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# PAWPRINTS

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Sweetwater, OK

## Track Season Begins!

By: Cara Grant

After a successful basketball season, our Sweetwater Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs are turning in their suits. As we wave goodbye to basketball games, we say hello to track meets! As our first meet looms closer, our track team is warming up for the challenge. Our first meet of the season is on March 10, 2017. The following is the upcoming schedule:

### High School

- Groom, TX - March 10-11
- Hobart, OK - March 24
- Watonga, OK - March 31
- Okeene, OK - April 7
- Laverne, OK - April 13
- Weatherford, OK - April 25
- Regionals/TBA - April 29
- State/Western Heights - May 5-6

### Junior High

- Hobart, OK - March 24
- Watonga, OK - April 8
- Laverne, OK - April 10

### Elementary

- Watonga, OK - April 8
- Laverne, OK - April 10

I asked Veronica Watson how she was feeling as track season approaches, and she said, "I'm sad that basketball season is over, but excited for track season." We wish the best of luck to all those running track. Go work hard, but most importantly have fun!



## Calendar Contest!

By: Peyton Sturdivant

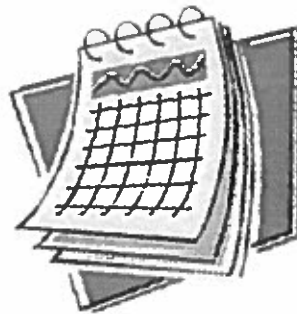
Every year Northfork Electric has a drawing contest for kids at schools in this part of Oklahoma. Last year Kiera Coslow, a Sweetwater 6<sup>th</sup> grader, and Abby Watson, a 5<sup>th</sup> grader, both had their drawings put in this year's calendar after winning last year's contest.

The contest is starting up again, and the kids are very excited! The contest is for grades 4-5. The kids have to draw a poster relating to the electric company. They also must have a slogan on the poster saying something about the work that the electric company does.

The first place winners have their pictures compared to those of kids in other schools. The winners of the overall collection of posters have their drawing put in the calendar!

There are other prizes for students who tried hard and still did great. These prizes include money, T-shirts, and having their photo taken. The students also often get put in the Sayre newspaper!

The deadline for the contest is March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017, and the kids' posters are already coming along great! I spoke with one of the students Reagan Meacham, and I asked her what her favorite part had been about doing the posters, and she said, "Saying thank you for all the work that they do." Good luck Reagan and the rest of the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders!



## FFA Week

By: Kinsey Wallace

On Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Sweetwater began celebrating FFA Week even though it technically didn't start until Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup>. We celebrated FFA week a week early this year because the week that is actually FFA Week the show kids will be busy, and we wanted everyone to have a chance to participate.

This week was busy from start to finish. Starting of the week by all the FFA kids wearing Official dress to Sweetwater Baptist Church was only the beginning of new attire's. Monday through Friday were dress up days for any students at school. Monday was "Why is this in my closet?" Tuesday was "Senior Day". Wednesday was "Stereotype Day". Thursday was "Fake an Injury Day". Friday, the final dress up day definitely had the most creative outfits since it was "DIY Day".

Finally the ending of FFA week was the local show on Saturday. I asked Destaney Edwards about how the local show went, and she said, "It went great. It was exciting to show in the new barn." This was a very busy, but fun week for all the students involved in Ag.

## Keeping Clean!

By: Cara Grant

Have you been struggling to breath due to congestion? Have you been coughing frequently? You're not alone! Cold and flu season has swept through Sweetwater Schools, and it is not showing remorse! What can we do to prevent the spreading of germs and bacteria?

If you come into the school at almost any time of the day, you'll find at least one teacher or staff member spraying down the school with a layer of Lysol. Sarah Grant practically has a can of Lysol glued to her hand some days! Put on some hand sanitizer anytime you think about it, and wash your hands every time you go to the bathroom!

I spoke with Mrs. Erikson on Tuesday, February 21, 2017, about cold and flu season, and she said, "We ask parents to remind their children to wash their hands!" So stick it out, Sweetwater; we can make it through another cold and flu season with the help of a lot of hand sanitizer and soap!

## Sequoyah Votes

By: Peyton Sturdivant

The Sequoyah books in the library have grown very popular since they first arrived. In an article written earlier in the semester, I mentioned that voting on your favorite Sequoyah book would be possible soon. Now, the time is here to vote!

The requirements for being able to vote are very simple: you had to have read three Sequoyah books in your age group. That's all! Once you have read the three books of your choice, you will be allowed to place your vote on your favorite.

To know whether or not the books you read were in the correct age group, check out the office door in the library where the master lists of the different groups are. There are three different groups: high school, intermediate, and children's. The books themselves are on top of the laptop carts.

You only have until Wednesday, March 1, 2017, to vote. To vote, or learn more about Sequoyah books, talk to Mrs. Gregory in the Sweetwater school library. She will write down the votes to send in.

I spoke with Aunesty Crosby and RayAnn Sturdivant, Sequoyah book readers, about the voting and about the books. "They're really good books," Aunesty told me.

"I really like them. My favorite was El Deafo!" RayAnn informed me, when I asked her what she thought about the books. Hopefully, they along with other students here at Sweetwater will vote for the Sequoyah book of the year!



## Regional Games

By: Kinsey Wallace

On Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the Sweetwater high school teams participated in the first round of regionals. This was the boys first year to make it to regionals.

The girls' first opponent was Felt and the boys' was Balko. Both games were played at Leedey. The girls lost to Felt and therefore were out of regionals. The boys, however, managed to make it to the next round.

The second round of regionals was also played at Leedey and happened on Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. The boys got matched up with Sharon Mutual. The boys ended up losing which means that Sweetwater is officially done with high school basketball this year. I asked Hanna Hill how she was feeling about the season being over, and she said, "I'm gonna cry."

The season may not have ended as well as the players and as well as coaches and fans may have hoped, but the teams worked very hard this year.

## Pep-Rallies!

By: Cara Grant

In a previous article, I reviewed all the support our school has shown for our Sweetwater Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs, and not long after that, we saw more support pour out for our teams! On Thursday, February 16, 2017, both teams left to compete in the area tournament in Leedey, OK. Before they loaded up on the bus, the high school basketball players and managers were met with a mini-pep rally!

As the basketball players exited from the lobby door and walked down the ramp, applause and cheers from our elementary students surrounded them! The students lined up on either side of the ramp, and our elementary cheerleaders did their cheers in the parking lot. When our boys went back to Leedey to compete on Friday, the elementary lined up again to show them some more support!

I asked Aunesty Crosby what she thought of the pep rallies, and she said, "It was really cute." We are incredibly thankful for the support that our elementary has shown us!

## Bonfire

By: Kinsey Wallace

On Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Sweetwater School held a bonfire to get the students excited for upcoming districts games.

All students were invited and were also allowed to invite people from other schools if they cleared it with Mr. Reed. There was a great turnout of kids, and there was also hot dogs cooked. Many people also brought actual dogs. Also in attendance were firefighters. They came to control the bonfire and keep us safe. We are very thankful for these guys because it is because of them we got to have such a great time.

I asked Colton Reed what he thought of the bonfire, and he said, "The fire was warm, and the hot dogs were good. It was a great time." I think this bonfire was a great way to get the students pumped for the games. Obviously it did the job since both teams won the next day; maybe the school should have more bonfires.

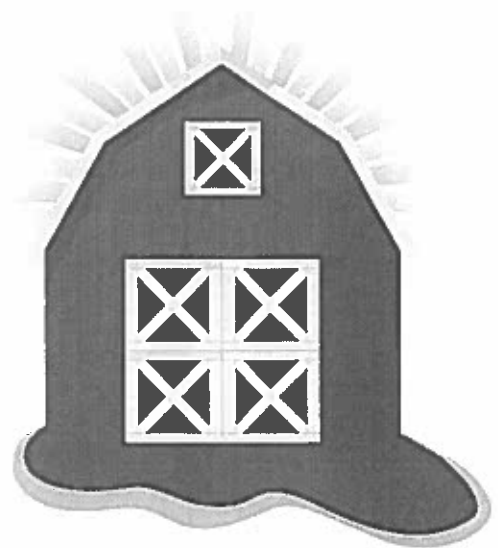
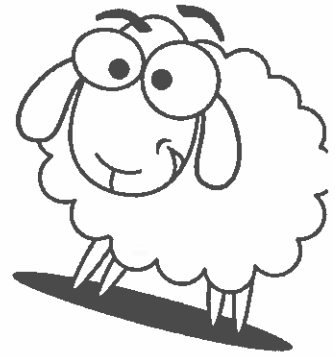
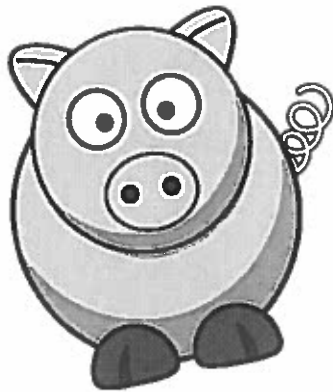


## Shows & More Shows

By: Kinsey Wallace

On February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017, our students had their local show at Sweetwater's new Ag barn. The beginning of their work, however, began much earlier than that. It takes up much of a show kid's time to get ready for a show. I asked Payton Hill about the time it takes, and she said, "It keeps you busy and working and a productive member of society". Also the shows themselves are incredibly time consuming. The local show began at 6:30 pm and ended at about 10:15 pm. We have multiple kids who compete in showing and have done very well! These are the students who participated in showing.

- Katelyn
- Colton
- Dalton
- Davis
- Hanna
- Autumn
- Payton
- Destaney
- Abby
- Aubbri
- Zeb Zane
- Langston
- Haley
- Tristan
- Chatin



## Districts

By: Kinsey Wallace

On February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the Sweetwater Bulldogs played the first round of districts. Their winning or losing determined whether they moved on or not.

Both teams won their first game against their opponents which was the teams from Aline-Cleo. The bulldogs all played extremely well and came out with two victories. The winning of these games allowed them to play in the second round of districts to fight for a chance to be district champs.

Sweetwater's teams were matched up to Leedey's teams for this round. The lady bulldogs had a very close game losing by only four points. The boys' team also lost to Leedey. Even though our teams lost the second round of districts, everyone was still very proud and excited that our teams got to move on to regionals.

