



SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MIDDLETON NEWSLETTER

MARCH 12, 2025



STEM NIGHT: Please join us this Thursday, March 13th for a night of STEM activities and Pi Day celebrations! Various activities for our mathematicians, scientists, and engineers will be occurring throughout the school, and “Pi” themed foods will be provided in the cafeteria. Drop by anytime between 5:30 and 7:30 pm.



Secondary Yearbook orders: The yearbook club has been working hard to capture our memorable year for grades 6-12. Be sure to pre-purchase a yearbook if you'd like one, you can do so at [this LINK](#).



Spring Photo Day is March 25th! Photo packets will be sent home on March 17th. You can find more info and order online [HERE](#).

- We will be taking **class photos for K-5, and grade level photos for 6-11**. Students can bring a completed order envelope on picture day and give it to the photographer, or parents can order online at [mydorian.com](#) before picture day and up to 24 hours after picture day.
- If you would like **individual “Personality Pictures”** taken of your student, they can bring in an order envelope on picture day or parents can order online BY 9:00 AM on 3/25/25 at [mydorian.com](#). Doing one of the above is the only way we know to pull your student from class to have their individual photo taken.



Skyhawks sports basketball is coming to Sage Middleton March 12th - May 7th for students in 1st-5th grades! Perfect for developing athletes, this program sharpens passing, shooting, and dribbling skills, emphasizing sportsmanship and teamwork. Learn more [HERE](#).

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 13: STEM night 5:30-7:30

March 20: End of 3rd Quarter

March 27 - 29: Conferences for 6th-12th

April 4-11: Spring Break - No School

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

FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANDY JOHNSON



As the warmth of spring begins to brighten our days, the lyrics to The Beatles' "Here Comes the Sun" are bouncing around in my head. We are excited about the future at our schools. We are particularly excited about the journeys our 10th-grade students will soon embark upon in the Diploma Programme (DP) and Career-related Programme (CP). These capstone programs, designed to challenge and inspire, are what Sage students prepare for with their friends and teachers. We held our DP/CP night for rising 11th Grade students and families at our Boise campus just this past week. In May, our Middleton campus will undergo an authorization visit by the IB that will enable us to offer the DP to rising Juniors next year.

The DP and CP are transformative programs, where students hone their critical thinking skills, deepen their understanding of American and global issues, and develop the resilience needed for success in college and beyond. The DP, with its rich history and rigorous curriculum, and the CP, with its career-focused approach and practical application, both offer unique pathways to personal and academic growth.

The foundation for success in these programs is built brick by brick, day by day. And that's why the months of March and April are so critical. This is a time for students to solidify their understanding of core concepts, refine their study habits, and engage fully in learning.

Consistent attendance is critical. Every day in the classroom provides valuable opportunities for learning, discussion, and collaboration. Attending school regularly and arriving on time, means that students will learn more, be better prepared and less stressed. Engagement is equally vital. I encourage all of our schools' students to actively participate in class discussions, seek out extra help when needed, and embrace the challenges presented by their teachers, peers and coursework. I urge you all to show up and dive in!

For our 10th-grade students, this period is especially significant as they prepare to make informed decisions regarding their choice to pursue either the DP or the CP. Attending information sessions, exploring program options with regard to their future plans, and engaging in thoughtful conversations with teachers and counselors will help them make the best choice for their individual goals and aspirations.

We believe that every student has the potential to achieve remarkable success. By prioritizing attendance and engagement during these crucial months, we are laying the groundwork for a successful and fulfilling academic journey. I urge you to make every effort to be at school - on time, everyday - in March and April. This is the moment when sustained effort and engagement is necessary to achieve personal growth and success.

All the best,
Andy

HEAD OF SCHOOL DARCI STELZNER



Dear Families,

As we step into the month of March, I want to take a moment to thank you for your continued support in helping make this school year a success. We've accomplished so much together, and it's exciting to see how our students have grown academically, socially, and emotionally.

March brings many opportunities for learning, engagement, and community building. We're looking forward to a variety of events and activities throughout the month.

Please mark your calendars for the following important March dates:

- **STEM Night:** March 13 from 5:30-7:30 (drop-in style)
- **Career Day:** March 20
- **Expeditions Snowshoeing grades 5-6:** March 21
- **PTO's Playground fundraiser, the Jog-a-Thon:** March 24 - April 3
- **Class Pictures:** March 25
- **SAT for Juniors:** March 25
- **PYP Exhibition:** March 27

We encourage you to continue supporting your child's learning at home by reinforcing the importance of staying focused, asking questions, and setting goals for personal growth.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to the school. We're here to support you and your child every step of the way. Thank you for being an essential part of our school community.

Learner Profile of the Month: **KNOWLEDGEABLE**

We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

LISTENING: Active listening contributes to being knowledgeable by understanding others and learning from them.

PYP (K-5TH) WITH AUSTIN AMBROSE



Spring is in the air and PYP students are starting to hone in on their learning as we approach the time of year when students will demonstrate their learning from the year. Our teachers and students work hard to make sure they are becoming great learners who can think through challenging problems that they come across.

Our 5th grade students are working on their **PYP Exhibition project**, which is the culmination of all that they have learned during their time in the PYP. They are tackling

PYP continued on next page...

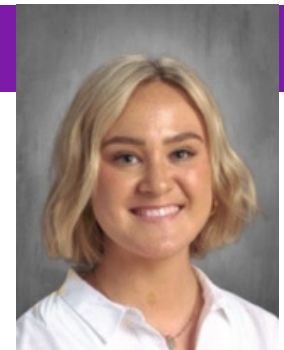
big questions and looking at ways in which they can make an impact on the world around them. They work in groups to research a topic, make some kind of demonstration of their learning, and come up with an action plan to address the problem they are working on. Staff at all levels act as mentors to support students through this project, in addition to their classroom teachers. This is a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate the power of the IB program and the learning students have done.

Through this time of deep learning at all grade levels, there are also a number of exciting opportunities to engage with their classmates outside of the classroom. Last week the 4th graders ventured up to Bogus Basin for Snow School, check out these photos!



There is a play coming to the students right before spring break, PTO fun run, and STEM night. We look forward to getting these opportunities to come together as a community. We love to learn with your students and we also enjoy getting to spend time with them in different settings like these. We hope you can make it!

SECONDARY (6-II) WITH JASMINE STANCIU



In Middle School, February was a whirlwind of hard work and reset time. Students celebrated those who received semester 1 awards from individual classes, MAPs and learner profile awards for the month of February. It was wonderful to see so many students be celebrated.

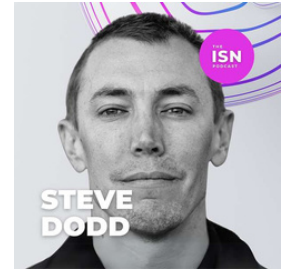
Leading up to winter break middle school students could be seen collaborating in teams to construct the tallest pyramid within a 30-minute time frame in Mrs. Garrison's I&S class. This engaging activity was a fun and creative way to reinforce their learning about Ancient Egypt.

Similar hard work was happening for the high school students leading up to and following winter break. As the sun begins to shine more and the weather warms, we are starting to see a shift in student energy and interaction. With that said, our very first formal dance for high schoolers will be **Prom on May 16, 2025**. Mark your calendars! More details to come.

Thank you to the students and teachers who continue to work tirelessly on academics and application of content to real world issues. Applications have included guest speakers and Socratic seminars. Take a look into some of the high school classes below.

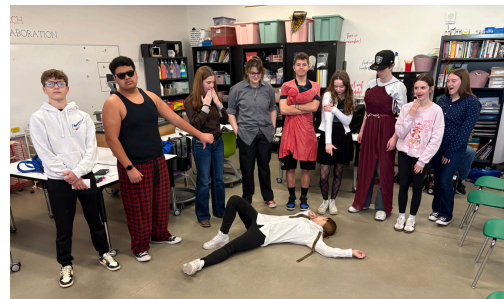
TOK: Mr. Norland's TOK courses have featured some real world guest speakers recently who helped students make real world connections between the advanced concepts of the TOK Core Experience in preparation for a formative pass at the TOK Essay.

Steven M. Dodd brought a unique perspective to students with degrees in Applied Mathematics, Psychology, Computer Science, and Engineering Management. He also has professional experience with Slack, Idahood, Facebook, Salesforce, Sungard, Syringa Networks, and the University of Idaho. His visit allowed students to inquire and connect TOK concepts of Mathematics and Human Sciences to explore cost-effective paths through higher education.



Ethan Davis brought a wealth of knowledge to students both academic (*M.S. Meteorology, Thesis: Single Particle Ice Growth in a Thermally Conditioned Button-Electrode Levitation System*) and work history with Valdez Avalanche Center, Blaine County Schools, Colorado Avalanche Center, National Avalanche Center, and Sawtooth Avalanche Center.

Interdisciplinary project: 10th-grade speech students completed their storytelling unit with wedding and anniversary speeches incorporating original stories. This group of 10th graders connected their speeches into a very dramatic one act play—and began Sage Middleton’s first drama club! The club is now open to all high school students and will be performing a special Beatles sing-along version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* on May 8th. *More details to come!*



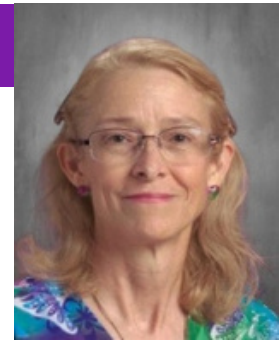
Sciences: Biology students engaged in a very intellectually challenging discussion while applying their knowledge of cells, cell theory, viruses and pandemics. One question they addressed is “How do cultural, ethical, and scientific perspectives on viruses and biotechnology differ globally, and how can these differing views influence the way countries approach global health challenges like pandemics or the development of viral treatments?”

Similar to the biology students, 9th and 10th grade students had a Socratic seminar. They discussed ways that specific pollutants affected plants' abilities to photosynthesize. Many of the conversations led to problem-solving and discussion on how we could mitigate these pollutants and their effects on the plants and surrounding environment.

A sunshine-filled celebration of high school students occurred after break, where we celebrated achievement, growth, MAP success, merit and honor roll students. ALL our students deserve a big congratulations! Their continuing efforts to grow in academic success and the learner profiles do not go unnoticed.



FROM NURSE LORINDA

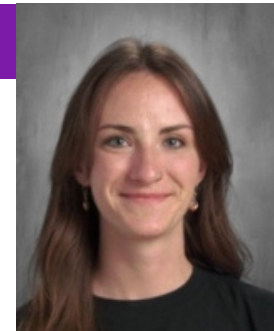


As you may have heard, measles is on the rise in the United States and 79% of cases in 2025 have been in people 19 years old or younger. Measles can be dangerous in young children, and a high level of vaccination coverage is the key to minimizing its spread and preventing outbreaks. With Idaho's vaccination rate well below what the CDC reports is required for community coverage (95%), our students are at risk if they are unvaccinated.

According to the [CDC](#), 1 in 5 unvaccinated people who get infected will be hospitalized. Some children can develop brain damage or die, even with the best care. The CDC recommends safe, long-lasting protection against measles with the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine. You can look up your children's vaccination records at the [Idaho Department of Health & Welfare](#).

Lorinda Blew RN, BS
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We are in a super fun time of year when winter and spring outdoor activities are both accessible and the options seem endless. This March we have a few more winter opportunities to seize up before spring takes completely over. See our list of planned expeditions below and click the links to take advantage of any last-minute spots!



March Expeditions

March 21: [Snowshoeing expedition to Idaho City](#) (5th and 6th graders eligible)

April Expeditions

April 4-10: [Spring break camping in Southern Utah](#) - FEW SPOTS REMAIN! This expedition is open to students in grades 8-11. Please email megan.furois@sageintl.org to snag a last-minute spot!

April 28 - May 2: 5th grade to Idaho Basecamp

May Expeditions - Info coming soon for gym to crag climbing series!

We had a great time with MYP students on our overnight trip to Osprey Point Yurts! We snowshoed, dug snow pits, and learned about snowpack layers and stability. We ate delicious meals, drank hot cocoa, played games, and enjoyed community building.

