



SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BOISE NEWSLETTER

APRIL 25, 2024



Enrollment Reminders: We are working hard on scheduling for next school year and HOPE to see all our students return! If your plans have changed and your child(ren) will NOT be returning to Sage, please fill out the [Withdrawal Form](#) ASAP to let us know. This not only helps us plan classes but also grants us permission to release your student's file to another school upon request.



SAGE PTO has a lot of fun events planned for ALL families in these last few weeks of school to celebrate another great year! Mark your calendars for these great upcoming events:

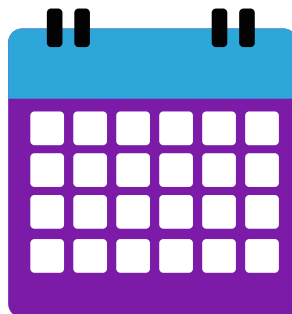
- **May 2:** PYP (K-5) Family Dance [More Info](#)
- **May 6-9:** Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week - [Ideas here](#) and [Signup](#)
- **May 15:** Sage PTO Meeting, 5:30 pm at Sage
- **May 16:** High School (9-12) Bowling at BSU - [More Info](#)
- **May 17-19:** Sage Family Campout for ALL Sage families, [More Info](#)
- **May 30:** K-12 End of Year Picnic - after school at [Kristin Armstrong Park](#).
BYO food and drink

We are looking for more families to get involved, our PTO can only host these events with your help! Find out more [HERE](#).



A huge thank you to the Food Pantry and supply donations we've received! We greatly appreciate those who have made donations from our [Amazon Wishlist](#). We are currently in need of Cleaning wipes, Tissues, granola bars, goldfish crackers, and Cup O'Noodles. We'll continue to take donations and you can also drop off items at any front desk, thank you!

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 26: Friday School day - All students
May 6-9: Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week
May 22: Sage Graduation
May 30: Last Day of School, PYP Field Day,
PTO Picnic

***A special save the date: our FIRST ever Sage Gala to celebrate 15 years on 9/6/24!**



Dear Families, Students and Staff of Sage International Schools,

I hope that you are all well and are thriving in your lives in and out of school. We are in the days and weeks of the school year when we are striving to pack as much learning and growth as possible. At the same time, we ask that students do their best to demonstrate what they have learned. Our youngest learners will work hard to demonstrate all that they have learned about the fundamentals of the English language on the Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI), older students will demonstrate language and math skills on the Idaho Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) and the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) and, for students in 12th Grade - on the International Baccalaureate exams. It can truly seem like a lot of “testing” - and I encourage each of you to view these opportunities as ways to consolidate learning and demonstrate growth.

We - as a school team - pay close attention to what we observe and assess in classrooms and in what these assessments tell us. All of these results help us make decisions about what is working well and what we can improve as a school team. We ask ourselves questions about areas of need, curricular choices, student readiness, gaps in understanding or skills and examine how we might better prepare as a team (on those all-important Friday teacher days). We also believe that students should have agency over their learning. What they learn from reflecting and thinking about their own learning can inform goal-setting and outcome-oriented mindsets - strong predictors of future success and ability to self-regulate.

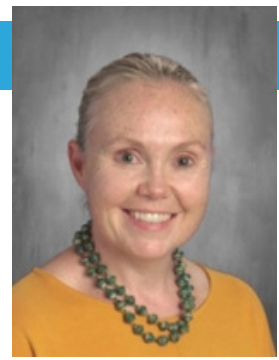
Over the next few weeks encourage your children to:

- Do their very best every day.
- Eat breakfast and come to school ready to learn.
- Participate in discussions and activities (raise your hand, offer an idea, help a friend).
- Name their intentions (goals) for the day - i.e. “I will do my best work on my in-class narrative writing essay.”
- Partner with you (their parents) and reflect on how well they met their daily intention (goal).
- Be active after school
- Get a good night’s sleep every day

All the best,

Andy Johnson

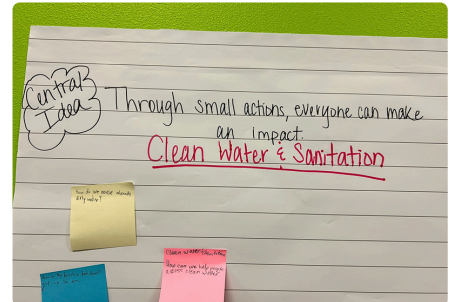
PYP WITH DIRECTOR KATE HUNTER



Springtime brings a whirlwind of activity! On May 28-29th the Lion's club will be at Sage providing hearing and vision screening for Grades 1, 3, and 5. While these screenings are not diagnostic, it is a free service that can indicate if further testing is needed. If you prefer your student not be screened, please complete this [Opt-out form](#).

Classroom Spotlight: 5th Grade PYPX

Our 5th graders are currently engaged in Exhibition (also known as PYPX), which is the IB's culminating learning experience and celebration that marks the end of the PYP years. The IB notes that Exhibition is a "significant event in the life of the school and the student... that synthesizes essential elements of the PYP". Within Exhibition, students are tasked with "identifying, investigating, and offering solutions to real-life issues or problems". One thing we LOVE about Exhibition is it allows students to delve into an area of authentic interest while focusing on a grade level-wide theme; this approach allows room for both individualized work and common threads of discovery. We also love that students are tasked with taking action, or considering solutions to real world problems. Our central idea this year – co-created between students and teachers – is "Through small actions, everyone can make an impact", and it falls under our IB trans-disciplinary theme of *Sharing the Planet*. Here our students begin their brainstorming and inquiry into this big (and worthy!) topic.



We have a series of events coming up, some in celebration of this year and some focused on looking ahead. We hope you can join us:

May 2nd: PTO [PYP Family Dance](#)

May 3rd: Kindergarten Orientation for NEXT year's kinders (see email if this pertains to you)

May 6-16: Spring MAP testing window

May 21: PYP Exhibition Family Night – details coming soon for current 4th & 5th grade families

May 30: Field Day/Last Day of School – details coming soon

Specials Spotlight: Performing Arts

This is a busy time of year for Performing Arts class with Ms. T.! Our 2nd graders are learning a dance and rap to support their upcoming inquiry unit on invention & innovation. Our 3rd-5th graders are all gearing up for performances!

3rd-grade classes are working on their productions of "The Bremen Town Rock Musicians", which includes a parody of the song, "We Will Rock You" using live drums as percussion.

PYP continued...

Each 4th-grade class is putting on an abridged production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream", and each 5th-grade class is doing a 20-minute version of "Romeo & Juliet", complete with backstage crew jobs, fancy costumes, and sword fights!



Performing Arts class continues to encourage Sage students to focus on bravery and improvement as they use the IB traits of "risk-taker" and "reflective" learners. If your students are interested in continuing musical theatre with Ms. T. in her summer camps, check out her website: www.IdahoRisingStars.com.

MIDDLE SCHOOL WITH DIRECTOR ZACH PARKER

Over the past two weeks the Middle School has been working our way through ISAT testing. By the time you read this we will have wrapped this up. With respect to Middle School-wide testing, this leaves our final MAP testing to be completed the week of May 6-9th. As we tell our students, standardized testing is but one data point in looking at a student's overall academic performance. The overall information we receive and analyze is important for our staff as it helps direct our planning of content and instruction.

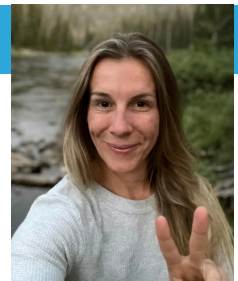


Looking ahead as we wrap up the year, I want to highlight a few events. Please note that I will send more thorough information as we get closer:

- MAP Testing Schedule (May 6-10)
- Teacher Appreciation Week (May 6 - 10) - I encourage you and your student to take an evening and write a letter to your teachers. It's the teachers we have that make the school so special. If emails work best, you can find the Boise staff list [HERE](#).
- 8th Grade End of Year Adventure to Horsethief YMCA Camp....It's back!! May 20 - 22
- 7th Grade End of Year Celebration – day at Wahooz!!! May 23
- All school-issued laptops will be turned in on Thursday, May 23

The **2nd Annual 8th Grade End of Year Adventure** has been a work in progress, and with the recent generous support of a few families along with the YMCA the 8th graders can take part in this wonderful end-of-year adventure. 8th Grade parents and students will receive specific information from me soon with the **deadline for payments and paperwork being May 9**.

Additionally, our 7th graders will celebrate the end of the year on Thursday, May 23 by attending Wahooz for the day. The cost of \$42 will include transportation, pizza and drinks as well as wristbands to play games. I will be sending out specific information soon to students and families about this event.



Hello Sage Families,

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful spring break. It has been an amazing spring on campus as we begin our final stretch toward a well deserved summer break. Spring has been incredibly busy and we still have so much to look forward to. Check out some of the cool events that we have held on campus recently:

A special cross-continent Virtual Visit

In April Mr. Oliver's Computer Science class was lucky enough to be able to virtually meet Amii Watson and Jimmi Harvey from the YouTube channel *Flavour Trip*. Amii and Jimmi are traveling DJs from Luxembourg who set up their equipment in scenic locations around Europe to DJ and cook a tasty meal. After the class got used to streaming their relaxing, playful videos in the background while coding, students



expressed interest in learning more about the duo. Thanks to the pair's kindness, they were able to video chat with them in Spain, eight hours ahead of Boise. Amii and Jimmi shared behind the scenes information on what it takes to monetize a successful YouTube channel, and answered the students' questions about their travel logistics, their audiovisual gear, and their commitment to finding their passion. Amii and Jimmi speak four languages and have traveled the world -- they are truly role models for our IB-minded students.

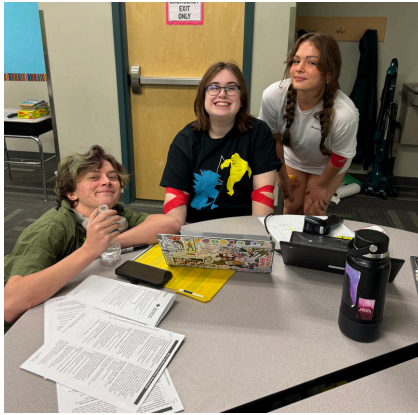
A final word of advice from Jimmi? "If what you're doing doesn't have love, it just won't work out."

Our annual Sage Olympics was full of controversy, weather, and excitement this year!

The Student Council works hard each year to organize and execute our high school-wide Sage Olympics. Teachers lead teams made up of students from all grade levels in the HS. This is a fun event where we focus on building community, and teachers get to know students across grade levels. Unfortunately, we were rained out on the final day of the competition so we never were able to crown a champion. We're all winners!



High School continued...



American Red Cross Blood Drive: Prior to spring break, senior Elliot Potts hosted an American Red Cross blood drive as her CAS project for the Diploma Program. Many students, family members, and Sage faculty donated blood. Thank you to all of you who were able to contribute!

Vivid Roots Service Trip to Guatemala

Students in grades 9-12 had an amazing opportunity to travel to Guatemala for a service trip over spring break. The trip was organized and led by Vivid Roots, a local non-profit. While on the trip students had the opportunity to serve the local community, participate in several activities, and build community with each other, trip leaders, locals, teachers Rebecca Travis, and Jessica Nielsen, as well as our school nurse, Natalie Emmerling. It was a wonderful trip and we will likely partner with Vivid Roots for future adventures and service!



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations to senior Samantha Snow! She has plans to attend Lionel Hampton School of Music at the University of Idaho to major in Music Business and minor in Theater Performance. She will be graduating from the Career-related Programme and we are so proud of all she has accomplished! Way to go, Sami!



Dress Code

Spring is here and we would like to make sure that all students have the opportunity to express themselves while also maintaining a focus on learning by following our school dress code. Our school dress code is what the Board of Directors has deemed the minimum expectation for attire while at Sage. Please use our friendly Yeti below to help guide your child in their clothing decisions. Our policies, including those related to dress code, can be referenced in our [Student-Parent Handbook](#).

The purpose of the Dress Code and Prohibited Items list is not to infringe on any individual student's rights to freedom of expression, but rather to encourage students to dress for success, be safe, and come to school properly prepared to learn. We ask for your support in promoting a safe and orderly environment in which all students can learn.

Students are not allowed to wear clothing that constitutes a health or safety hazard or is disruptive to the educational process. The dress code applies equally to all genders and identities. Sage Staff is interested in helping students learn and would prefer not to have to speak to students about their clothing. Please help us ensure your child is dressed appropriately.

All forms of dress, including hats/ headwear, accessories, and hair may not constitute a health or safety hazard or disrupt the educational process

Garments are not brief or sheer: private parts are fully covered

Clothing should be appropriate for the weather



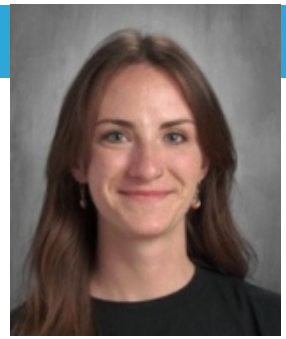
Costumes/accessories/ full-face makeup are only permissible when pre- approved by administration

Clothing and accessories do not depict or reference drugs, alcohol, violence/weapons, nudity/sexual references, or hate speech

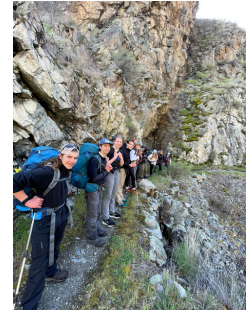
Footwear must be worn at all times

Dress code may be addressed through small, non-permanent alterations, covering up/adjusting what is not to standard, changing clothing, or being sent home. Repeated violations may be addressed through additional actions.

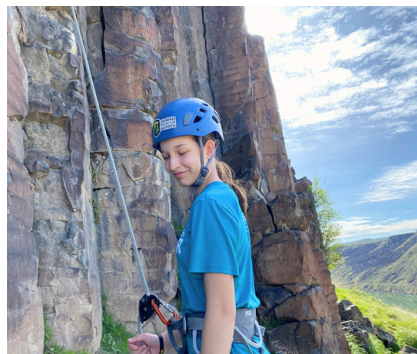
OUTDOOR EXPEDITIONS



Sage Expeditions had an incredible Spring break taking students on all sorts of incredible adventures. A group of 10 risk-takers set off on a four-day backpacking trip through Hells Canyon. They took a 15-mile jet boat ride up the Snake River and hiked themselves out on the beautiful Snake River Trail. Students learned about Leave No Trace principles and how to protect the spaces they visited while building community and new relationships with peers and faculty!



The remainder of the week we had students in grades 6-10 rock climbing at the Black Cliffs in Southeast Boise with Idaho Mountain Guides. Students learned the basics of outdoor climbing and rock climbing safety and were even joined by Executive Director Andy Johnson! They finished off the week with a self-rappel, way to go!



We look forward to another after-school climbing clinic this May. You can see details for this clinic on our website or email Megan Furois to get on our waitlist.

Summer Expeditions:

July 15-19 will be a High School Storytelling workshop + Camping in the Wood River Valley. Details and information on how to sign up for this trip will be available soon, please [check our website](#) and watch your email inbox closely for these!

ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ESAGE

The ESage Summer Program is enrolling now! Enrollment info is available on our [website](#) and remaining spaces are limited, so sign your rising K-6th grader up for a Summer of fun, learning, and field trips ASAP.

The ESage group has been having a lot of fun lately, with Spring Break and Friday field trips to the Boise Aquarium, Hiking Table Rock, Celebration Park, the MK Nature Center, Zoo Boise, Idaho Reptile Zoo, swimming at the YMCA, Pojo's, along with planting seeds, making bird feeders, and biking on the Greenbelt to the Downtown Library. If you'd like more information, please email esage@sageintl.org or check out our [website](#).

This Summer at Sage:

[Marimba Camp](#): For students entering 4th-8th grade

When: June 10th-14th 9:00-12:00

Cost: \$150

[Camp Invention](#): For students entering Kindergarten- 6th Grade
Leader-in-Training spots for grades 7 - 9 may be available.

When: July 8th - 12th 9:00 - 3:30

Cost: \$285 (scholarships may be available)

SUPPORT FOR SAGE

As a public charter school, we rely on the support of our families and are so grateful to those who have contributed to help us Mind the Gap this year! **THANK YOU!** If you would like to help, we are still looking for support in the following ways:

- Donate to [Mind the Gap](#) - we have raised just over \$57,000 toward our \$125,000 goal! Any amount helps, and we are looking for participation from all families.
- **Idaho Gives** is coming up on April 29 - May 2! There are many prizes we can win and invite you to support us and other Idaho nonprofits [HERE](#).
- We are planning our FIRST Sage Fundraising Gala to celebrate our 15th year as a school. Mark your calendars for **Friday, September 6th at JUMP!** We will have an auction, please reach out to Heidi Hagman at heidi.hagman@sageintl.org if you have ideas or items you would like to donate.
- **Support our PTO** - this amazing organization is made up of a small group of parents, and they are looking for help in any capacity. Sign up for their [newsletter](#) or email them: information@sagepto.org