



# SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MIDDLETON NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 4, 2024



We are in **need of substitutes** for both our Boise and Middleton campuses! Substitute roles range from classified openings such as the front desk and paraprofessionals that pay \$90/day, to teaching positions that pay \$110/day. As a Sage substitute you are also eligible to sub at other schools in the valley. If you or someone you know are interested in this fun and flexible opportunity please visit [our website](#).



As the temperatures drop, please **have your child dress warm** and for the elements. It is important for all students to get outside for fresh air and exercise, and to be dressed properly to do so!



**ESAGE** is enrolling for Thanksgiving Break, and their fun K-6 program after school and Friday program still has space! Families can fully customize your schedule. See more info below, and you can find more information [here](#).



Do you know anyone interested in joining Sage? For the current school year, we have openings in 4th grade, and 6th - 11th! We have our first **Information Session scheduled for December 12th** if they are interested in enrolling either at the semester break or for the 2025-26 school year. They can find more information on [our website](#).



**Our Sage Spirit Store** is open year-round and is a great idea for holiday gifts for your students! You can pay for shipping directly to your house, pick up at their local store, or if you aren't in a rush we do monthly deliveries to Sage. You can [shop the store HERE](#).

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



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**November 8: Friday school day for all students**

**November 11:** K-8 Veterans Day Assembly 8:30 -9:30

**November 16:** PTO Fall Festival & Chili Cook-off

**November 25-29:** Thanksgiving Break - No school

**December 12:** Info Session for NEW families 5:00

**December 23 - January 3:** Holiday Break - No school

## FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANDY JOHNSON



Dear families and staff of Sage International Schools,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well. We are way into the school year already and I am proud of the work being done by your wonderful children and their fabulous teachers in classrooms at our Boise and Middleton campuses. There are 1,500 children learning and growing in Sage International Schools.

As we enter November and approach Veterans Day, I frequently find myself looking at the United States flag fluttering in front of each of our campuses. The colors we chose for the flag are intended to remind all Americans of the service and sacrifice that was needed to secure our independence. As a veteran, as the son of a veteran, the brother of a veteran, the husband of a veteran and the father of an active duty Infantry officer it is personally important to me to honor veterans of our armed forces. About .5% of Americans served in Iraq or Afghanistan during nearly 20 years of conflict. In contrast, approximately 9% of Americans served in the armed forces during World War II. Service in our armed forces is borne by an increasingly small share of the population and Veterans Day is an important time to stop and consider that small population's commitment to serve all Americans.

As a family, [read about how Veterans Day](#) came to be observed in the United States after World War One. Learn more about World War One at the [National World War One Museum and Memorial](#). On this Veterans Day consider spending time as a family talking to or about veterans in your family. If you don't have veterans in your family you can explore veterans' stories at the [National Museum of the United States Army](#). Locally there are two museums you could visit to understand more about the experience of veterans: [The Warhawk Museum](#) in Nampa or the [Idaho Military Museum](#) on Gowan Field. Next September 11th, consider participating in Mission 43's [9-11 Miles of Remembrance Run](#).

Finally, I want to thank all of the veterans in our community - parents, grandparents, staff and alumni. Their willingness to serve selflessly is an example for us all to emulate as we continue our work to ensure the next generation of American citizens is equipped to make choices that will mark our country's course over the next 50 years. We welcome our community to join us for our Veterans Day Assembly, you can find details on the last page.

In remembrance,

Andy Johnson



## FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL, DARCI STELZNER



As we head into the second quarter of the 2024-2025 school year, teachers are steadily increasing the expectation of deep engagement by all students. John Hattie, a New Zealander researcher and educator, composed a meta-analysis on 'what factors in schools have the greatest impact on student learning'. What he found through 180,000 studies of 200 million students is the greatest impact on student learning is **feedback**. In order of greatest impact, feedback to teachers, teacher clarity, feedback to students, and student-teacher relationships have the greatest effect size.

Sage Middleton is unique in that our four-day student week plus teachers' purposeful professional development on Fridays allow for opportunities to provide these important pieces of feedback and clarity. Teacher-student relationships have always been an incredibly important pillar that we work on daily. We strive for all students to have at least one adult in our school that they feel is their safe person. Walking the halls of our classrooms, it is clear that this is very strong at Sage Middleton!

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



As we wrap up another month, the PYP has undergone our monthly Learner Profile celebrations. In the month of October, students were focusing on what it means to be a Thinker. In the IB, to be a thinker is to use critical and creative thinking skills to analyze and take responsible action on complex problems. We also exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions. Each class chose three students who exemplified what it means to be a thinker this past month. Congrats to these students for always being an IB learner. Next month, students will focus on what it means to be knowledgeable.

A HUGE thank you to our wonderful PTO for putting on a Trunk-or-Treat event for our community. It was a lovely turnout and students of all ages came to enjoy the event. Thanks to our families and staff who volunteered to host a trunk during the event. To see the smiles on the faces of the students is what it's all about. We look forward to all the other events planned for the school year.

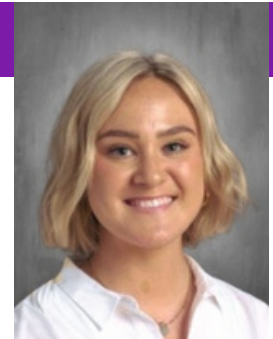


There are many benefits to our four-day school week, and there is also an opportunity for students to still engage with some at-home practice on the days they are not in school. This could be playing math games, reading stories, playing word games, or computer programs. There are a lot of things that families can do at home to enrich your students' learning beyond the time we have with them at school. We'd be happy to set up activities or provide ideas if you would like, so please let us know if you are interested in some at-home practice.

## ***PYP continued....***

Nurse Lorinda would like to remind families with younger students to please be sure to keep an extra set of clothes in their backpacks, just in case of an accident or if they get wet or dirty on the playground. Lorinda is looking for donations of new underwear and pants and/or gently used pants in sizes 5-8, especially for boys. Sweatpants and jeans are usually best. If your student comes home with borrowed clothes, please remember to wash and return them. Thank you for helping us keep our students warm, clean, and dry!

## **SECONDARY (6-II) WITH JASMINE STANCIU**



Some key components of the IB MYP program are the learner profile attributes. Each month we focus on one attribute, highlighting key components of that attribute and identifying it within our students. Teachers then nominate students who they have actively seen showing that attribute at school. The month of August was principled and September was inquirer. We were able to gather the middle schoolers outside on



the track for their awards, while high school students did the same thing separately. Check out the photos at left of our awesome principled and inquiring students! They are shining examples for their peers.

October's learner profile attribute was **thinker**. To be a thinker is to use critical and creative thinking skills to analyze and take responsible action on complex problems. We also exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions. (IBO, 2013).

Students practicing inquiry are expected to complete independent research when investigating real-world problems. During the independent research process a critical step is practicing proper academic honesty in one's writing. With the advances of artificial intelligence, we have seen an increase in academic dishonesty. We encourage you to read through our [Academic Integrity Policy](#) with your students and encourage them to always properly give credit for work that is not their own. This is critical to practice now as we are entering Quarter 2 of our first semester.

**Progress reports through Toddle** are a key component of the secondary community at Sage Middleton. They encapsulate what it means to be an International Baccalaureate student while highlighting the expectations within each class. Please, take the time to read through these and identify areas of strength and potential growth. If you have any questions about the academic standards or language, please reach out to the MYP coordinator, Jasmine Stanciu ([jasmine.stanciu@sageintl.org](mailto:jasmine.stanciu@sageintl.org)).



## OUTDOOR EXPEDITIONS WITH MEGAN FUROIS



We are about to wrap up our fall season for expeditions and we had so much fun learning and exploring with our students in outdoor spaces this season!

We were able to take a group of Middleton students out camping over Fall Break to the City of Rocks National Monument. Here they spent 3 days and 2 nights camping under the gorgeous dark sky reserve and rock climbing at the magical Castle Rocks State Park with the support and guidance of our partners at Idaho Mountain Guides. On this trip students learned about the basics of dutch oven cooking, outdoor climbing, and spent time building community and a sense of belonging both in the outdoors as well as at our school! Climbing is a unique activity that is individualistic but also requires a team of support on the belay. It provides a really incredible opportunity for our students to build trust with each other and inspire confidence in



one's self through conquering fear and personal achievement. It was great to see our students build and strengthen relationships through these activities and become more and more confident on the rock. Watch your email for more rock climbing opportunities in the Spring!

We also were able to take nearly 30 4th and 5th-grade students up to Idaho City for a day of exploration and learning! The morning was spent hiking Charcoal Gulch Trail where we learned the 7 principles of Leave No Trace and learned how to identify trees using clues from bark, needles/leaves, and cones. The afternoon was filled with a picnic in the park and a scavenger hunt around the historic town of Idaho City. Students

learned all about the history of the town through the scavenger hunt and practiced navigational skills reading maps to find their clues. LOTS of fun!



This past Friday we were out in our Middleton community raking leaves for community members who are not able to do so and celebrated our hard work with some disc golf fun. Thank you to all our volunteers who participated in this opportunity!

Keep an eye out in next month's newsletters for updates on Winter Expeditions plans!

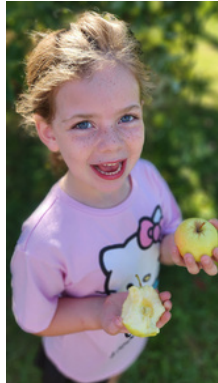
## ENRICHMENT

### ESage

ESage is open during Thanksgiving Break! [Click here](#) to sign up for one or more days. Please also be sure to complete a School Year Registration on our [website](#).

Thanksgiving Break enrollment closes on Nov. 1st, so be sure to sign up early. We have been enjoying time outside and inside with fun activities after school, and enjoying the Fall weather on full day Fridays with off campus adventures to The Farmstead, Pumpkin Palooza, Duff Pond, the apple orchard, and lots of fun local parks!

We still have space available to enroll Mon - Fri. Students in grades K-6 are welcome to attend one or more days per week, or attend on a drop-in basis. All activities, field trips, and daily snacks are included in tuition, plus you can try out ESage for half price on your child's first day! Please email [esage\\_middleton@sageintl.org](mailto:esage_middleton@sageintl.org) with any questions.



**Boys Basketball registration is now open! Please click [here](#) for more information.**

### Girls Middle School Basketball

Our girls team have begun their season and are doing awesome. Below is the game schedule for this season, we love for our community to come cheer them on!

November 5th, 4:15 @ TVCA

November 19th, 4:15 @ Home vs TVCA

November 7th, 4:30 @ Falcon Ridge

December 2nd, 4:15 @ Home vs Horseshoe Bend

November 14th, 4:15 @ Home vs TVCA (B Team plays first)

## SAGE PTO

We would like to thank EVERYONE who participated in the Canned food drive to help the **Middleton Food Pantry**. A HUGE congratulations to the 3rd grade for donating the most items! These lucky winners will be getting a party of their choice!

The **PTO Harvest Festival is on November 16, 2024 from 12-4 PM** and we would LOVE for our Sage Family to join us. We have amazing silent auction items, fantastic local vendor booths, and family friendly games with prizes.

Our Harvest Festival will include our **very first Chili cook-off**, and the Middleton Police Department will be there as our judges! We only have 2 entries so far, we need more volunteers! To sign up please [click HERE](#).





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You are cordially invited to


**SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MIDDLETON'S**

**VETERANS DAY ASSEMBLY**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2024**

**8:30-9:30 AM**

**SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:  
MATT SMITH, UNITED STATES ARMY**

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Grades K-8 will be in attendance.  
Community is welcome!