



SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BOISE NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023



Photo Retake Day is October 10th! Students who have not had their individual school photo taken are welcome to sign up, as well as those who would like a retake of their first photo. Watch your inbox for a sign-up after the break, you **MUST** sign your student up to be pulled out of class to visit the photographers. Stay tuned!



Sold a Story: How Teaching Reading Went Awry with Author Emily Hanford

This is an event Hosted by Bluum, with Sage Executive Director Andy Johnson as a guest speaker on the Educator panel. All are welcome!

Thursday, October 12, 2023 | 8:30 AM to 11:00 AM

Lincoln Auditorium - Idaho State Capitol



Mind the Gap is our annual fundraiser where we invite ALL Sage families to make a donation in support of our public charter school. Unlike District schools, Sage receives zero funding from local tax dollars. Our goal is \$100,000 this year which amounts to about \$100 per student or just \$10/month over the school year. Can you help us reach our goal? We encourage you to donate any amount that makes sense for your family, our goal is participation and all gifts are greatly appreciated! Read more [HERE!](#)

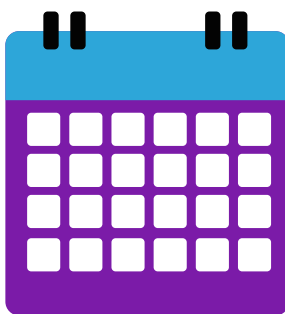


Sage has an [Amazon Wishlist](#) with items that support our classrooms and students. On there you will find community supplies as well as food pantry items for students who need them. As we head into winter there are some supplies we begin to run low on. We appreciate your gifts, which will ship directly to the school!



Our **Sage spirit store** is now open year-round! You can order Sage T-shirts, sweatshirts, bags, hats, and other items through our online store and choose to have items shipped to your home or delivered to Sage for free. You can [shop here](#).

Check out our
WEBSITE and find
us on social media
via the links below!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

9/25 - 29 - Fall Break - no school

10/5 - PTO International Potluck

10/10 - School Photo Retakes

10/19 - 20 - Parent Teacher Conferences

10/26 - MS Dance, High School Dance,
and PTO Night at the Farmstead!

FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANDY JOHNSON



Dear parents and staff,

We have arrived at Fall break! It has been an incredible start to the year - lots of strong teaching, deep learning and many, many opportunities for parents, students and teachers to connect. A Sage school experience starts as soon as you walk into one of our school buildings and meet our front desk teams of Robyn, Cassie, Sarah and Natalie at the Boise campus and Jessica, Arin, Amanda and Lorinda at the Middleton campus. They are always sunny, friendly and tirelessly caring toward your children. I am incredibly grateful to each of them.

Governor Little visited last week. He wanted to visit a local Boise high school so that he could talk to the Seniors about [Idaho Launch](#). Idaho Launch was one of the Governor's priorities during the last legislative session. It is a program that provides up to \$8,000 to students over two years for post-secondary education or training for in-demand careers. A few of the fields Governor Little described included those in health care, the trades, IT, the nuclear/atomic industry and other similar fields. For parents of current Seniors, I strongly encourage you and to explore [Idaho Launch](#) to find out if you qualify for these funds.

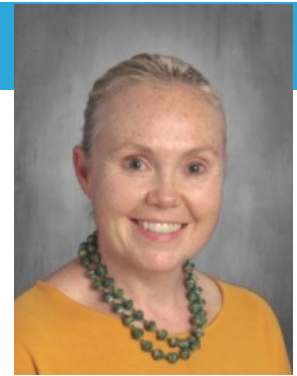
As schools that are intended to be college preparatory experiences, I encourage families of 9th, 10th and 11th Graders to talk to their children about which IB program they will follow through their 11th and 12th Grade years. The [Diploma Programme \(DP\)](#) and [Career-related Programme \(CP\)](#) are both [excellent preparation for post-secondary studies](#) and career opportunities. Further, they provide a common, shared experience with their classmates and with people all around the world. I think the experience of tackling these programs *together* provides structure, opportunities for friendship and a personal sense of completing something challenging - all incredibly important during a major transition in a person's life. The learning and growth experiences provided through the Primary Years Programme (PYP) and Middle Years Programme (MYP) will ensure that a majority of Sage students are ready to successfully complete either of these Programmes.

Finally, I hope that you all enjoy the length of our breaks and long weekends. These are intentional and designed to be different than the norm. We believe that a longer day over a shorter week interspersed with regular breaks is good for well-being, learning consolidation and importantly, allows for unhurried, lower-stress teacher collaboration. For older students, it allows time to work on longer pieces of work such as the Personal Project, Extended Essay, and student-designed inquiry and research projects. It also allows balance and a chance to participate in physical activity. Very importantly, when teachers and school leaders have time to engage in collaborative and purposeful work together, outcomes for students improve. Thank you for supporting our approach! We believe it is good for children and good for adults. Enjoy the break and we will see you in October!

All the best,
Andy

FROM PYP DIRECTOR KATE HUNTER

Our students and teachers have been immersed in some incredible community-connected learning experiences in the last few weeks, ranging from a classroom visit from some Boise Police Department officers (1st grade) to cross-grade level game creation and play (2nd grade) to a field trip to City Hall to meet Mayor McLean (3rd grade), and more! Check out the pictures below.



BPD officers visit 1st grade (L). 3rd grade field trip to City Hall to meet Mayor McLean (R).



Above: 2nd graders created board games based on communities and presented them to 3rd grade friends!

ART Our 480+ piece puzzle demonstrating community and individuality is set up for enjoyment at the main entrance of the Everest Building! Students and staff alike are delighted with the installation. Be sure to stop by to see it, as new fabulous projects will be coming down the pike to continue the rotating art show!

Currently, K-2 artists have been studying, and fashioning artworks inspired by, famous mural artist Keith Haring. Learning about his style as a growth mindset creator AND what type of artist he was as a child has started the saying "Keith Haring is Caring"!

3-5th graders have become fascinated with optical illusion and OP ARTISTS! New projects are currently hung in the big cafeteria, completely changing the room into a colorful, mind-bending art show. Contemporary artists and classic tricks of the eye using the Elements of Art have been "extremely satisfying", according to many of our artistic learners!

Looking forward to new projects, including our K-5 DIA de los MUERTOS touchstone curriculum to lead us into the multi-cultural holiday season.

PE Fall outdoor PE is about as good as it gets! Starting after the break, Kindergarten and 1st grade will be taking the bus and doing PE off campus. A couple of the classes have already had a chance to experience the bus due to scheduling conflicts with the cafeteria. They were so excited! Students will be focusing on overhand throwing.

Also after the break 4th grade will be heading to BSU for PE for two weeks. BSU students that are studying strength and conditioning need experience working with youth. Our 4th graders will have an opportunity to experience a couple of different weight rooms and will work on resistance training. In the past students have really enjoyed this field trip!

For those interested in a youth fun run, the Harrison Classic is Oct 8th. This is a kids-only running event in the north end of Boise. There is a cash prize for the largest school team.

PERFORMING ARTS In 2nd grade performing arts, students have been working with our artist-in-residence, Megan Brandel. She has been teaching us about appreciating what makes us unique and making things fair by being upstanders when we see others being mistreated. She's doing it all through creative movement and dance—amazing!

In 3rd-5th grade performing arts with Ms. T, we have finished frontloading information and have been keeping track of all of the brave performing arts-related things we're doing in our bravery logs as part of our "Super Improvers" program. We've talked about the importance of getting out of our comfort zone and staying "in character" as performers. 5th graders have learned about the powerful tragedies of "Romeo & Juliet" and "MacBeth", and what life lessons William Shakespeare intended for his audiences to learn. After the break, all 3rd-5th graders will be moving into musical theatre units where we'll be singing, dancing, and acting. There will be audition opportunities for performances, so be sure to ask your students what they're up to!

FRENCH In K-2 français, we started the school year with our theme, *Ma vie à l'école*! These interactive slide decks have guided our learning:

[À l'école: Kindergarten](#)

[À l'école: 1st Grade](#), and counting to 20 with Mr. Jacobson's [1st Graders!](#)

[À l'école: 2nd Grade](#)

In 3-5th français, we started the school year with our community theme, *Ma vie en communauté*! This [chat mat](#) shows the key questions and sentence starters that we used to exchange information in the following essential skills: exchanging introductions, exchanging greetings, and talking about where we went during the weekend. To show evidence of our learning, we created a cartoon and recorded short conversations. Here are samples of both from Miss Avila's 3rd Grade Class: [Conversation - Lucas et Asher](#), [Asher's band dessiné](#), [Lucas' band dessiné](#). Merci!

MIDDLE SCHOOL WITH ZACH PARKER



Dear parents, thank you. I am grateful that you've chosen Sage for your child. Our team has worked hard during these first weeks of school to ensure that your children have a positive, supportive and challenging experience. We know it is important for all of us to feel supported and cared for and we know it is extra important during the Middle School years. Please continue to look for opportunities to connect with others at school - movie nights, athletics, outdoor adventures, clubs, conferences, PTO meetings and similar. Please reach out to me or your child's teachers if you have questions, concerns (and better yet!) compliments. Ok - on to some nuts and bolts -

Much is occurring in Middle School as we head into Fall Break.

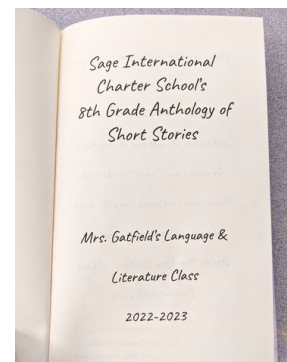
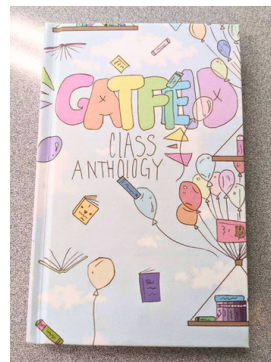
A few academic aspects: PE students completed their physical tasks that benchmark their growth throughout the year (ie. the mile run, push-ups, sits ups, etc); all Language & Literature classes are deep within their first novel study, 8th grade Lang & Lit is completing an interdisciplinary unit focused on narrative writing that explains the origins of their Alebrije creature that is created and paper matched' in 8th grade Visual Arts; end of Quarter 1 summatives are being prepared across multiple disciplines.

A few cultural aspects: Student council hosted our annual Throwback Movie night and we had over half our students attend. Sources of Strength, a student-led organization that promotes "Hope, Health and Strength" so as to help students develop resilience in hard times is promoting their Health Activities Campaign. Any healthy activities you and your students do over the break, please send a photo to earn Grade Level points. Please send pictures to the following teachers:

- 6th grade: Michael.Tetraut@sageintl.org
- 7th grade: Ryan.Freers@sageintl.org
- 8th grade: Erin.Gatfield@sageintl.org

Important notice: The entire school is adopting [Toddle](#), a new platform that students (and parents) will use to find and turn in assignments, to check for resources and updates and to check grades. The Middle School has the goal of **Monday, Oct 9th as our start date**. Parents who did not attend Back to School Night should expect their students to bring home a "Toddle Log-in" sheet. It contains a QR Code and instructions on how to access your specific student's account.

Shout out: Mrs. Gatfield has been working with last year's 8th graders to develop and print a hard-bound book containing students' short stories from their creative fiction unit. If you are interested in purchasing one for \$11 please email Mrs. Gatfield at erin.gatfield@sageintl.org.



Middle school continued on next page...



Last weekend Students in 6-9th grades participated in throwing and hand-building clay bowls with Ms. Trevino and Ms. Duerr. This was a service learning

activity for the project "Empty Bowls", a fundraiser benefitting the Idaho Food Bank!

HIGH SCHOOL AT SAGE

Nominate a high school student for the [Great Student Award](#)! Starting in October, they will highlight a SW Idaho high school student who is making an impact in their community – and provide scholarship dollars to go along with it.

Sage Fort - This is a cherished Sage High School tradition modeled after TreeFort during which students are able to explore new hobbies, interests and skills with their classmates and teachers. This year students chose from "Forts" such as hiking, making puppets, baking, filmmaking, drawing in nature, and more. We place a huge importance on building strong and positive teacher-student relationships through activities like this, and the beginning of the school year is the perfect time to build those bonds!

Day 2: Table Rock



We were so excited to have nine colleges and universities join us for **Back to School/ College night** last night! We appreciate families coming to learn more about high school at Sage, and what options will face them in the coming years.



SAGE COUNSELORS

We have two full-time counselors here at Sage. We strongly encourage you to reach out to them with any concerns you may have, including if your family is experiencing food insecurity or is in need of warm clothing for the upcoming cooler weather. We are here to help and support all our students!

Taylor Steele (Kindergarten - 7th grade) taylor.steele@sageintl.org

Brittany Meduma (8th -12th grade) brittany.meduna@sageintl.org

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Idaho invites your students to be a part of their "Beyond School Walls" program! BBBS Southwest Idaho provides professionally supported one-to-one mentorships that empower children to reach their full potential. Students will meet after school with their mentor twice per month through May. Find [more info here!](#)

Idaho Campus Choice is a program that notifies Idaho high school seniors that they are guaranteed acceptance into specific state-funded Idaho colleges and universities. All 12th-grade students should be receiving a letter in the mail with their guaranteed acceptance in October.

To see these letters virtually or to apply to colleges and universities in Idaho, students may go to [Apply Idaho](#) after October 2, 2023. Apply Idaho is a FREE common application system that students can apply to Idaho-specific colleges and universities.

NACAC College Fair is coming to Boise! This is a great opportunity for any student in grades 9-12 to visit with colleges and universities to start planning their future. There will be over 80 colleges/universities in attendance!

When: Thursday, October 19, 2023

Time: 9am - 2pm & 6pm - 8pm

Where: Expo Idaho

SAGE EXPEDITIONS

Coordinator Megan Furois has been busy with a lot of fun adventures for our students at both Sage campuses, and is camping in the Sawtooths with Sage Middleton students this weekend! Check [our website](#) for details, upcoming Expeditions opportunities include:

- **10/6** - 9th Grade Hiking @ Shoo-fly Oolite and Bruneau Sand Dunes
- **10/13** - 4th and 5th Grade Hiking and Exploration @ Silver City
- **11/3** - MYP Service Opportunity: Rake Up Boise

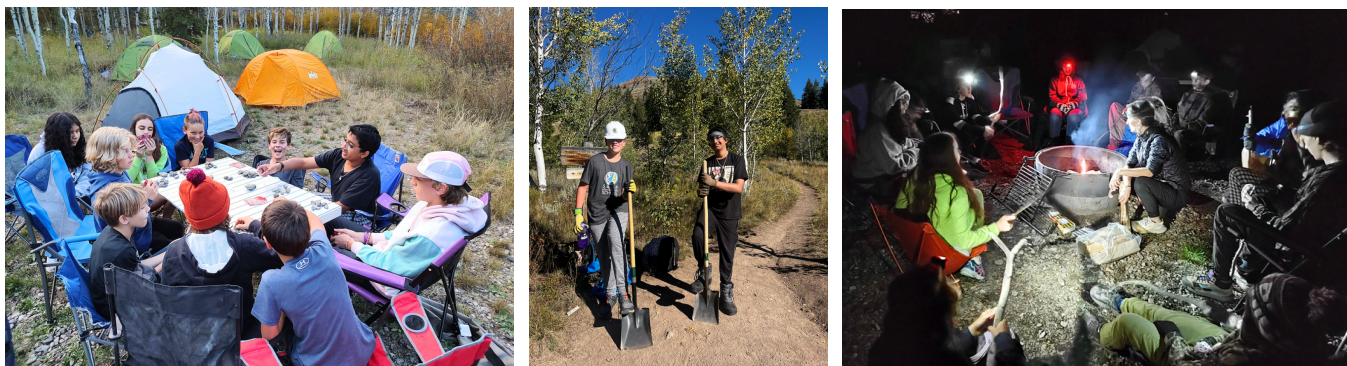
Registration is usually only open for a couple of weeks and a lottery is held if it fills up, so be sure to mark your calendar and check back often!

Expeditions continued...

The weekly High School rock climbing clinic at the Boise Black Rocks!



7th and 8th-grade students went camping and worked with a trail crew in Sun Valley last weekend. This 3-day, 2-night camping trip included a day of service partnering with the Wood River Trail Coalition and was a blast for all!



SAGE PTO

Upcoming Dates:

October 5th 6:00 - 8:00 pm: International Fair - This fun and FREE family event is designed to celebrate the many cultures that make up our Sage community. There will be food, music, activities, dancing, and FUN! Find out more and sign up [HERE](#).

October 17th 5:30 pm at Sage - PTO Meeting - join us, these always last less than an hour.

October 26th: Sage Night at Farmstead - A portion of entry fees will be donated to the Sage PTO! We will also be having a FUNdraiser to vote for which of your favorite Teachers will get to kiss a live PIG! Stay tuned for details.



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