



SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BOISE NEWSLETTER

APRIL 26, 2023



Order YEARBOOKS now to be distributed on the last day of school!

- **PYP (K-5) yearbooks** are \$16 and must be ordered by **May 1st** online at ybpay.lifetouch.com using Yearbook ID code: 13102823 (p.s if you never picked up your yearbook from last year, we have extras! Check with the front desk.)
- **Secondary (6-12th) yearbooks** can be purchased [here](#), cost is \$35 through **May 6th** and after that will increase to \$45.



Our PTO invites you to get involved! We have many fun events coming up which you can read about in their latest [newsletter here](#), including plans for Teach Appreciation Week. We invite you to also follow them on [Facebook](#).



Have you given to Mind the Gap yet? This is our annual fundraiser in which we partner with our community as a charter school, and ask ALL families to consider giving a gift in any amount. We have raised \$77,480 of our \$100, 000 goal...can you help us? Click [HERE!](#)



Our NEW online spirit store will be open SOON and will stay open year-round for our staff and families to place orders! Stay tuned for an email coming soon.

Check out our great new [WEBSITE](#), and find us on social media via the links below!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 25-27 - Math ISATs for Grades 3-8
May 8-11 - Teacher Appreciation Week
May 11 - PYP (K-5) Family Dance
MAY 18 - Middle School Dance
May 19-21 - PTO Family Camping Trip
May 23 - 2023 Graduation Ceremony
June 1 - Last Day of school

OUR MISSION

Sage International School engages students within an inclusive IB learning community, challenging all members to take risks and contribute locally and globally through open-minded inquiry.

A MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANDY JOHNSON:



Dear families and staff of Sage International Schools,

I hope our newsletter finds you enjoying Spring and the turn of the season. We are at an important time of the year. There are many things in which we can find joy and happiness during the Spring and it can also be a time of stress. Schools operate on their own rhythm and at this time of the year children, families, staff and faculty begin looking forward to and are maybe even a little apprehensive about the end of the school year. We understand!

There are many rituals and events that come during the closing months of any school year - graduation, exhibitions, conferences, Prom and all the other things that mark the closing of another school year. Important and sometimes stressful opportunities to demonstrate learning also arise at the end of a school year - assessments of reading, mathematics are common for almost every student in Grades K-11 and the Seniors dive into their IB examinations during May. These moments and opportunities can also cause us to worry that we haven't done enough or that we've done too much. I encourage you (us) in those moments, to remember the work you've done to prepare and to resolve to do the very best you that you are able.

In the spirit of preparing and doing the best that we can - strive to ensure your children are at school, on time, every day. There is a lot of evidence that even when children do not feel 100% themselves, they learn much more when they are at school - even if they don't feel like participating as strongly as they usually do. We love to see each other and our students every day.

Seek balance outside of school (or work) - encourage your children to study or do homework and then encourage them to go for a walk, to sit under a tree, to enjoy a book, to play a game, to ride a bike, to walk the dogs, to see friends, or to eat a meal with other people.

Let's finish the year strong by coming to school every day. Sharing a laugh, a smile or a word of encouragement with a friend, colleague, parent, child, teacher or staff member can be the small thing that changes the trajectory of a person's day.

With gratitude,

Andy Johnson



DANNY SOLOMAN, DEAN OF STUDENTS AND CAMPUS OPERATIONS

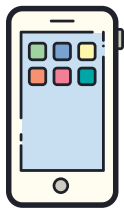


Spring is here by calendar date and finally in spirit, and we are excited for the final push of the 2022-2023 school year! If you're anything like me, you may appreciate some reminders about procedures and times when coming back after a week away.

Traffic Reminders: Traffic continues to be an opportunity for us to work together as a community toward some common goals: keeping students and other stakeholders safe, being efficient through our own predictability, and representing Sage positively to our larger community and neighbors.

Please help us achieve these goals by doing the following:

- Remember that drop-off should not occur before 7:30 am
- Review traffic procedures [here](#). Do not let your child out of the car in front of Smoky Mountain Pizza and exit onto Mallard.
- Use turn signals to indicate your intent
- Avoid joining the pickup line before 3:40 if you only have secondary students
- Leave the parking spaces in front PYP entrance open for those with needs
- Respect our neighbors' property by not using their lots. We want to maintain good relationships with them, and do not want your cars to be ticketed or towed



Devices at school: We know electronic devices can be very useful for coordinating with your kids, but they can also negatively impact mood and learning at school. [This article from the National Library of Medicine](#) has great information about the impact of personal electronic devices on student learning. If you prefer videos, [this one](#) is also a great starting point.

Because of the negative impact personal electronics have on learning and the need to maintain predictable operations, **we ask that you help set expectations with your student about device use at school.** Here are some points for consideration when talking to your student about electronic use at school:

- There is a proven negative impact on learning when merely having a personal electronic device on one's person
- There are no lockers to secure expensive devices away from one's person
- Talking, texting, etc. is not allowed in classrooms
- Students can reach parents or guardians by asking to use a school phone or coordinating with staff to find a time and place to call or text
- Guardians can ask for messages to be delivered to students by calling or emailing the school
- Students are still learning to navigate the appropriate use of phones, electronic communication, and social media. Limiting access to electronic devices at school helps protect students from potential misuse
- It is good to be present with our peers and participate in our learning and social community

PYP WITH KATE HUNTER



Fostering Student Agency

Student agency is a cornerstone of the PYP Framework, and we want to take a moment to share how we showcase it at the end of each year.

Agency is the degree to which our students are capable of – and empowered to – make critical decisions, take action, and forge necessary change in dynamic situations, both in their learning and their lives.

This spring, our 5th graders are celebrating their learning and their agency through our capstone PYP project, Exhibition (as featured in our last newsletter). Exhibition and its celebration for 5th graders and their families will take place on **May 24th**. 5th-grade families can expect details soon.

For students in grades K-4, we will hold **student-led parent/teacher conferences on May 4th (4-6:30 pm) and May 5th (9-11:30 am)**. These conferences are another outstanding opportunity for students to build and celebrate agency as they guide their families through their classrooms and show off the learning that they have accomplished.

Take a look at this graphic for more information on student agency.

AGENCY

PYP LEARNERS....

• ARE ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN VARIOUS STAGES OF LEARNING, INCLUDING: THINKING ABOUT, PLANNING, MODIFYING AND CREATING

• ARE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN DISCUSSION, QUESTIONING AND BY BEING SELF-DIRECTED IN THEIR CREATING (AS OPPOSED TO PASSIVE RECEIVING)

• APPLY THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF CONCEPTS THROUGH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THEIR PROJECTS/PLAY

• MAKE CONNECTIONS TO THE REAL WORLD BY TAKING PAST EXPERIENCES INTO THEIR PLAY WORLDS

• HAVE AN ACTIVE VOICE AND STAKE IN THE CLASSROOM/COMMUNITY

• FACE CHALLENGES AND ARE GIVEN THE FREEDOM TO INDEPENDENTLY OVERCOME THESE OR FAIL THROUGH TRIAL AND ERROR OR EXPERIMENTATION

• ARE RISK-TAKERS

• EXPRESS THEIR THEORIES OF THE WORLD AND THESE ARE HONOURED IN THE ENVIRONMENT

• REFLECT ON THEIR ACTIONS AND SELF-REGULATE



VOICE

- students question, guide and direct learning
- students propose and initiate action
- students participate in decision making

@chrisgadbury
MagicStorybooks.com



CHOICE

- students co-construct learning goals
- students engage with multiple perspectives



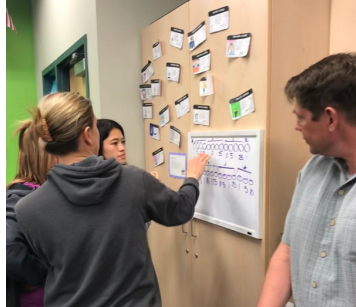
OWNERSHIP

- students define own learning goals
- students reflect on own learning goals
- student ideas are supported throughout planning and taking action.

Spotlight: Staff Life-long Learning

Our PYP teachers are wrapping up two professional development book studies this month. One of these centers on Equipped for Reading Success (Kilpatrick), which centers on the 'how' of developing strong early literacy skills for all students. We are also diving into Building Thinking Classrooms in Mathematics (Liljedahl), which is a hands-on toolkit for ensuring that our students are thinking critically in mathematics (back to that student agency piece!).

Check out the pictures here for some teacher agency in action!



MIDDLE SCHOOL WITH ZACH PARKER

April 25-27 is Math ISATS testing. Please make sure students have their school-issued Chromebooks and headphones with them daily for testing, and get plenty of rest and healthy nourishment to help them be their best!

Golf with First Tee - [First Tee of Idaho](#) spent one week with Mrs. Woodruff's 8th-grade PE students teaching them the basics of golf. Each lesson introduced skills such as chipping, driving and putting. The kids had a blast!



Photography Contest Winners: Sage had several winners in the Idaho Forest Products Commission [Arbor Day photography competition](#) (again) this year! 6th-grader Wylie Smith was awarded First Place with his photo titled "Glossy Apples" (left). The Sage winners in 6-8th grades were part of the group that participated in a "First Friday" Outdoor activity offered by Ms. Trevino and Ms. Duerr this Fall. You can view all of the winning photos via the link above.

6th graders took a field trip to the Stacy Dragila Sports Complex in Garden City for the great opportunity to learn from Stacy Dragila, the Olympic Gold Medalist who won the inaugural women's pole vault at the 2000 Sydney Olympics.



DANCE Through the Decades - the final Middle School Dance will be **May 18th from 6:30 - 9:00 pm** outside on our playfield. Tickets go on sale on May 15th at lunch for \$5. Students are encouraged to dress up as a "Decade", we hope to see them there!

HIGH SCHOOL WITH BRANDY BURKETT



Prom will be held on May 5th from 7:30 - 10:30 pm at the Boise Depot for Juniors and Seniors. Tickets go on sale this week at school and are being sold on a sliding price scale. For students who attended our winter formal, tickets will be \$15. All other Sage students will be charged \$25 and non-Sage attendees will be charged \$30. Please reach out to Dr. Hansen with any questions at faith.hansen@sageintl.org.

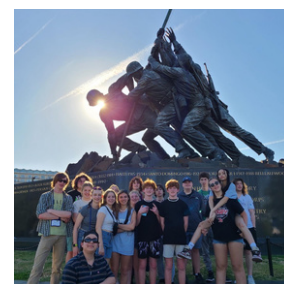
Freshman Orientation will be May 9, 2023 from 5:30pm to 7:00 and all current 8th-grade families and their students are encouraged to attend. Our team will cover the high school experience, courses that are offered, and other relevant information that will help you make the transition to high school! Email communication will be sent to parents of 8th graders soon.

Graduation: The class of 2023 will celebrate their Commencement on Tuesday, May 23rd, 2023, at the Special Events Center at Boise State University. All graduates have been given 8 tickets to distribute to family and friends. This is a private event and guests will need a ticket to enter. Ceremony regalia (caps/gowns) will begin to be distributed to students next week. An email communication will be sent to all seniors and their families with the details.



IB Exams: It is that time of the year again and our seniors will begin taking their IB exams the first week of May. This is a very exciting time and we could not be more proud of our IB graduates! The exam schedule has been posted throughout the school and has been communicated to all seniors as well. Any exam-related questions should be emailed to our DP Coordinator, Andrea Blythe or our CP Coordinator, Guy Falconer.

Spring Break Trip to DC: Mr. Lunt and his wife Jen took 18 students on an awesome trip to DC over spring break and he's already busy planning the next one for Spring Break 2024! On this next trip, they will travel to both DC and NYC and take in a Broadway show. You're invited to an online parent meeting to learn more on April 27th @ 6:30 [via this link](#). If you can't make the meeting Mr. Lunt will be sending info via email. There's a \$175.00 discount for anyone who signs up by May 5th, 2023. The final payment for the trip isn't due until January 2024 and the payments can be made in installments. The trip is open to any high schoolers in grades 9-12 in the 2023-24 school year, including students outside of Sage. Please email Mr. Lunt with any questions at drew.lunt@sageintl.org



FROM OUR SCHOOL COUNSELORS



Hello Sage Families! I am excited to announce that we will be partnering with [Big Brothers Big Sisters](#) (BBBS) next year. BBBS provides professionally supported one-to-one mentors that visit students at school and change the lives of children for the better.

Currently, BBBS is looking to offer a school-mentoring program at Sage starting in Fall 2023. In this program, volunteers (BigS) spend lunchtime once a week with a student (Little) and play board games, throw a football, chat, and ultimately just hang out and have fun. This program lasts the entire school year. BBBS vets all mentors through an extensive application process that includes a background check, fingerprints, and an interview. BBBS relationships support the critical social and emotional development needed to help build resilience and promote the mental health and well-being of thousands of children across America. At the end of the day, it's really all about starting a friendship, providing guidance, and inspiring the students to reach their potential.



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters**
OF AMERICA

I volunteered as a Big when I was in college and it was a very meaningful experience for me and my little. I highly recommend looking into the program to see if your child would benefit from working with this amazing organization. If you are interested in having your child matched with a Big Brother or Big Sister Mentor, please fill out [this survey](#) by May 15, 2023.

Sincerely,
Ashley Rivers (K-7th Counselor)

Testing Tips: Between ISATs, the SAT, and IB Exams Sage is currently in full swing with testing! Here are a few tips for students and parents:

- Get plenty of sleep the night before
- Eat a nutritious breakfast
- Listen closely to directions
- Read carefully and focus on each question
- Relax
- If you finish early, review your answers!

The PNACAC College Fair is coming to BSU! High school families are invited to attend and visit with representatives from over 60 Universities.

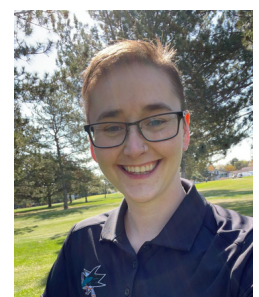
Date: Saturday, April 29, 2023

Location: Boise State University, Student Union Building, Simplot Ballroom

Time: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Register in advance [here through StriveScan](#). Once you sign up, StriveScan will send a barcode via text message and email. At the college fair, present your barcode to college representatives to receive more information about that college. The next day, receive an email with a report of all of the colleges and representatives you met, along with contact information and social media profiles.

Sincerely,
Brittany Meduna (8-12th Counselor)



- **Teacher Appreciation Week is May 8-11!** [Sign Up here](#) to donate items or volunteer. You can view your teacher's favorite treats [here](#) for ideas.
- **The PYP (K-5) Family Dance: May 11 6-8 pm**, Volunteer to help [here](#). You can buy tickets online if you [RSVP here](#) or they are \$5 at the door per family.
- **Annual Sage Family Camp Out: May 19-21** at Elks Flat Campground. All Sage families are welcome, you can find out more info and Register [here](#).
- **End of Year Picnic: June 1st at Kristin Strong Municipal Park**, 5pm to sunset. Bring an item for the potluck, your own drinks, and relax and have fun with our Sage Family!

ENRICHMENT



[Mountain Bike Club](#) for students in 5th-8th grade has begun! These fun weekly rides start at Sage and ride to and around our amazing foothills trails. All skill levels are welcome and rides are led by experienced riders. There are no dues to participate, just bring your own bike and helmet.

WHEN: Tuesdays from 3:45-5:45

You can find more info and register [here](#).

[Mountain Bike Team](#) is a competitive athletic team organized through the [Idaho Interscholastic Cycling League](#) for students of all skill levels in grades 6 and up. They practice 3 days/week starting July 1 and travel to participate in 5 interscholastic races throughout Idaho between August and October. You can find more information [here](#).

[Camp Invention:](#) A STEM Summer Camp for Grades K-6 here on our Sage Boise Campus for all students entering Grades K-6 in the fall. Campers do not need to attend Sage.

Dates: 7/10 - 7/14 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

You can [learn more here](#) and save \$15 with code SAVESPRING15 if you register by 5/17!



[African Marimba Camp:](#) Offered here at Sage this summer by the founder of [Marimba Boise](#) Heather Steele. Group lessons and games for students aged 9-14 years old with a parent concert on the last day!

Dates: 6/26 - 6/30 from 9:00 am to noon

You can find more information [here](#).

More Opportunities - Sage has a large variety of clubs and activities, and you can find the **complete list** [here](#). You can find other activities offered for all ages in our community [outside of Sage here!](#) If you would like to add something to our Community Opportunities, please email info@sageintl.org.