



SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MIDDLETON NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 24, 2025



Holiday Resource Guide: Full of community options throughout the Treasure Valley. Find here in [english](#), y en [español](#).



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!



Middle School Boys Basketball Registration is open until December 11th! Practices will begin on January 6th, and we invite all boys in grades 6-8 to join us! Find more information on [our website](#).



We are so excited to announce our **FIRST Sage International Middleton Graduation!** The Commencement for the Class of 2026 is Thursday, May 21st at 5:30 p.m. in the Sage Middleton Gymnasium. We can't wait to celebrate all the achievements of our Senior Class!



We are hiring! We are looking for a Paraprofessional and an Education Assistant to join our team. Check out our website for more information!

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November 24-28: Thanksgiving Break - No school

December 22 - Jan 2: Holiday Break - No school

January 8: End of First Semester

January 19: MLK Jr. Day - No School

January 26: Re-enrollment for 26-27 School Year

The [2026-27 Academic Calendar](#) is posted!

FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EMILY DOWNEY



As we move into November, I find myself feeling especially grateful for the incredible community we have here at Sage. In the midst of busy days, changing seasons, and the challenges we face, I am reminded again and again how lucky we are to walk this journey together, lifting up and encouraging one another and staying united in our shared goal of helping our students grow and thrive.

I want to extend my gratitude **to the veterans** within our school community, including the families, staff, and neighbors who have served our country. Your courage, service, and sacrifice exemplify the very best of the IB attributes: being principled, reflective, and caring. Thank you for the example you set for all of us, and especially for our students.

To our families, thank you, truly, for your trust, your partnership, and the love you pour into your children. As you juggle the many responsibilities of family life, we feel honored that you have trusted us with the privilege of helping your children learn, grow, and thrive. Thank you for sharing them with us. They bring joy, purpose, and meaning into our lives every single day.

To our community partners and advocates, thank you. We are incredibly fortunate to have partners such as the [JA and Kathryn Albertson Foundation](#), [BLUUM](#), [Charter School Growth Fund](#), the [Idaho Charter School Association](#), the [Idaho Public Charter School Commission](#), the [Idaho State Department of Education](#), and many more that help us deliver the promises we make to our families. We are deeply grateful for their collaboration and support of our mission and students.

To our staff, I cannot express enough how grateful I am for each of you. This work isn't easy, yet you show up with resilience, creativity, and genuine love for our students. You model what it means to be reflective and principled educators. What you give of yourselves, your time, energy, and hearts, creates a community where students grow not only academically, but as human beings. I feel inspired by you and honored to work alongside you.

A special thank you to our students: you are the reason we come to school each day. You fill our hallways with laughter, curiosity, honesty, courage, and joy. You push us to think in new ways, to reflect, and to grow right alongside you. But I want you to know something even more important: *you give us hope*. No matter what challenges we face in our community or in the world, your resilience, your energy, and your willingness to learn and care for one another remind us of what is possible. You show us what it means to be open-minded, balanced, and caring global citizens. You inspire us more than you know.

With warmth and gratitude,
Emily Downey

MIND THE GAP

The Gap in Funding for Sage International School Middleton this year is \$25,000.

That amounts to about \$50 to support a student for the year. Can you help?

MIND THE GAP FOR SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL!



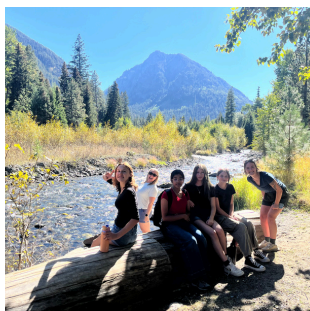
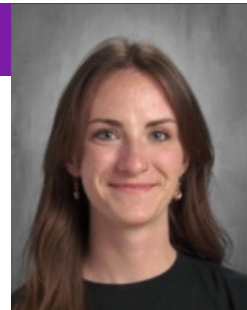
MIND THE GAP is Sage International's annual giving campaign — each school community's opportunity to help sustain the exceptional education our students receive every day. Your gift directly supports our Sage Middleton classrooms, teachers, students, and projects like our new playground. It helps bridge the gap between the limited state funding we receive and the true cost of operating our high-quality K–12 public charter school.

We hope you will consider a donation in ANY amount this giving season to show your support for Sage!

[DONATE TO SAGE](#)

EXPEDITIONS

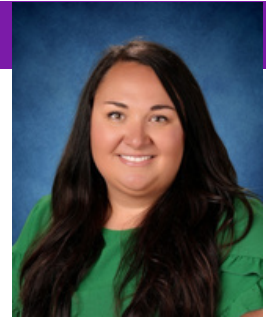
Sage Expeditions is busy wrapping up our fall schedule and proudly got over 200 students between both campuses on an outdoor adventure with us this fall! Looking ahead we're so excited for the upcoming season and the new adventure opportunities they bring!



This year we have our entire Semester II schedule posted with interest forms and lotteries already open for you to let us know which opportunities you'd like to have your student join us on! Take a minute to explore our [Sage Expeditions Semester II Catalog](#) and start joining lottery lists now!

Open lotteries include our Salmon River Kayaking Course, City of Rocks Climbing Adventure and Winter Snowshoeing & Yurt Trips!

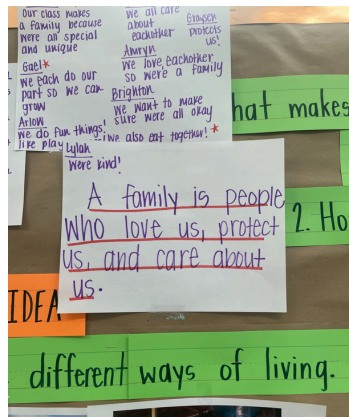
Detailed information on each expedition will be sent out to all eligible students' families closer to expedition dates, so please watch your inboxes, and reach out any time with questions: megan.furois@sageintl.org.



Hello PYP Families!

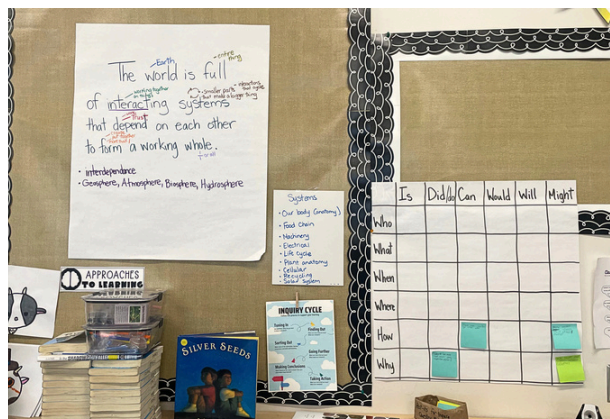
We have been seeing some amazing learning around here! I wanted to share some great activities from our units of inquiry. In first grade their current central idea is: *Families around the world have different ways of living*. Ms. Atkins class had a class discussion around this idea and came up with a definition of a family—see the picture below left.

The first graders also discussed needs and wants; they placed love and shoes in the middle because they need and want both of those. It will be interesting for them to see



how needs and wants may change once they start learning about how families around the world live.

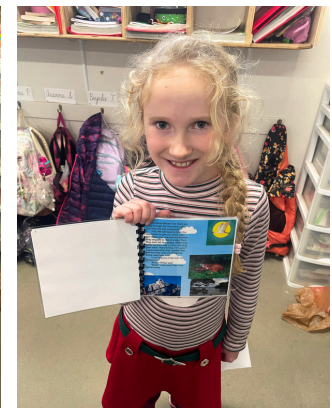
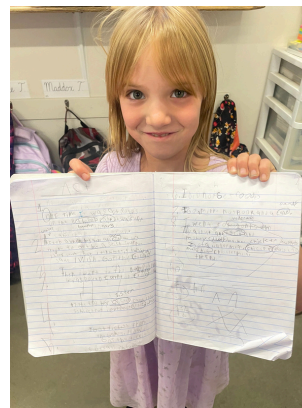
Our fifth grade students are starting a new unit—*The world is full of interacting systems that depend on each other to form a working whole*. You can see in the picture from Mrs. Ganke's room that the class "dissected" the central idea to be sure the students fully



understand each word and what they mean, before they start to inquire. Mrs. Ganske did an amazing job facilitating their learning to support their questioning. Getting students to question and use their curiosity to learn is part of the IB framework. If you see the grid in the picture, there are student questions already listed. One question is: Why do we know more about space than the ocean?

Lastly, in third grade, students are inquiring into the central idea: *Culture can be shared through storytelling*. I have added a couple of pictures of students' stories they have written themselves, one with their rough draft and one with their final draft!

Jacquie Bettencourt



SECONDARY (6-12) WITH SARAH JENSEN



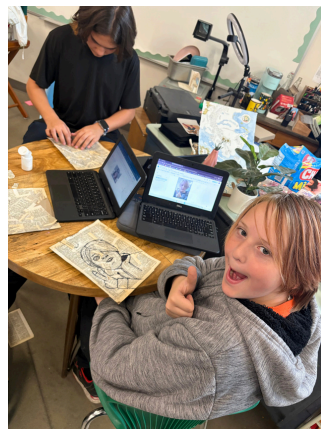
Dear MYP/DP Families,

What a wonderful month it has been on our campus! With November in full swing, I want to take a moment to celebrate the many bright spots we've experienced together as a community.



Sage Fort (above) was a highlight of the month! Students were all smiles as they rotated through creative, hands-on, and joy-filled activities designed by our incredible teachers. From collaborative challenges to artistic projects, the energy on campus was truly special. A huge thank-you to our dedicated staff for pouring so much effort, heart, and creativity into planning such meaningful experiences for our students.

Throughout the month, I've had the pleasure of visiting classrooms across campus, and I continue to be impressed by the positivity and engagement I see every day. Students are collaborating thoughtfully, teachers are guiding rich discussions, and there is a strong



sense of community and curiosity in every room. It has been wonderful to watch students take risks, support one another, and lean into their learning.

As we head into break, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all of our families. Thank you for your ongoing support, your partnership, and your trust. I hope your Thanksgiving is filled with joy, rest, and time spent with loved ones.

Wishing you all a warm and wonderful holiday season!

With appreciation,
Sarah Jensen

ESAGE

ESage has been having fun after school and Fridays this school year! Some of our recent field trips have included trips to Pojo's, Bodies in Motion indoor playground, The Farm corn maze and pumpkin patch, Roystone Hot Springs, and plenty of local parks to enjoy the beautiful Fall weather!



We've also been enjoying lots of engaging other activities on campus after school like Fall crafts, a Halloween Dance Party, and Halloween movie day. 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! That's just \$25 for an action packed Friday or full day over school break.



Please email esage_middleton@sageintl.org with any questions. Enroll now for after school, Fridays, or Holiday Break to have your child join in on the fun! [Click here to enroll.](#)

PTO

Mark your calendars for the Sage International Middleton PTO's **Winter Fest on December 6th from 12:00 - 4:00 pm in the Gym!** Come support our school and local businesses and get some holiday shopping done!

- Over 20 AMAZING Vendors selling everything from Christmas Decor and Jewelry to Cookies, Woodwork, and more!
- Bid on incredible items in our Silent Auction & buy raffle tickets for great prizes.
- Delicious food from local Food Trucks!
- Activities such as free face painting, \$5 photos with the "Green Guy" and Ssanta, proceeds support Student Council

