



# SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MIDDLETON NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2, 2024



We are enrolling! We have openings in some grade levels for the 2024-25 school year and would love your help spreading the word. Do you have families in your life that could benefit from a Sage education? They can find more information [HERE](#). Also, if plans change and your student will not be returning in the fall, we appreciate that you let us know ASAP by completing this [FORM](#).



You can find the [2024-25 Academic Calendar here](#). Thank you for prioritizing your students' learning by ensuring they are at school every day unless they are sick! These last few weeks are important learning time as students finish up their academic goals for the year.



We desperately need your help with our Mind the Gap Fundraising campaign. This year with the addition of our new High School building, we are asking EVERY Sage Family to make a donation in any amount in order to reach our goal of \$40,000. We have a long way to go. Please [visit our giving website](#) to learn more about how you can help!



Are you interested in hosting an exchange student? They are looking for families, you can find more information [here!](#)

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



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**April 4:** 4/4 Fun Run and Spirit Day!

**April 8-12:** Spring Break - No School!

**April 26:** Friday School day - All students

**May 17:** PYP Exhibition - Families welcome!

**May 30:** Last Day of 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 Families and Staff of Sage International Schools,

I hope you are all well and thriving. Thank you for supporting your children's schools so strongly and embracing our schools' mission. This is especially important as schools that value intercultural understanding - essentially developing the skills and mindsets that help a person bridge divides between their own experiences and identity and others' experiences and identities.

At schools that embrace an International Baccalaureate education, developing intercultural understanding is central to a student's experience. Further, strong intercultural understanding can help people navigate difficult/challenging social, work and educational issues. Central to developing intercultural understanding at Sage schools is the study of, practice with and acquisition of skill speaking a second language. At our Boise campus, students study French from Kindergarten to 12th Grade. At our Middleton campus, they study Spanish over the same span of grades.

French and Spanish are both important global languages and open up travel, work and study opportunities across the western hemisphere, Europe and sub-Saharan Africa - home to some of the fastest growing economies of the world. Additionally, French and Spanish are superb "entry points" to learning multiple languages. There is also evidence that learning a second language can lead to improved outcomes in mathematics, problem solving and flexible thinking.

As we approach the end of the year, I encourage each of you to engage with and to encourage your children to continue to engage with their second language. There is a kaleidoscopic array of language learning podcasts available, [Mango](#) (very similar to Rosetta Stone) is available for free through the Boise Public Library and through the internet, thousands of radio, television and news outlets are available 24/7 for additional practice and immersion. Check in with your child's teacher for more recommendations. I am always happy to help as well. Stay engaged with your second language!

On a personal note - I believe in lifelong learning - particularly learning new languages. I started with French in Harrisonville Junior High School, learned German in my undergraduate studies, Dutch at the Defense Language Institute, Czech at graduate school and now I am learning Ukrainian - using podcasts and 1:1 tutoring with a professor in Ukraine. It is incredibly fun. Languages open up whole new worlds.

Finally, for parents of rising 10th -12th Grade students - the [National Security Language Initiative - Youth \(NSLI-Y\)](#) is a State Department supported program that selects and sends students for six week long, in-country immersive language learning programs. It is competitive and incredibly rewarding. My children were lucky to do this. My son went to Tajikistan to learn Tajiki (dialect of Persian-Farsi) and my daughter went to Taiwan for Mandarin Chinese. Again, for families and students who are interested, I am happy to speak with you about this program.

All the best,  
Andy

## FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL, DARCI STELZNER



Welcome to spring, everyone! April's learner profile attribute of the month is **balanced**.

*We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives- intellectual, physical, and emotional- to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live. With this learner profile attribute, I show COMMITMENT towards my learning and show self-discipline and responsibility.*

How can families help develop students who are Balanced at home?

- ~Create a daily schedule that includes time for school work, outside physical activity, arts and music, rest, balanced meals.
- ~Allow time for a variety of activities daily with your children (school activities, indoor play, outside play, active play and quiet activities)
- ~Model doing a little bit of everything in front of your child: play, learn, exercise, rest, eat healthy foods
- ~Praise your child for demonstrating a balance lifestyle
- ~Visit many different places to learn: libraries, museums, nature trails and nature preserves, parks, Historical Parks
- ~Explore different hobbies: yoga, jogging, knitting, cards, marbles, collecting stickers

## CAREER DAY 2024

We had a spectacular Career Day last week, thanks to dozens of volunteers and a LOT of hard work by our wonderful School Counselor, Joy! Thank you to the many parents who visited classrooms to present information to students about their careers, helped out with Reality Town, and assisted with the parade. Thanks to our PTO for feeding everyone breakfast and lunch! You can see a video of photos from the day [HERE](#).

Students in 6th & 7th grades took part in a simulation called Reality Town where they managed their finances based on their career and family needs. Students explored the cost of living, were given a job description with an annual salary, and made decisions based on their own situation.

Students in grades 8th through 10th researched careers and learned how to write a cover letter and resume. They researched jobs and then held mock interviews with parents and community members for a position they were interested in.

Our K-5 students had visitors in their classrooms, were able to experience our Career Day Parade, and meet volunteers in a variety of career fields! Many organizations joined us on campus including Idaho Power, Middleton Police, Middleton Star Fire, Canyon County Paramedics, GUHO, ICCU, Miss Rodeo Idaho, Army National Guard, and many more!



## LIFE IN THE PYP (K-5TH)

Hello Sage Families,

Spring is here which also means the start of end-of-year assessments is upon us. These assessments are used to help measure how much students have learned in the given school year, as well as their growth from the year before. The first assessment we take is the ISAT assessment in 3rd through 5th grade. Below outlines this testing schedule so you all can help prepare students to do their best work! We want all students to take this as an opportunity to show all their knowledge and try their best. Some important things you can do to help support them is to make sure they get good sleep and a nutritious breakfast. Also, please make sure students are on time these days. If they arrive after the start time, they will not be allowed to test that day. We appreciate your support in getting your students ready for success!

ISAT Reading (3rd - 5th grade) - April 2nd and 3rd  
ISAT Science (5th grade only) - April 16th and 17th  
ISAT Math (3rd - 5th grade) - April 23rd and 24th

At the end of March we celebrated this month's learner profile attribute award recipients. This month we were showcasing the profile, ***principled***. It is so important for our students to learn the skills of integrity and honesty, the cornerstone of this attribute. April's focus is ***balanced***!

Last week we had a fantastic first-ever **STEAM Night (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math)**! We had over 40 families and 140 people attend to eat nachos (thank you to Sarah Dawson for cooking) and engage in a variety of STEAM-based activities. We partnered with a University of Idaho Extension program which is a collaboration between 4H and Idaho Out-Of-School network to receive a Make-Think-Create Lab. These mobile labs come stocked full of fun learning activities. Some included Balloon Cars, Pipe Cleaner Circuits, and Build A Tower. Our teachers put in a lot of work to make this night an enjoyable one for our community and we are so grateful to everyone who was able to join. We look forward to this becoming an annual event at the school!



## PYP Continued...

Recently the 3rd Grade classes completed their Sharing the Planet unit, and inquired into adaptations and biomes. We ended with an inquiry showcase where students shared their learning through writing and a few creative projects. Thank you to all the families and classmates who came to experience their work!



## LIFE IN THE MYP (6-10TH)

We have good news about the path towards MYP (grades 6-10) Authorization! The IB organization has accepted our final application with no 'matters to be addressed' and has scheduled their verification visit for May 16-17. During this visit, they will view teachers teaching their stellar lessons, and students engaging in the content with their peers. They will view teacher collaboration and interview teachers, students, board members, administrators, and parents. It is a crucially important two days for our Middle Years Program teachers and students. Following this visit, they will decide if Sage International Middleton will become a fully authorized World School within the IB organization. We will most likely hear from the IB about their decision during the summer break. Jasmine Stanciu has been the lead for this immense amount of work and we are so proud of her.

The path to DP (grades 11-12) Authorization is in progress. Our high school teachers are working on additional training and we are looking to submit the first part of the application in September with a hopeful verification visit wrapped up by the end of the first week in March. Once this last piece is in place, we will be a fully authorized World IB School from PYP through DP. This will be quite an accomplishment.

Our students are the direct recipients of the world-class education we are providing in rural Idaho.

### Upcoming MYP Events:

ISAT ELA April 2-3 (grades 6-8)

Spring Break April 5-14

ISAT Science (grade 8)

ISAT Math April 23-24 (grades 6-8)

Friday school for students April 26

Movie Night! May 2, 7:00-8:45

**MYP Learning:** The MYP teams have curated some creative activities for their units. Take a look below at what's happening in our classrooms!

## MYP Continued.....

Here are some examples of 8th-grade Art summatives for their Fantasy Worldbuilding unit. They were asked to “create a richly imagined world and craft a compelling choose-your-own-adventure narrative set within that world. They demonstrated their understanding of literary elements, world-building, and narrative development.”



In 7th grade art, students completed food truck designs as part of their Art History and

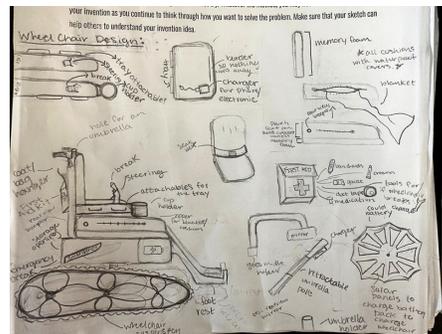
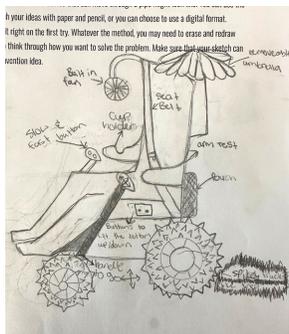


Food Truck Design unit. The statement of inquiry for this unit reads “Adhering to boundaries for representing historical art and design aesthetics facilitates innovative interpretation in the development of design concepts.” Great work, Mrs. Lindsey!

In Ms. Ribordy’s class, 6th grade students completing their Hailstorm Heroes Summative were asked by a city in “hail alley” (Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, and South Dakota) to come up with a solution to prevent hailstorm damage to the community. They then presented their solution at the “town hall”, outlining their knowledge of hailstorms and answering a few questions from the audience. Here’s a picture of “Mayor Ribordy” as she’s prepared to hear out these solutions.

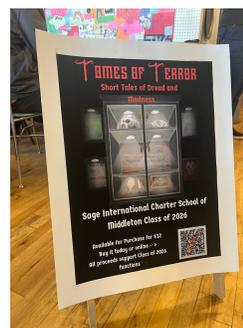


In Mr. Ellsworth’s 7th and 8th grade design classes students are in their Adaptive Mobility Solutions. Their statement of inquiry unit is “The fairness and development of inclusive products can be improved using the perspectives of those community members.”



They’ve begun by brainstorming adaptive wheelchairs that can be used in tough terrain. Look at some of the initial brainstorming that has taken place. Awesome job!

The 10th grade students had a very successful book launch for their new release of Tomes of Terror: Short Tales of Dread and Madness. If you missed the launch but would still like to support these students you can read more about how [here](#). Great job 10th grade, we are so proud of you!



## NURSE LORINDA, RN



Good News! As of March 1, 2024, the CDC has updated their guidelines for Covid-19 protocols. You can find the complete guidelines [HERE](#). To summarize, *“When people get sick with a respiratory virus, the updated guidance recommends that they stay home and away from others. For people with COVID-19 and influenza, treatment is available and can lessen symptoms and lower the risk of severe illness. The recommendations suggest returning to normal activities when, for at least 24 hours, symptoms are improving overall and if a fever was present, it has been gone without the use of a fever-reducing medication.”*

Basically, for attendance purposes, we can now consider COVID-19 as we do other viral illnesses. Do not send students to school until they have been fever-free, without fever-reducing medication, for at least 24 hours. Please do not send them to school if they have any symptoms that make it difficult for them to participate in class or makes them disruptive to others (coughing, etc).

Please remind students to wash hands and/or use hand sanitizer and to distance themselves from others while coughing and sneezing. Covid is likely still contagious for 6-10 days, but it is now more treatable and less deadly. Illnesses such as Covid and Influenza can still be dangerous for those most at risk for serious illness and we all need to do our part to prevent the spread of all illnesses.

### **Donations Needed!**

**Snacks:** for the nurse office for kids that forget to bring snacks (or don't have any at home). Some examples- granola bars, fruit snacks, crackers.

**Clothing:** I have loaned out most of my small girls' and boys' pants, and haven't gotten many of them back. If you have items at home, please return them washed. Sometimes I loan out pants or shirts for older kids that fall in the mud, etc. I am looking for donations of sweatpants of all sizes, but especially kid's sizes 6 or 7. These don't need to be new, but hopefully in decent condition for them to wear to class. I could also use a few long-sleeved T-shirts, and underwear for boys size 6.

Thank you!  
Lorinda RN

## ENRICHMENT

**Soccer Shots** is starting for Kindergarthen through 2nd grade this week! Wednesdays after school through May 22, you can find more information [HERE](#).

All Enrichment Activites are posted on our website as they become available, you can find them [on our website](#).

## Enrichment continued...

### Outdoor Expeditions:

We've had an amazing winter expedition season! Since returning to school in January, Sage students have enjoyed opportunities for alpine skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, winter camping, and nordic skiing! Students have learned new skills in the outdoors and winter sports as well as "Leave No Trace" principles for winter recreation and loads about snow science! Check out some pictures from this winter's outdoor learning!



This spring we have MANY opportunities for students to get outdoors. Mark your calendars and keep a close eye on your inboxes for these opportunities:

**April 5-8-** [Backpacking Hells Canyon for Grades 8-10](#) with an OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE BOISE GROUP

**April 25, May 2, 3, and 10th-** [Rock climbing clinic with Idaho Mountain Guides](#) for Grades 6-10. LOTTERY CLOSES 4/4!

**May 20-23-** 5th Grade to Idaho Basecamp

**June Camping trip-** Complete the [interest form here](#) to help us gauge possibilities for this summer!

**ESAGE: Summer 2024 Registration is now open on our [website](#)!**

Summer ESage will be open to students entering K-6th grade next year. Students can enroll for individual weeks, a couple days per week, or full-time, with flexible schedules from week to week. Register now so your student can enjoy a fun educational summer with their schoolmates!

ESage students have been having fun after school and on Fridays. With the recent warmer weather, the group has been getting outside with field trips to the Star Riverwalk and Jump Creek Falls, in addition to Zoo Boise, bowling, and lots of parks. All field trips and snacks are included in

ESage tuition. We are also offering a promotion - try it out and your child's first day is half price! If you have any questions, please reach out to [esage\\_middleton@sageintl.org](mailto:esage_middleton@sageintl.org) or check out our [website](#).

