



SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MIDDLETON NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 30, 2023



If your student missed picture day or would like a retake, Dorian Studio will be here for Retake day on November 6th. Orders may be placed online by searching for Sage Middleton at mydorian.com and selecting the green "order" button next to our retake day event. Online orders are available up to 4 days after retake day. If you already ordered and want a new picture taken please be sure to return your original picture packet to the photographer on retake day!

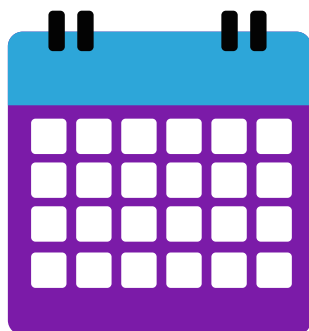


Mind the Gap is our annual fundraiser where we invite ALL Sage families to make a donation in support of our public charter school. Unlike District schools, Sage receives ZERO funding from local tax dollars. Our goal is to raise \$40,000 this year! That amounts to about \$100 per student or just \$10/month 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 from ALL families and all gifts are greatly appreciated! Many local employers MATCH gifts, which can double your donation! Read more [HERE](#).



Sage Spirit Store: You can now order Sage T-shirts, sweatshirts, bags, hats, and other items through our online Sage Spirit Store year-round! You can pay for shipment to your home or have it delivered to the school on a weekly basis for free. You can [find the link here](#), happy shopping!

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November 4: Harvest Festival 2:00-6:00

November 6: Picture retakes

November 20-24: Thanksgiving Break -
No School

December 25-January 5: Holiday Break -
No School

OUR MISSION

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

FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANDY JOHNSON



Dear Sage families and staff,

October was lovely and gave us wonderful opportunities to extend our Summer-like outdoor activities. However rainy, blustery autumn weather seems to have finally arrived. With the arrival of colder and more variable weather, please ensure that you are all taking the right steps to stay healthy - jackets for outside play, good handwashing, staying home if you have a fever, staying up-to-date on vaccinations and getting lots of fresh air and exercise. We want all of our teachers, support staff and students to be in school for the most days possible because the evidence shows that being present, even when we aren't at 100%, is far better for teaching, learning and improved academic outcomes.

At the risk of stealing Darci's thunder, I want to make sure you all know that we are moving forward with our plans to become (in alignment with our chartering documents) a fully accredited International Baccalaureate school. We are authorized to offer the Primary Years Programme (PYP) in Grades K-5, we are a candidate school for the Middle Years Programme (MYP) in Grades 6-10 and our application to become a candidate school for the Diploma Programme (DP) was accepted. We are moving forward to do the work to ensure we have all three programmes in place at our school. For more information on the Diploma Programme, check out these [key findings](#) on the program's impact and this [resource on the nature of the program](#).

We are well underway in our project to build the second phase of our campus - the high school building. We are wrapping up financing and expect to begin construction after the new year with an opening date of late July 2024. Part of this construction project includes adding grass and fencing. This will dramatically increase the outdoor play and learning spaces on campus. The building itself will house the all-school media center and an intentionally designed science lab-teaching space. Our goal is to have a building that is as flexible and student-centered as possible. It will incorporate features that are in the existing buildings such as garage doors between classrooms and in the case of the science space, a garage door opening into the wider-than-phase-one hallways. We are excited about this and hope you are as well.

As a school chartered to be college preparatory by design, I want to make sure I regularly touch base with all of you about the importance of thinking, planning and preparing well before 11th and 12th Grade. This [blog post from UNCF](#) is a straightforward and effective set of advice and activities for each of the high school years. It mentions a resource that I've shared before - [Big Future](#) from the College Board. Please sign up for this now and start having conversations with your 8th through 12th-grade students about post-high school plans. [Next Steps Idaho](#) is

continued on next page...

Idaho's portal for all things post-high school. There are lots of great resources for parents and students here. As always, our team Joy Kaplan-Rood (Counselor), Darci Stelzner (Head of School) and me (Andy) are happy to answer questions, direct you to resources, and to meet and discuss you and your child's hopes and dreams for the future.

All the best,

Andy Johnson
Executive Director

FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL, DARCI STELZNER



The learner profile attribute we will focus on during the month of November is **Knowledgeable**. Knowledgeable learners explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In doing so, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines. IB students are extraordinarily well prepared for the academic requirements of university coursework.

How can parents help to develop students who are knowledgeable at home?

- Encourage your child to be aware of current events by watching the news or reading news articles when appropriate.
- Explore connections between the area of interest and other topics.
- When your child asks a question, encourage them to seek the answer out rather than giving them the answer.
- Ask your child about what they are learning in school and engage them in conversations about it.
- Foster areas of interest that your child displays through books, outings and activities.

Ask:

- "Why do you think that is important to know?"
- "Can you think of anything that's happening today that might be similar to...?"
- "What does that make you think of?"
- "Does that remind you of anything else you've learned?"

! Regular attendance is critically important for learning and success at school. National studies show that a middle schooler who misses two (2) or fewer days of school each year has a 93% chance of starting high school on track to graduate, versus 66% for a child who misses 10 or more days. As a K-10 school, we are sitting at about 93% attendance. We appreciate your support in ensuring students are at school as much as possible!

FROM PYP DIRECTOR, AUSTIN AMBROSE

Hello Sage Middleton Families,

The past month has been filled with great opportunities to hit a stride with learning and build connections. Last week was a wonderful Spirit Week to add a little extra joy to our days. It was great fun to see all the students dressing up for the various days and building a little extra excitement for the week. We also appreciated the time families took to come and conference with their teachers. This is a way for the team to connect and make plans to support the students moving forward through the year. Thank you for making that time!

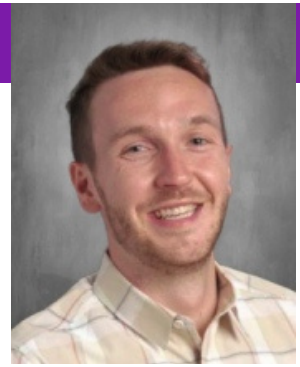
The Grade 4 students marked the end of their unit of inquiry under the theme, How We Express Ourselves by hosting a poetry cafe. The students inquired into the structures of poetry, the themes of poems and stories, and personal inspiration. Each student chose one of their published poems to read aloud to an audience of classmates, families and other teachers. It was such a fun event and we are so proud of the students' work!



We are seeing positive trajectories in our Istation reading assessments each month! This is the program we use for kindergarten through third grade to measure their reading proficiency through the state. This is a credit to the hard work the team puts in each day to support our students. We also know that support at home happens as well and we appreciate your partnership in your student's learning. Simple acts such as reading a book, discussing the meaning of words, or playing math games can go a long way in supporting your students' learning. We always love to provide specific examples of things families can do to support from home, so please reach out if you would like ideas.

Part of that growth comes from students being in the classroom and learning every day. Regular attendance is an important factor in student learning. We understand that we can't always plan for illness or other events, and we appreciate all that you do to get your students here each day. We love having them here and are excited to continue having a wonderful school year with them participating.

Please continue to look out for upcoming events at the school. The PTO puts in a lot of hard work to plan really incredible events for our community. One of my personal favorites is coming up soon, the Harvest Festival. We hope to see you there!



THE MYP WITH COORDINATOR JASMINE STANCIU

The MYP had their second annual Halloween dance on October 26! Thank you to DJ Kriss for always providing such a great time for students. An extra shoutout to the Student Council, craft day volunteers, and, and those that donated food and decorations. You make this dance possible! Leading up to the dance we had a dress-up week consisting of red out/pajamas, luau, Barbie and Halloween costumes.



- Check out our [MYP blog](#) for updates on Learner Profile awards, assemblies, instruction in the MYP classrooms and exciting events happening in our community.
- If you are having trouble getting connected to Toddle please email MYP Coordinator Jasmine Stanciu at jasmine.stanciu@sageintl.org.

SAGE MIDDLETON PTO

The **Fall Harvest Festival** is November 4th from 2-6 pm! We'll have Family Fun including:

- Chili / baked potato bar
- 18 vendors & a coffee truck
- Games
- Face painting
- Bake sale
- Silent auction with 14 baskets PLUS over \$800 in gift certificates
- Secret Santa/ Holiday Table for kids
- Teacher pie in the face (drawing at 5:00)

We always welcome families to join the PTO! General meetings are the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 in the gym and you can find upcoming Events on our [Facebook Page](#):

November 1: Auction Basket donations for the Harvest Festival due

November 6-10: PTO-sponsored Door of Gratitude competition

November 14: Door judging from Middleton Mayor Rule

We were able to gather 1800 donated cans of food for the Middleton Food Pantry during our food drive! THANK YOU for your generous support of our community, and CONGRATULATIONS to 4th grade for earning a pizza party by gathering the most cans!



ENRICHMENT AT SAGE

ESage has been busy and having lots of fun with recent field trips to the Boise Art Museum, Warhawk Air Museum, bowling, and local farms. We have upcoming trips scheduled for The Farmstead and Zoo Boise. If you would like to sign your elementary school student up for ESage, please complete registration on our [website](http://www.esage.org). If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us at: esage_middleton@sageintl.org



Spirit Squad: We are excited to announce a newly created coed, non-competitive, SAGE SPIRIT SQUAD that will consist of both DANCE and CHEER! You can learn more and register your student [HERE](#).

Sage Middleton Girls Basketball Upcoming games:

November 10th- @ Rolling Hills

November 6th- vs Notus @ home

November 7th-vs Centennial Baptist @ home

November 13th-vs Rolling Hills @ home

November 16th- @ Centennial Baptist

Boys Basketball Registration opens November 6th, you can find more info [HERE](#).

SAGE EXPEDITIONS WITH MEGAIN FUROIS

Our 4th and 5th grade Action Friday to Idaho City was a blast! We took a brisk hike through the Boise National Forest and learned how to identify poisonous plants and trees! Students used tools and observational skills to identify plants and trees. We then had a lovely picnic lunch in town before a fun and informative scavenger hunt. Students were able to see the historical district of Idaho City and learn about the very interesting history of the area!



On November 10th we have an MYP Service Opportunity: [Rake Up Boise and Disc Golf @ Eagle Island State Park](#)- the LOTTERY is OPEN and we hope your student can join us!

Stay tuned for more opportunities coming soon!