



SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MIDDLETON NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 10, 2025



Report cards: Thursday was the last day of Semester 1! Teachers are working on final grades over the next week and report cards will be available to families in [Skyward](#) by January 17th.



Lottery: Our 2025 Lottery application is open and posted on our website! As Sage families, you **do NOT need to enter currently enrolled students or their siblings in the lottery**. Please see the note on page 7 from our Registrar for more information. If you know families who are interested in joining Sage, they can learn more and apply [HERE](#).



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!



After school pick up: Please use the North entrance into the parking lot for pick up and leave the South entrance open for the buses. If you are picking up both elementary and secondary students, please arrive at the time of the secondary students to help ensure our line doesn't get unnecessarily backed up. Thank you!

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



This month, as we honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., I'd like to reflect on the profound impact his work continues to have on our world and how it aligns with the core values and mission that guide our learning community. As a reminder, Sage's mission is to, *"engage students within an inclusive international learning community, challenging all members to take risks and contribute locally and globally through open-minded inquiry."*

Dr. King consistently demonstrated courage in the face of overwhelming resistance, embodying the Principled learner who is also a Risk Taker (courageous). He challenged the deeply ingrained injustices of racial segregation with unwavering conviction, tirelessly seeking truth and justice through peaceful means. His profound belief in the inherent dignity and worth of every human being was complemented by his deep understanding of the interconnectedness of all people, a cornerstone of the Caring and Knowledgeable Learner.

Dr. King's dream of a society where individuals are *"not judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character"* remains relevant and central to our work at school. His dream continues to serve as a reminder of the importance of fostering an Open-minded and Communicative learning environment where diverse perspectives are valued and heard.

I read Percival Everett's novel, *James*, over the holiday break. I thought it was one of the best books that I have read in a very long time. It offers a reflection on race, identity, and the enduring legacy of slavery and the Civil Rights Movement that Dr. King helped to lead that really resonated with me. Through the experiences of the novel's main character, James, the novel explores themes of justice, personal responsibility, personal agency, individual dignity and the ongoing struggle for equality. For me, James serves as a reminder of the importance of critical thinking, empathy, and a commitment to creating a more just world.

As an IB World School, we strive to partner with our parents to cultivate these same values in our students in line with our school's mission. We encourage them to become Risk-takers who are not afraid to take action in their local and global communities, Balanced people who understand the importance of personal and social well-being, and Reflective learners who continuously strive for personal and intellectual growth.

Dr. King's life and work continue to serve as an enduring inspiration. I encourage each member of this community to honor Dr. King's legacy by embracing the values of courage, compassion, and justice in all that we do. Let us strive to (continue to) create a learning environment where our words and actions ensure every student feels valued, respected, and empowered to make a positive difference in the world.



Happy New Year, Sage families.

We are geared up and ready for the start of semester 2. With our MAP testing completed in December, we have a very clear picture of where our students are in their learning and what next steps we have to ensure deep engagement continues every day. Our teachers continue to meet on Fridays to hone in on their craft of teaching, collaborate with other teachers, and plan engaging and purposeful lessons for your child(ren). We are very proud of the work they do!

January's learner profile is **OPEN-MINDED**: *We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience. I can let things go! Being open-minded involves letting go of minor annoyances to embrace new perspectives.*

Upcoming Events

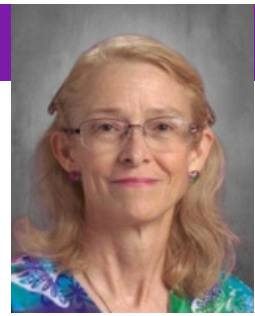
- 1/13 - Semester 2 begins
- 1/16 - Grades are due, report card will be posted to Skyward by end of day 1/17
- 1/17-1/20 - No School
- 1/22 - Boys Basketball @ Horseshoe Bend
- 1/23 - Winter formal - Sage Network, grades 9-11
- 1/24 - PTO movie night
- 1/27 - Board meeting
- 1/28 - Boys Basketball vs. Centennial Baptist
- 1/30 - Boys Basketball vs. Falcon Ridge Charter
- 2/3 - Boys Basketball @ Adrian, OR
- 2/13 - Boys Basketball @ Falcon Ridge Charter
- 2/14-2/23 - Winter Break - No School
- 2/24 - Boys Basketball v. Adrian
- 2/27-2/28 - Targeted Conferences (by invite only)

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Our 2025-26 Lottery Application is now open! If you know anyone interested in enrolling next year, they can apply [HERE](#). Applications are due by March 11th, and we will hold our lottery draw on March 13th. We also have information sessions coming up that we encourage all prospective new families to attend, you can find more information [HERE](#).

Please know that **currently enrolled Sage students do not need to apply for the lottery**. However, we do require they be re-enrolled for the 2025-2026 School Year through Skyward. The re-enrollment period for your Sage student will be from Monday, January 27, 2025 through Sunday, February 09, 2025 and you will receive an email with the link and instructions. With re-enrollment, you will also be **given an opportunity to register siblings** who are not already enrolled at Sage for the Sibling Enrollment lottery. Current students and/or their siblings do not need to apply for the general lottery. Thank you!

FROM NURSE LORINDA



Happy New Year! I hope that we can all have a safe and healthy 2025. Please review Page 20 of our [Student Handbook](#) for guidelines on keeping sick kids home. Per CDC, guidelines for Covid are the same as with any other respiratory illness such as Influenza, RSV, etc: at least 24 hours without a fever of 100° or more without meds, and improved symptoms like coughing, fatigue, etc. Also please note the guidelines for diarrhea and vomiting: 24 hours after it subsides and be sure they can eat regular food without issue.

Please remind students to be careful and walk slowly on sidewalks and in the parking lot during the winter months. I also suggest sending extra clothes and winter/rain boots or shoes to keep them dry. If you are in need of assistance with rain/snow boots, please let me know by email or send a note with your child and I may have some extra boots for them.

Nurse office donation needs:

Snacks; kids especially love crackers like CheezIt, and Motts Fruit snacks.

Pants: size 6-8, both girls and boys.

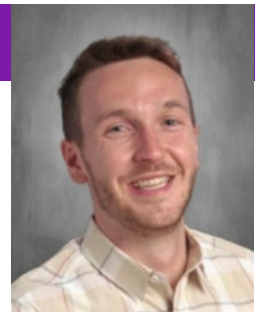
Shoes: comfortable shoes of all sizes, Girls And Boys

Thank you!

Nurse Lorinda RN

lorinda.blew@sageintl.org or 208-606-0395

PYP (K-5TH)



Happy New Year! We are very excited to be back and jumping right into learning after the holiday break. We have six solid weeks to dive deep into learning before we take another extended break. This year we moved our winter assessments to occur before the holidays, which has allowed teachers the chance to come back in the new year with plans for learning right away for the second half of the year. It also gave us the chance to check in on student learning before two weeks away from school and we saw incredible growth across the elementary school!

Looking ahead at the spring there is a lot to come for the Sage Middleton PYP students. There are opportunities such as Wagon's Ho, Basecamp, Snowshoeing, Assemblies, Career Day, and so much more. While we have all of these opportunities, we also are tuning in to the last stretch of learning before students demonstrate all that they have learned in their end-of-year assessments. We appreciate all the support you can give to do some practice at home to make sure students continue to develop their skills and learn as much as they can throughout the year. If you are looking for ideas on what you could do at home, connect with their teachers and see what practice would support your students the most.

SECONDARY (6-II)

Happy New Year! Our middle year programme students have ended their first semester with some incredible learning opportunities, as shared below.

In 8th grade, art students translated their imaginative concepts into visual representations for their FantasyWorldbuilding unit. This project prepares students for their 9th-grade theme park unit. Take a look at some of the fantasy maps that were created with the guidance of Mrs. Lindsey! I see some potential future careers in cartography.



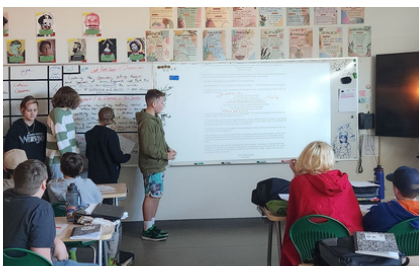
As a part of understanding and participating in the Mexican Christmas celebration known as "Las Posadas", middle school MYP students crafted (and destroyed) traditional piñatas in Señor Marco's class. They learned the symbolism behind the shapes and colors of the piñata as well as the significance of the blindfold and stick. Feel free to ask your MYP students what those mean.

Sixth-grade Individuals and Societies students recently completed their unit on Mesopotamia. For their summative assessment, they created a Mesopotamia Advertisement designed to entice people to travel back in time and visit an ancient civilization. Students selected a specific civilization, such as Sumer, Babylon, or Akkad, and included detailed information about their chosen civilization to make their advertisement compelling and informative. You can check it out [HERE](#).

Seventh and eighth-grade Individuals and Societies students recently completed their unit on *A New Nation*. For their summative assessment, they created a newspaper showcasing various aspects of the era. Each newspaper featured detailed highlights of key events, figures, and developments from the time period. You can read the full newspaper project [HERE](#).



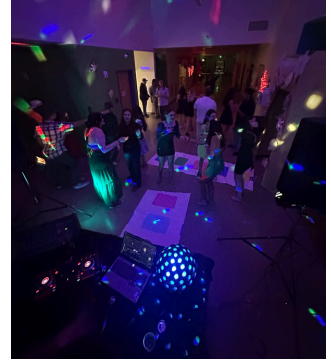
In Mr. Schwartz's Language and Literature class, students have begun collaborative *close reading*. They "close" read a passage for *The Book Thief* independently, then briefly share with their neighbors. Names are randomly drawn for table groups to then show thoughts and perspectives on the board for the whole class. Afterwards, they get celebrated. The audience then gets the opportunity to add to the close reading. Then the thoughts and perspectives of the close reading get turned into an argumentative essay. We love seeing risk-taking and collaboration in the classroom. Great work!



Secondary continued...

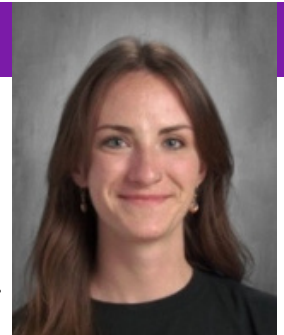
Semester 2 will offer rigorous and exciting projects just the same. Mr. Ellsworth and Mrs. Lindsey, 9th-grade students will explore the intersection of creativity and functionality by designing a themed park that reflects their personality and storytelling.

High school students had their first school dance of the year, Candyland! Thank you to the Student Council, Sage families, teachers, and students who helped with donations and decorating. We have the Sage community to thank for making these experiences to happen.



EXPEDITIONS WITH MEGAN FUROIS

We are so excited to be back from break and to get rolling on 2025 expeditions! We have a lot to look forward to in the upcoming semester. Please see the following list of planned expeditions and mark your calendar for the lottery openings, which will be sent via email.



January

1/10, 1/24, 1/31- Grades 3-11 Ski and Snowboard lessons @ Bogus Basin ~ Lottery closed

March

3/1-3/2- Middle and high school students winter camping @ Osprey Point Yurts ~ Lottery opens 2/3

3/6- 4th Grade goes to SnowSchool ~ Info to be sent to parents in early February

3/7- Middle and high school students Nordic Ski lessons @ Bogus Basin ~ Lottery opens 2/13

Spring Break Opportunity

4/4-4/10- Grades 8-11 Camping and Hiking in Southern Utah- [LOTTERY NOW OPEN!!](#)

We are so happy to be able to offer snowshoeing and hike-in camping opportunities this winter thanks to the [Be Outside Idaho](#) initiative. Sage Expeditions was awarded a grant from BOI this fall and with this we were able to purchase snowshoes for our program! This makes outdoor adventure so much more accessible for our students on both the Boise and Middleton campus this winter and we are SO appreciative.

ENRICHMENT

ESage

ESage is open during Winter Break, February 18-21! [Click here](#) to sign up for one or more days. Please also be sure to complete a School Year Registration on our [website](#). Winter Break enrollment closes at the end of the day on February 3rd so be sure to sign up now. Some of our recent field trips have included a sleigh ride to feed elk in Garden Valley, snow play, swimming at Givens Hot Springs and the Caldwell YMCA, and a trip to the movies. We would love to have your child 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 practices have begun! 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



Does the new year bring interest in trying something new? Middleton Music is still offering classes after school daily and on Friday afternoons! You can find out more information on their website: <https://middletonmusicacademy.com>