



October 2026

Dear SFIS Family,

October brings a lot of the chill up here in Santa Fe. It's also a time of reverence and reflection for many of our students and their communities. Here at Student Living, we are no different. There is time for fun of course, but with no less modicum of respect. Some small reminders for October are:

- The recent rainstorms have definitely shown the weather will swing wildly, as Santa Fe always does. Please send some colder climate clothes for your students. Especially as the evenings trend to get darker and darker. Encourage your students to actually wear warm clothes, especially to step away from their sandals and socks in the rain. Now that's scary!
- Our communities observe the fall months differently than the "western world." With respect to the cultural beliefs that guide our school, please support the reverence of this time of year. Egregious "Halloween imagery" will not be allowed in the dorm.
- For Check-Ins, as per the 2026-27 Partnership for Student Success Handbook (pg. 37) under Checkout/Check-In Procedures *"Authorized adults must be present to properly check students in/out with staff personnel...An authorized adult must physically check-in the student and sign them in properly."* Thank you for your support. For those students returning on the Rail Runner, their "Check-In" is when staff collect them at the train station.

The Rail Runner privilege continues. As a courtesy, for October the following days: Oct. 2nd and Oct. 28th are Early Release days at 2:35pm. Additionally, Friday 10/9 is a Scheduled Parent/Teacher Conference Day with No Classes scheduled that day. That means that students without a scheduled conference can go home a day early on Thursday 10/8 and spend a little bit extra time at home. Rail Runner privileges will be open for those students going home on Thursday 10/8, and for Friday 10/9, both for the 4:20PM train. The dorm will remain open for those students that have a scheduled conference, as well as for athletes and those students whose communities are far away. Fall Break is 10/29-11/3, the dorms close Weds. 10/28 at 6PM and will reopen on Tues. 11/3 at 4PM.

The Residential Count Weeks continue through to Sat. 10/17/26. I offer my thanks to those families that have already been supremely cooperative with their documentation. Your help does not go unnoticed. Please do remember, the three week period is of the highest importance to SFIS and the Student Living (SL) program because it dictates the amount of funding SFIS receives related to programming in future years. We request that you please take note of this critical time, and do your best to support the entire SL program by making sure your student(s) are present in the dorm each weekday during that time.

To kick-off the start of the Residential Count Weeks, we hosted our annual Open House on Sunday, September 27th, 2026. We had an awesome time together! Thank you all around to our families who were able to participate, including if you threw out good vibes into the universe for us. Prizes were won (a lot of them), and even more "happy disappointed" faces when someone else yelled "Bingo!" Swag was earned, football fans were excited or slightly upset, and on behalf of my staff, we appreciate all of you. We look toward next year's Open House with even more fun in mind.

Don't forget about the Full Campus Events like SFIS Feast Day on Monday, October 12th and Trunk R' Treat taking place on Friday, the 23rd. Your families are invited to attend, especially the little ones for Trunk R' Treat, we always try to have some awesome snacks for everyone. You may have already seen information posted about both events on the school's social media channels. It will be a grand time!

This newsletter is Student Living's way of having direct communication with our Parents each year. I have included the monthly Activity Calendar showing what's going on in the dorms, where you'll see all the on-the-floor shenanigans taking place. Parents are invited to attend any of the events that strike your fancy. As usual, I have attached the floor emergency cell phone numbers to this letter for you to save for your records and another document detailing some support we need from our families in the month of

October. I have also included the MSSL message because their work with students might be slightly different. Please see the website under Campus Life if you'd like to see the month-to-month updates beyond just this letter. As we try to prepare ahead, Student Living Staff may be contacting those of you that qualify to use Winter (December) Travel to gauge your interest for your student(s).

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact any of our Student Living Staff, including myself. I can be reached at my office number (505) 216-7307, my cell phone number (505) 490-5990, or via email at (ltromero@sfis.k12.nm.us).

Sincerely,
Leslie Romero
Student Living Director

STUDENT LIVING FLOOR CELL PHONES

NOTICE:

Student Living has received cell phones for emergency communication to the floors. Be aware, these cell phones are not in the sole "ownership" of the SLAs, they are cell phones meant for the whole floor, mainly for emergency-type purposes. Please do not be afraid to call these numbers, but be aware that it may take time if you are looking for a specific staff member to speak to. As a courtesy we would request that parents please clarify who the message is for whenever you text or when leaving a voicemail. These phones are not "manned" from 8AM-1PM Mon.-Thurs. Student Living Leadership's cell phones are always on-hand.

Middle School Student Living	
MSSL Boys	(505) 372-9724
MSSL Girls	(505) 372-9725
High School Student Living	
HSSL 1st A-Wing (Girls)	(505) 396-1391
HSSL 2nd A-Wing (Girls)	(505) 396-1396
HSSL 3rd A-Wing (Girls)	(505) 396-1374
HSSL Pod C (Girls)	(505) 396-1387
HSSL 1st B-Wing (Boys)	(505) 396-1389
HSSL 2nd B-Wing (Boys)	(505) 396-1382
HSSL 3rd B-Wing (Boys)	(505) 396-1394
Student Living Leadership	
Leslie Romero, Student Living Director	(505) 490-5990
Delilah Crespín, HSSL Coordinator	(505) 699-8560
Martina Valdo, MSSL Coordinator	(505) 490-2845



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

HSSL OCTOBER 2026

4 Nambe Feast Trip w/Bill	5 Carlton: Leather Crafts 7p Charles: O/C Walk 530p	6 EP 4pm-5pm Studyhall 7pm-8pm	7 BG's & Ray: Corn Roast 4p 2A: Banana Splits 6pm Jill: Slime Night 6p 1B: Movie Night EAC 7p	8 Christy: Boo Baskets & Elotes 7p Pod C: VBall Game 530p (Home) Carlton: Suburban 6p	9 No Classes PTC 8am-4pm	10
11	12 SFIS Feast Day	13 EP 4pm- 5pm Studyhall 7pm-8pm	14 BG's & Ray: Sheep Butcher 4p Charles: Firepit 7p Jill: Pumpkin Craft 6p Denelle: Movie Trip 345p Mark: Starbucks 530p	15 Dorm Olympics 6:30p-8p	16	17 McCalls Pumpkin Patch Trip w/Karen
18 Movie Ranch w/ Bill	19 Mary: Firepit 6pm Carlton: Walk to Taco Bell 6p Charles: Cooking 530p Pod C: Target Run 530p Denelle: Pumpkin Patch 4p-8p Brian: Snack Making 6p	20 EP 4pm- 5pm Studyhall 7pm-8pm	21 BG's Yarn Hair Tie Making Charles: Prep Night Jill: Chick-Fil-A 5p Ray: Senior Outing 6p (Suburban) Christy: Mall Trip	22 Holiday Dance 6p-9p Gena: Slime Night 6p Mary: Pumpkin Painting 630p Denelle: Pumpkin Crafts 6p	23 Trunk or Treat	24
25	26 Mary: Movie Night @ EAC 6:30p 2B: Hiking (bus) 4p-7p Christy: Family Dinner 530p Pod C: Spaghetti Dinner 630p Jill: Movie @ EAC Night 7p	27 EP 4pm-5pm BG's Community Sheep Dinner 5-7pm Studyhall 7pm- 8pm	28 Dorms Close @ 6pm	29 Dorms Closed	30 Dorms Closed	31 Dorms Closed

Study Hall:

Sundays: 7pm-8pm

Mon.-Thurs.

4pm-5pm

Guided Study Hall:

Mon.-Thurs.

4pm-5pm & 7pm-8pm

Brave Girls:

Wednesdays 4pm-6pm

HSD Rotunda

EP Classes:

Tuesdays 4pm-5pm

Study Hall: 7pm-8pm



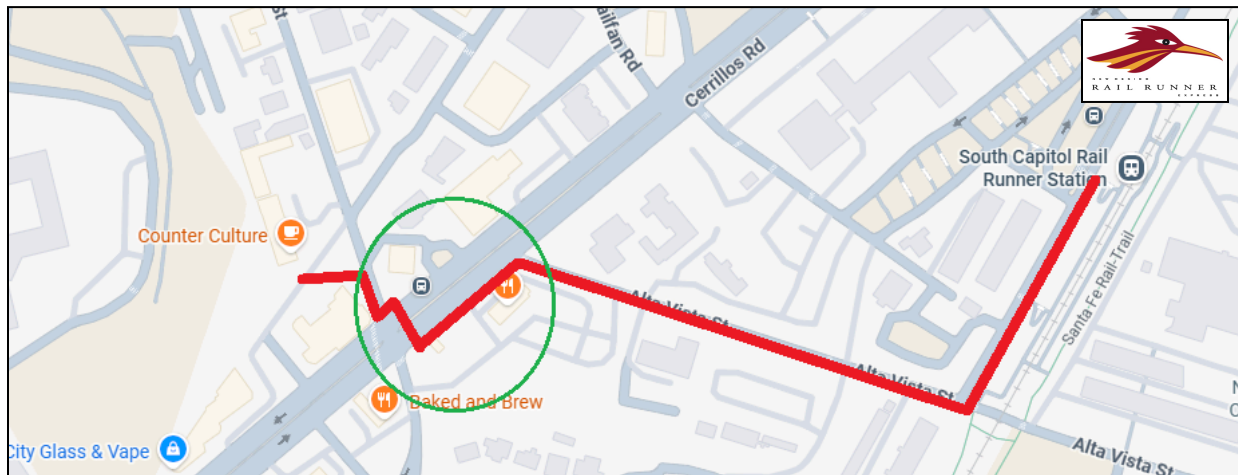


Rail Runner Support Requests of Parents

On behalf of the school, we thank you for your cooperation in adjusting to the way Rail Runner privilege will work this school year. We have encountered a few concerns that need your support as parents. Please read on.

We have had a few students attempt to leave from the train station in parked manned vehicles that are not school affiliated. We do not know who those individuals are in the other vehicles. We cannot continue to see this behavior. The safety concerns presented are far too enormous for the school to continue to allow Rail Runner usage, if it keeps happening. Any behavior in this manner will result in the revocation of that student's Rail Runner privilege starting at one month, up to the rest of the school year should there be another instance. Student Safety is our top priority. If we continue to see it as a collective issue, we will end the Rail Runner privilege across the program for the school year. We do not wish to approach that possibility if it could be avoided.

Please do not send your students back with a massive amount of luggage or snacks. While we know it would be nice to give them food, drinks, etc. for the week, your students are carrying easily several dozen pounds of items upon their person across at least a half mile. The walk to the train station is just over ten minutes with a "brisk pace," and regardless of one's build, that distance with heavy items can start to strain the body. We have seen students get off the train with a backpack, duffle bag, laundry basket, and another smaller bag on their person for a single trip. We ask that parents consider what their student can comfortably carry. Err on the side of caution.



Map screenshot of the escorted walk back route on Sunday 4:50PM returns.

Separately from the considerations above, your students, by an overwhelming majority, have been perfectly cooperative with the staff escorting them back to campus. Even as the number of students gets higher, they are helpful. Thank you for your consideration and cooperation as always, Families. I know I say it a million times, but working together makes all the difference.

Leslie Romero, Student Living Director

September Kodak Moments



SALSA MAKING NIGHT



HOMECOMING DANCE



THE BRAVE BOWL: BOYS GAME



THE BRAVE BOWL: GIRLS GAME

MSSL Newsletter

Dear SFIS Family,

September has been an extraordinary month filled with numerous engaging activities for our students. We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to all of you for making our Annual Student Living Open House a memorable occasion. It was an absolute pleasure to share the evening with you.

Our evening program classes have started, we have 9 classes taking place this fall semester from hand crochet, water aerobics, indigenous baking, traditional cooking classes, self-care, creative arts, and fitness classes. Be sure to ask students how they like their classes so far!

As we observe Substance Abuse Awareness- Red Ribbon Campaign this month, our focus will be on our Core Value of Faith and Foundational Topic of Land & Cultural Resources. We kindly encourage you to engage in discussions about these values with your student, as we will also be exploring them throughout the month. On October 14th, students will take an off campus trip to Laguna in support of Breast Cancer Awareness month, and will participate in a 2 mile, walk/run.

Our Annual SFIS Feast Day is approaching on Monday, October 12th. We invite you to join us for an all-day celebration, featuring traditional dances, our Boys and Girls wing food booth, as well as other vendors.

With the arrival of the Halloween Season, students are very excited to embrace the Halloween spirit. This month, a range of Halloween-themed activities will take place, our dorm council students have brainstormed so many wonderful ideas, including a door decorating contest, school wide- trunk or treat, a Halloween dance/costume contest, and numerous activities.

Count week is currently underway, having begun on 9/27 and scheduled to conclude on 10/17. It is essential for students to check in every Sunday night, we highly recommend that students stay for the entire week. Incentives will be awarded at the end of count week, with points accumulated daily for students present in the dorm.

On Wednesday October 21st MSSL will have a cultural family night, embracing our traditional dances, our very own 8th grade boys will perform a traditional buffalo dance in our MS plaza, please join us for a beautiful night with hot cocoa and a warm bonfire.

As always, we encourage all families to join us for our evening activities. If you have any questions regarding our calendar or any school events, feel free to reach out to your child's SLA, or Dorm Coordinator: Martina Valdo at 505-989-6334, or Rec & Prevention Specialist: TiaRaven Sanchez at 505-216-7305.

October 2026

FOUNDATIONAL TOPIC: LAND &
CULTURAL RESOURCES
CORE VALUE: FAITH



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

				1 - SCRUB/ CC - REST & RELAX	2 EARLY RELEASE	3
4	5 EP SESSION #2 6:30 -8:00PM	6 - FOOD HANDLERS TRAINING FOR STUDENTS 1ST FLOOR GIRLS DINNER	7 - DOOR DECORATING CONTEST BEGINS "RED RIBBON- STAYING DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE" - SCRUB//CC - DORM OLYMPIC MEETING	8 STUDENT CHECK OUTS	9 - MSSL ROOVE & BREW - SCHEDULED P/T/C NO CLASSES	10
11	12 - INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY/ SFIS FEAST DAY - DOOR DECORATING CONTEST CONTINUED.. 	13 HALLOWEEN DANCE/ COSTUME CONTEST	14 FUN/ WALK IN LAGUNA SUPPORTING BREAST CANCER AWARENESS 	15 DORM OLYMPIC EVENT RELAY RACES	16	17 RESIDENTIAL COUNT WEEK ENDS
18	19 EP SESSION #3 6:30 -8:00PM	20 MSSL: TRICK- OR- TREATING NIGHT	21 - BONFIRE, HOT COCOA - MSSL CULTURAL FAMILY NIGHT	22 - SCRUB/ CC - REST & RELAX - DORM COUNCIL MEETING	23 - SFIS TRUNK-OR- TREAT - EARLY RELEASE	24
25	26 EP SESSION #4 6:30 -8:00PM	27 - SCRUB/ CC - REST & RELAX	28 - DORMS CLOSE AT 6PM - EARLY RELEASE	29	30	31
				ALL SOUL'S BREAK- 10/29-11/3		