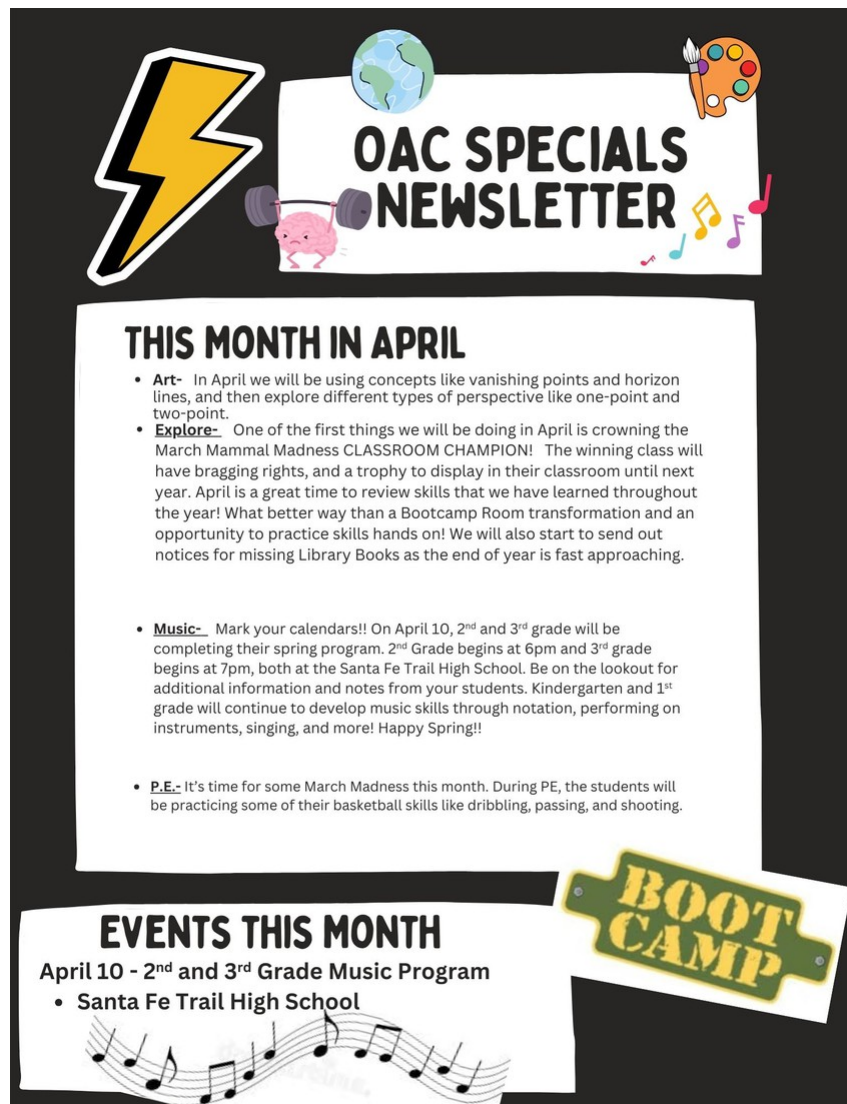
The Kansas Teacher of the Year Award recognizes outstanding educators who exemplify excellence in elementary and secondary classrooms across the state. This program builds a network of exceptional teachers who are leaders in improving schools, student performance, and the teaching profession.

Recently, USD 434 had the honor of hosting Ms. Mallory Koger's cohort as they toured our district to learn more about our programs, staff, and students. It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate our schools, showcase our strengths, and highlight the incredible work happening in our classrooms.

A special thank you to Ms. Koger for her dedication as a Kansas Teacher of the Year nominee and for sharing our district with her cohort. We appreciate all of her hard work and leadership this year!



A note from our Specials Teachers



BOE Goal 4 Community Involvement: A Strength at OAC

At OAC, we believe that community involvement is one of our greatest strengths. As part of our commitment to **Goal 4.1—Building trust with the community and staff through effective communication and improved transparency**—we prioritize strong, clear, and consistent communication.

We keep our families informed through multiple channels, including building and teacher Facebook pages, newsletters, emails, text messages, and paper-copy notifications. In addition, we host various events throughout the year, welcoming the community into our school, especially around the holidays for special celebrations and lunches.

Our partnerships extend beyond our school walls. We collaborate with **Overbrook Parks and Rec** to provide summer childcare opportunities, ensuring our students have a safe and engaging place to be.

By fostering these connections, we continue to strengthen the bond between our school and our community.



Lorle Bolt

Lorle is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

