



SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BOISE NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 17, 2023



The Academic Calendar for the 2024-25 school year has been approved by the board and is posted on our [website here](#).



School photo prints and proofs from our latest Photo Day in October have been shipped and will arrive next week, be on the lookout for them coming home with your student(s) when we return from Thanksgiving Break!



Sage Night at Panera is a fundraiser to support the school! On November 30th between 4:00 - 8:00 pm, order anything from Panera at 1150 W Myrtle St in Boise, and 25% of sales will benefit Sage! Mention code "FUND4U" when ordering online, in person, or at their Drive-thru! (p.s. they even deliver!)



Construction update: ACHD has let us know that they will be wrapping up construction on Mallard by mid-December. Thank you for the extra patience you have had with traffic patterns over the course of the construction!

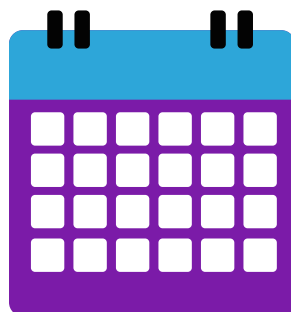


Lottery Season is coming! We have several Information sessions coming up for families interested in joining Sage. The next session is December 7th at 5:30 pm and we'd love your help spreading the word! They can find more information and RSVP on [our website](#). (Please note current families DO NOT need to enter the lottery.) We also still have current openings for Kindergarten and 6th grade for this year!



School closure alerts: Winter is coming, and in the (uncommon) event of a school closure due to snow we will let parents know in the following ways by 6:30 AM: Email, Social Media, KTVB and if you opt-in, by text. To opt in to text alerts please text "Y" via your cell phone to 61569.

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November 20 - 24: Thanksgiving Break - No School!

December 25 - January 5: Holiday Break - No School!

January 11: End of First Semester

January 15: MLKJ Day - No School!

FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANDY JOHNSON



Dear families and staff of Sage International Schools,

October and November, for me, always inspire reflection, thinking and gratitude. As summer slowly fades and autumn puts on its colorful coat, I think about the year that is finishing and all that the future holds. These quiet autumn moments often compel me to think about the important people in my life; to redouble my efforts to extend grace to others (and myself) and to be grateful for all that made this year interesting and challenging.

At our campuses, we often encourage students and each other to stop and say thank you. Our Sources of Strength team at the Boise campus has been leading an effort to encourage people to write down why they are grateful for a specific person in their life and then, if they are ready, to actually tell that person. The results have been wonderful. It is important that we tell those we care about that we think about them and are grateful for them.

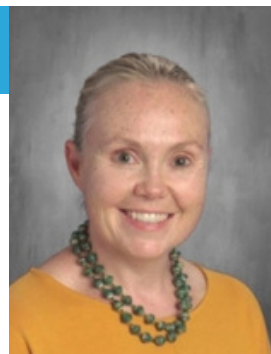
I am grateful for our embrace of an inclusive International Baccalaureate learning community where every person should feel welcome and feel safe to take on new learning challenges while welcoming new members to our community. Our schools offer opportunities to pursue rigorous, challenging and inclusive learning opportunities that ensure they are strong readers, writers, mathematicians, scientists and interdisciplinary thinkers. We want that experience for as many people as possible.

I am grateful that each of our families has chosen one of our two schools. I am grateful that parents value our teachers, support staff and leadership. We have great teams, great parents and wonderful students. Lifelong learners lead rich, purpose filled lives.

All the best,

Andy

FROM PYP DIRECTOR KATE HUNTER



PYP: Classroom Spotlight: 2nd Grade

As part of their PYP Inquiry Unit "How We Organize Ourselves", 2nd grade students and teachers have immersed themselves in creating and operating a mini business, selling flowers to benefit local non-profit organizations. Students have learned how to problem-solve and collaborate in this process, and they have also had a chance to engage with each part of the IB Inquiry Cycle, shown below.

PYP continued next page...



Morning Drop Off, Grades 2-5: We are making a slight change to where students will wait outside for school to start in the morning. This will have no impact on how or where you drop students off. Please drop your students off near the sidewalk in front of Everest, as you have been doing. From there, students will travel to the playground where they can wait and play with friends. This creates a safer place for students to wait because they are protected by fencing and moved away from traffic. It has the added bonus of being a much more fun location to begin the day. Traffic is shut down in the parking lot area that students will use to cross to the playground, further enhancing safety. As a reminder, when dropping students off, please pull forward to the furthest unoccupied spot, allowing more cars to fill the spaces behind you and keep waiting vehicles off Parkcenter.

French Update with Madame Davis: In PYP French, Grades 4 and 5 are currently working on the school theme, *talking about our school schedules*. Essential Skills: *I CAN ask and answer questions about what classes I have using words, phrases and short sentences. I CAN express my preferences for various classes and teachers using words, phrases and short sentences.* Example from la classe de Madame Lunt -Grade 5 - [Bree et Ali](#).

PE Update with Mr. D: All students in grades K-5 have been visiting [Master Kim's Studio](#) for some FREE martial arts training! Sage Students receive discounted introductory classes through, watch for information that was sent home...4 weeks for \$29!



MIDDLE SCHOOL WITH ZACH PARKER



Families,

First, a traffic reminder: when dropping students off, please pull forward to the furthest unoccupied spot. This allows cars to fill the space behind you and keeps waiting vehicles off Parkcenter. Students can be dropped off anywhere along the sidewalk in front of Everest to make their way to their building's entrance.

Second, I'd like to include a couple of resources that may be helpful for your family and teen with respect to cell phones over the holiday (as well as moving forward). This is from Screenagers, a source I like to regularly check on due to their focus on technology, screen time and the impact it has on students and families. [Creating Healthier Tech Policies at Home](#); [Rules that Work](#).

Next, I'd like to highlight the cultural events that the Middle School has been participating in over the past few weeks. First, as an annual event, P.E. teacher Mrs. Woodruff takes students to nearby neighborhoods to rake leaves, primarily for the elderly. As we enter into our Thanksgiving Break, our 8th graders have helped rake a total of 18 households!



Additionally, students participated in "A Place at the Table", a program to help spread holiday cheer by designing and creating placemats for Senior Citizens in our Community. The completed placemats will be delivered to Senior Centers around Boise to be enjoyed at their holiday dinners.

The Middle School is holding our 2nd Annual Career Day on Thursday, January 18th. A large number of volunteers is required specifically for our 8th graders who will be participating in Reality Town, a simulation that teaches students to manage finances while also recognizing education as a means to more financial stability. Please see [this flier](#) for more information. The volunteer sign-up form is [linked here](#), there are a variety of fun positions available!

The current Sources of Strength (SoS) campaign is centered around Gratitude. Research shows when we share our gratitude with others we feel stronger and happier. To support this, our SoS student leaders developed and presented to the Middle School a chance to express their gratitude. This came in two forms. First, students wrote on a link of paper what they were grateful for. The chain itself turned out to be [over 150 long](#). Second, students were challenged to share their gratitude with those they wrote about. Students ended up calling family and friends at the end of the day. It was powerful and beautiful and important in making and strengthening connections. With that said, I challenge you to harness your inner Sources of Strength and share your gratitude with loved ones, engage in your healthy activity, and connect with your family and positive friends.

HIGH SCHOOL WITH BRANDY BURKETT



Greetings Sage Families,

It has been a busy fall here in the high school. We have had several student-led and teacher-led events and experiences. One of our academic goals in the Diploma Programme is to better prepare our students to write an excellent [Extended Essay](#). The Extended Essay is a core requirement of the Diploma Programme that factors into students' overall score as they test for the IB Diploma. This paper is an independent, self-directed piece of research, and this year Austin Weeks (DP teacher) and Danielle Konkol (Media Specialist) have partnered to build a more comprehensive support system for our Year 1 students as they write their EE. Each week, DP students take part in focused sessions with Mr. Weeks and Ms. Konkol in our library. On Friday, October 27th, DP students were invited to Boise State to participate in a guided research workshop where they accessed scholarly articles through BSU's library. Students had such a great experience and we will definitely be utilizing this resource again!

In the Career-related Programme, Year 1 students are focusing their learning on the Design Thinking Model as they work to develop a product or service to solve a problem of their choice. All of this work is to prepare students to attend the [Youth Idaho Entrepreneurial Challenge](#) which is hosted by Venture College. This year we hope to send 2-3 teams to compete. In years past, Sage students have earned multiple top-place finishes and this has resulted in cash prizes for our students. More to come on this as these develop!

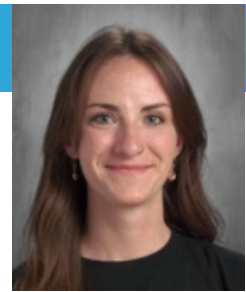
Sage Fall Festival & Boo at the Zoo CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service) Volunteer Day: On October 31st all 11/12th-grade students assisted in throwing our annual Fall Festival for PYP students. In this student-led event, PYP students visit the Summit building and rotate through several activities. As always, it was a wonderful time! That same weekend several of our DP students volunteered their time with our High School Beta Club at Boo at the Zoo. Both of our IB programmes require service hours as part of their Core and this opportunity was all student-led.



Toddle Update: All families with students in grades 9-11 have been emailed an invite to connect to their students' Toddle accounts. If you have yet to connect, please look for the invite from Toddle in your email. If you don't see it in your inbox or spam, please email Brandy Burkett for assistance. 9th-10th grade teachers are exclusively using Toddle as the platform where families access their students' grades and assignments. 11th-grade teachers are busy building their courses in Toddle and will make the final transition beginning in January.

Traffic reminder: When dropping students off, please pull forward to the furthest unoccupied spot, allowing more cars to fill the spaces behind you and keep waiting vehicles off Parkcenter. Students can be dropped off anywhere along the sidewalk in front of Everest and make their way to their building's entrance.

SAGE EXPEDITIONS WITH MEGAN FUROIS



We are wrapping up our first season running Sage Expeditions at both campuses and are so proud to look back on what we were able to accomplish this fall. Since August, Sage Expeditions has taken nearly 100 students on expeditions leading to over 200 hours of outdoor learning for our community. These expeditions have provided a wide range of activities including backpacking, camping, fly fishing, rock climbing, hiking, history and geology lessons, trail crew and community service in places like the Wood River Valley, Crater Lake National Park, the Frank Church Wilderness, Silver City ID, and so many more.

Thank you to everyone who signed up for these expeditions and to all the staff that supported our trips. If your student is still waiting for an expedition that suits their interests/abilities/grade level keep an eye out this winter! We have so many fun outdoor learning opportunities planned for winter 2024, next up is:

- Bogus Basin's Lifesports Program on 1/19 and 1/26 is open to grades 3-10. Please see our [informational letter](#) for details on this expedition and to sign up for the lottery. The lottery closes on November 30th.

Sage Expeditions is looking for feedback from families to support us in creating expeditions that best serve our communities. We appreciate if you are able to take a few minutes to fill out this survey to provide us insight into what you'd like to see offered in the future: [Parent/guardian Expeditions Interest Form](#)

Outside of school, if you are looking for fun, local, outdoor activities to do with your students on your own take a look at the list of activities below!

- [Free skiing opportunities for 5th - 6th graders](#)
- Walk/bike along the [Weiser River Trail](#)
- Disc golf at [Ann Morrison Park](#)
- Explore the [Ridge to Rivers](#) trail system
- Hike or Snowshoe on the [Star River Walk](#)

SUPPORTING SAGE

As a Public Charter school that offers an outstanding education FREE to our students, we need the support of our community. We receive funding through the state, but ZERO local tax dollars like district Schools. Luckily, our generous community sees the value in the International Baccalaureate Education we provide your students and comes through each year to help us Mind the Gap in funding. WE NEED YOUR HELP! In this season of giving, we are asking **EVERY Sage Family** to make a donation in any amount in order to reach our goal of \$125,000. Proving our families believe in us helps us gain the support of other funders and organizations. You can make a one-time donation, or give monthly or quarterly. Thank you to the 24 donors that have helped us raise \$6,925 so far! We have a long way to go. Please [visit our giving website](#) to learn more about how you can help!



ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Ski Team: Through the Bogus Basin Ski Education Foundation, students of all skill levels have the opportunity to take part in Alpine, Nordic, and Snowboard competitions. This years coaches are Austin Weeks and Mimi Trevino, [click here](#) to learn more!

Afterschool Flag Football: (for students in 2nd-5th grade) begins the week of January 22nd! Offered by the great "Afterschool Athletics" program that offered basketball, students will gain fundamental flag football skills right here on the Sage playfield after school. Click the link above to learn more and register for your FREE introductory class!

Student Clubs: We have several clubs and activities available to all grade levels:

Afterschool Flag Football (2nd-5th Grade)

Baking Club (6th-8th grade)

Dance Committee (9th-12th grade)

Dungeons and Dragons (7th grade)

Green Club (9th-12th grade)

HS Student Council (9th-12th grade)

Model United Nations (9th-12th grade)

National Beta Club (9th-12th grade)

Rising Stars (Kinder – 12th Grade)

Sage Car Club (9th-12th grade)

Soccer Shots (Kinder – 2nd Grade)

Spanish Club (9th-12th Grade)

The Finer Things Club (9th-12th Grade)

Volleyball Club (9-12th grade)

SAGE PTO

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our annual Secondary Gratitude Lunch! As always our students and staff really enjoyed sitting down to a great meal together to kick off break!



Mark Your Calendar:

December 19 @ 5:30 pm - PTO Meeting, everyone is welcome!

January 17 @ 4:00 pm: - PTO Meeting, everyone is welcome!

February 8 6:00 -8:00 pm: K-5 Luau



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