



SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MIDDLETON NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 10, 2024



School closure alerts: Winter is here, and in the event of a school closure we will let parents know by 6:30 AM in the following ways: Email, Social Media, KTVB, and by text IF you opt-in. To opt in to text alerts please text "Y" via your cell phone to 61569. If you're unsure if you've done this, please do it again!



We are hiring for paraprofessionals at both our Middleton and Boise campuses. These positions share the same hours and majority of school days as students, so is a convenient schedule for many parents and caretakers! Learn more on our [Careers](#) page.



We are also in **need of substitutes** for both our Middleton and Boise 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. If you or someone you know are interested in this fun and flexible opportunity please visit [our website](#).



ESAGE is enrolling for the Holiday 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 this week on 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](#).

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December 12: Info Session for NEW families 5:00

December 23 - January 3: Holiday Break - No school

January 9: End of 1st semester

January 20: MLKJ Day - No School

January 27 - February 9: Re-enrollment period

The [2025-26 Academic Calendar](#) is available!

FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANDY JOHNSON



Dear Families and Staff of Sage International Schools,

I hope that you are all well and enjoyed time together during the Thanksgiving break. We are in that part of the school (and work!) year that absolutely flies by. Days seem to go even faster given the short days and the commitments many of us have at school, work or with family and friends at this time of the year. Acknowledging that, I encourage you all to take a little time for yourselves and make sure you feel the sun on your face, go for a walk or just enjoy a moment of quiet during the day.

I looked back at notes that I've written at this time of the year and noticed that I have frequently returned to themes of gratitude for our schools, our mission and our commitment to an International Baccalaureate education. I feel the same way this year. There is something about this time of year that causes me to reflect on what we have at Sage. We are free, public charter schools that embrace a mission of academic excellence, inclusiveness and open mindedness. We embrace and want to know our world.

In that spirit, both campuses have recently achieved significant milestones. The Middleton campus has done the hard work and preparation to achieve authorization to offer the Diploma Programme. The school's verification visit will take place this spring. At the Boise campus, the team has also done an enormous amount of reflection and work to be ready for a periodic evaluation of all four IB programs - the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), the Career-related Programme (CP) and the Diploma Programme (DP). The IB is sending a relatively large group of IB educators to facilitate this evaluation in the spring. Both events represent superb opportunities for us to learn and grow as schools. We will keep you all posted!

Thank you, as always, for your support, advice and encouragement. All the best to you and your families as we wrap up 2024.

Sincerely,

Andy Johnson

OUR MISSION: *Sage International Schools engage students within an inclusive IB learning community, challenging all members to take risks and contribute locally and globally through open-minded inquiry.*



FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL, DARCI STELZNER



Dear Sage Middleton families,

December brings us a new learner profile attribute to focus on:

CARING. We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us. In the PYP, two additional aspects we will focus on are empathy and please and thank you. Empathy (I care for others) directly relates to caring for the feelings of well-being of others. Please and thank you (I treat others with kindness and appreciation) encourages expressions of gratitude and kindness. For both empathy and please/thank you, we will be explicitly focusing on social skills, specifically around interpersonal relationships and social/emotional intelligence.

PYP (K-5TH)



We hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving break and are ready for a whirlwind of the Holiday season. These few weeks between two long breaks is an important time for students to hone in on some assessments to show teachers what they have learned, which will help the teachers prepare for learning that will take place in the second half of the year. We know that this time of year is filled with many different emotions and often more events going on, so we appreciate students showing up ready to do their best during the school day to show what they have learned.

As we move into one of the longer breaks of the year, it makes me think about how to best utilize that time away from school. I often go back to research explaining the benefits of having experiences. For example, going to an art museum or playing a board game as a family. This time of year, there are often many events and opportunities to have experiences as a family, even if it's something at home and through digital platforms. I hope you all are able to find ways to spend this quality time with your family. A quick internet search will yield a plethora of ideas! We hope that you all have a safe and joyful holiday season. However you and your family spend this time, I hope that you are together and enjoy the company of loved ones.

SECONDARY (6-II)

Thank you to the community who supported our PTO and our school at this year's Harvest Festival. Everyone enjoyed a chili cook-off judged by Middleton Police and baked potato bar! There were also fantastic auction items, local vendor booths, food trucks, games, face painting, and pie-ing teachers in the face! Thank you to the PTO and those who continue to volunteer their time and efforts every year to put that on. Check out some fun photos below!

Secondary continued....



Something to be admired about our Sage students is their ability to be resilient in difficult situations. As supporters of these students, we are often helping them develop their ability to be resilient in these difficult times. A great read about the importance and ways in which we can teach resilience is "[Building Resilience: A Vital Skill for Students](#)" by the Global College. We encourage our students to challenge themselves to develop the skills necessary for success not only in our programs but also in life beyond our campus. The end of the semester is quickly approaching and we encourage you to work alongside your student(s) to harness these skills while finding success in their academics and extracurriculars.

We hope your student will join us for our High School Dance next week!

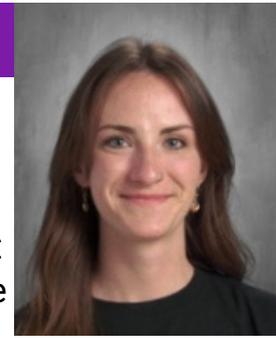


ENROLLMENT

With announcements about our lottery coming, please know that currently enrolled Sage students do not need to apply for the lottery. However we do **require them to be Re-enrolled for the 2025-2026 School Year** which is facilitated through Skyward Family Access. The Re-Enrollment period for your Sage student will be **open January 27, 2025 through Sunday, February 16, 2025** and you will receive links to do so by email. Students who have not re-enrolled by the deadline will NOT have a spot secured for the 2025-26 school year and we will offer spots to lottery applicants.

During the re-enrollment period, you will also be given an opportunity to register siblings that are not already enrolled at Sage, in the Sibling Enrollment lottery. Current students and/or their siblings will not be registered in the general lottery. Stay tuned for links and instructions to come in January!

OUTDOOR EXPEDITIONS WITH MEGAN FUROIS



As the holiday season unfolds, Sage Expeditions is taking a quick break from programming. Before we jump into the new year, we want to pause and reflect on why our expeditions are so meaningful for the students we serve. Beyond teaching outdoor skills and responsible recreation, we are committed to fostering a deep sense of belonging in our participants. One powerful way we do this is by guiding students to experience moments of awe.

Awe is that profound feeling you get when you encounter something vast, something greater than yourself—whether it's standing before a towering mountain, witnessing the beauty of a starry night sky, or experiencing the raw power of nature. It's a moment that challenges your understanding of the world and your place in it. This sense of awe plays a vital role in helping our students connect with the world around them and, in turn, with each other.

Research from the [Greater Good Science Center](#) at UC Berkeley has shown that awe has a range of powerful effects on humans, from improving physical health to [strengthening social connections](#) and inspiring a deeper sense of purpose. For students, these benefits extend into their social-emotional well-being, physical health, and even [academic achievement](#).

At Sage Expeditions, we create awe-inspiring moments in nature, but awe can be found in many places. This winter, consider visiting an art or science museum with your family, or enjoy a nature documentary together on a cozy night in. Simple activities like these can nurture a sense of awe that supports your child's emotional growth and connection to the world. You can find more ideas for inspiring awe for your students and family [here](#).

We look forward to bringing even more “awe-some” experiences to our students when we return in January. In the meantime, check out our winter schedule below and let the wonder of the season inspire your family.

Sage Expeditions Winter 2025 Schedule:

January:

1/10, 1/24, 1/31- Lifesports ski and snowboarding lessons

February/March:

Fri 2/28-Sun 3/2- Winter Camping at Osprey Point Yurts (tentatively)

Friday 3/7- Nordic Ski at Bogus Basin

Friday 3/21- Snowshoeing and snow science

You can find information on [our website](#), and keep an eye out in next month's newsletters for updates on Winter Expeditions plans!

ENRICHMENT

ESage

ESage is open during Holiday Break! [Click here](#) to sign up for one or more days, and please also complete a School Year Registration on our [website](#). Holiday Break enrollment closes at the **end of the day on December 11th**. Some of our recent field trips have included the Boise Art Museum, swimming at the YMCA, the Nampa Rollerdrome, and a trip to the movie theater to see Wicked & Despicable Me 4 over Thanksgiving Break! We are scheduling fun field trips and activities for the Holiday break – we would love to have them join in on the fun!

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 with any questions.

Boys Middle School Basketball registration will close soon! All boys in grades 6-8th are welcome, you can sign up [here](#) until Dec 12th. Come cheer them on for a game or two:

- 1/22 @ Horseshoe Bend @ 4:15
- 1/28 Home vs Centennial Baptist @ 4:15
- 1/30 Home vs FalconRidge @ 4:15
- 2/3 @ Adrian @ 4:00
- 2/13 @ FalconRidge @ 3:30
- 2/24 Home vs Adrian @ 4:15



SAGE PTO

PTO members passed out **Candy Grams** this week and students have until December 19th to turn in their envelopes with money and gram to the basket in the front office!

We would like to thank our PTO for their hard work with our **6th Annual Harvest Festival**, and EVERYONE who participated in this awesome event. Thanks to you all, we raised \$2,900 for our school!

PTO Doors of Gratitude contest: Mayor of Middleton Jackie Hutchison visited as our judge and was amazed by the artwork! She said she chose the doors that really showcased effort from the students. Congratulations to the following two classes for winning a Donut Party: Mrs. Paks 3rd grade class with the "Thank You Tree" (left) and Lori Roberson's 10-A cohort with the "Slice of the Pie" (Right).

