



SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MIDDLETON NEWSLETTER

APRIL 17, 2026



The Scholastic Book Fair starts Monday! Students and families can shop through Friday after conferences, please visit our [Book Fair website](#) for more information. Set up an eWallet for your student to shop without bringing cash to school! You can also shop online from April 20 - May 3, and 25% of every online purchase directly benefits Sage Middleton. You can find all information via the link above!



Secondary Yearbooks are available to purchase through Jostens until May 8. If you'd like a copy for your student, orders can be placed online using the ordering form at [this link](#). Yearbooks must be purchased in advance, so please be sure to do so before the deadline.



Idaho Gives starts May 4! Sage International School Middleton will be participating, and what better way to invest in Idaho's future than through our students? Mark your calendar and be on the lookout for some fun prizes you can win for yourself AND your school!



Why Sage? In last month's newsletter, you heard from Executive Director Emily Downey asking what makes you choose Sage each year. We'd love to hear from more of you—and we're sweetening the deal with a little incentive! Take a moment to read [this letter](#), share your "Why Sage" by filling out the form, and you'll be entered into a drawing for a \$50 KRAVZ gift certificate!

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 20-24: Book Fair

April 23-24: Spring Conferences

May 4-7: Teacher Appreciation Week

May 25: Memorial Day, No School

[2026-27 Academic Calendar](#)

FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EMILY DOWNEY



As we move toward the end of March, spring has a way of bringing fresh energy, new beginnings, and a sense of possibility. And in a school, this time of year carries its own kind of energy too. We've returned from spring break, and the year suddenly feels like it's moving quickly. For many, there's a mix of excitement with that kind of tired that comes from being deep into the school year, and that's real.

I want to encourage everyone that this is a meaningful stretch of the year, one where staying focused, staying engaged, and continuing to give our best really makes a difference. There is still important learning happening every single day, and these next few weeks matter.

Now that we are back from spring break, we are stepping into a moment for our students to truly shine. In the weeks ahead, our students will take part in state assessments. These represent the growth, learning, effort, and persistence that have been building all year long and continue right now. Our students are not just test-takers. They are thinkers, problem-solvers, and learners who are still growing every single day. We are all so very proud of them.

As a community, this is our moment to *lean in*, not pull back.

One of the things we love most is seeing that moment when a student finally "gets it", and I know we have all experienced this, whether you are a parent or a teacher. You can feel it instantly. The undeniable spark. There's a kind of joy that shows up in both the student and the teacher or parent at the same time. It's a quiet, powerful moment of connection, a reminder that persistence matters and that all of the effort, on both sides, has paid off. And the truth is, those moments are happening every single day in our classrooms, *especially right now*.

That's what our students carry with them into these assessments. This is their opportunity to take all of those moments, all of that hard work and growth, and show what they know. To feel proud of themselves and recognize how far they've come. This isn't about pressure. It's about confidence. It's about walking in and saying, "I do get this. I can do this. I am ready." It is a beautiful thing when a student feels that way. And this is their moment to show it.

To our students: we believe in you. We see how hard you're working. We see your potential, even on the days you might not see it yourself. Right now, your job isn't to be perfect. It's to stay with it. Stay engaged, bell to bell. When something feels hard, stick with it. Ask for help. Keep pushing forward. These next few weeks matter, and so do you.

To our staff: thank you, truly. The care, patience, and heart you bring every day does not go unnoticed. You are doing more than teaching. You are building confidence, resilience,

Continued...

and belief in our students. I see it in your classrooms and hear it in the way you speak to students, reminding them what they can do, even when they're unsure. That matters, especially in this final stretch.

To our families: we are so grateful for you. The support you give at home and the belief you show in your children have a lasting impact. Right now, one of the most important things you can do is help your child be here every day, on time, and ready to learn. That consistency makes a difference in this final stretch.

There is so much to celebrate in the joy, resilience, and growth of our students that we see every day. We can lean into the sense of possibility and fresh start that spring always brings. This is an opportunity to show up fully, encourage one another, and help every student step forward with confidence and pride. I am so grateful each of you is part of this community. Thank you.

With warmth & gratitude,

Emily Downey

CAREER DAY

We had another amazing Career Day on March 19, thanks to a lot of hard work by our school counselor Joy Kaplan-Rood, and MANY volunteers from our community! Check out [this video](#) that showcases some great moments.

Guest Speakers shared information about their careers and interests with students. We had a wide variety of professions represented, including a doctor, graphic designer, a firefighter, author, and an equipment operator.

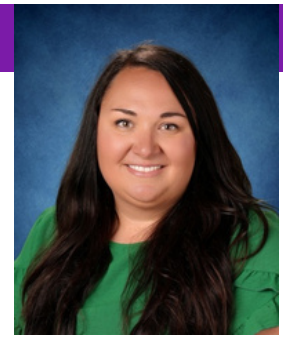
One of the highlights for many was a helicopter landing right on our field, compliments of our United States National Guard, and Gowen Field!

Thank you to those who participated in our PYP Parade: Idaho National Guard, Middleton Fire Department, Middleton Police Department, Idaho Power Bucket Trucks, Miss Rodeo Idaho, and Canyon County Paramedics.



Middle school students participated in Reality Town and career-related activities in their classrooms. High school students were able to speak with various colleges and career technical programs, including UA 296 Plumbing Apprenticeship, The Electricians Union, College of Western Idaho, and University of Idaho.

PYP (K-5TH) WITH JACQUE BETTENCOURT



The PTO Fun Run fundraiser was a great success—we not only reached our goal, but exceeded it! The event itself was an absolute blast. The energy was high, the students had a fantastic time, and the support from our families was truly amazing. Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way—we appreciate you! We can't wait for new shade structures!



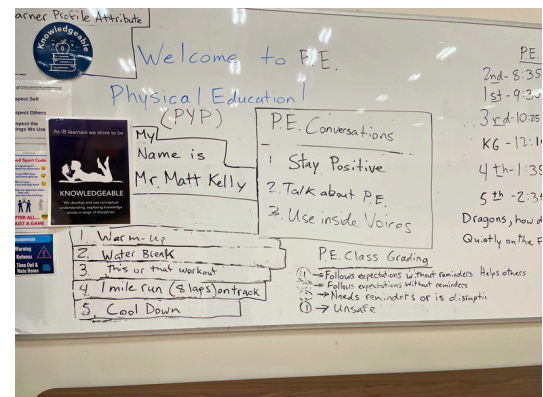
Before we left for break, our school community celebrated our wonderful school librarian, Gretchen. Students created cards, wrote heartfelt notes, and drew pictures to show their appreciation. A group of us decorated the library with these messages so she could walk into something truly special on her day. It was clear how much the students love her and the library—their kind and thoughtful words said it all.

I've been seeing so many amazing things happening in classrooms lately! In these photos to the right, first-grade students were measuring their height using only cubes. It was wonderful to see them working in teams to problem-solve and figure out the best way to measure accurately.



In kindergarten Spanish class, students learned a new springtime song about chicks (left)—very fitting for the season! They practiced singing, “Los pollitos dicen: pío, pío, pío,” and I'm sure many of you have been hearing it at home!

I also had the chance to spend time in PE with our older students. Mr. Matt Kelly has focused on the learner attribute “Knowledgeable,” helping students understand pacing while running. They explored how being knowledgeable about distance, speed, and their own abilities can help them set an appropriate pace. It was outstanding to see how thoughtfully students engaged with this concept.

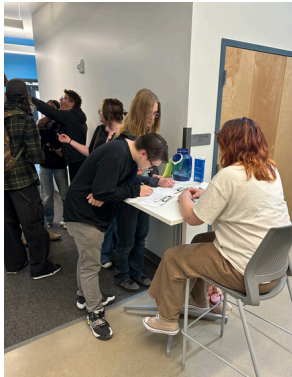




Dear Families,

As we move through April, I want to take a moment to share some highlights from the past few weeks and express my appreciation for your continued support of our school community.

We have had an exciting and eventful month! Career Day was a hit! Our school counselor, Joy, spent countless hours planning the event, gathering guest speakers, and coordinating with universities, businesses, career/technical schools, and the military. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and participated!



Our Chess-a-Thon was a tremendous success, bringing together students for an evening of strategy, focus, and fun. It was wonderful to see so many students engaged, challenging themselves, and supporting one another throughout the event.

Our high school students enjoyed a Moonlit Masquerade ball on April 2nd, and our middle school students had a Night in New York dance on April 16th. Both events were planned by the student council and provided a great opportunity for the kids to connect, celebrate, and create lasting memories in a positive and energetic environment. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event safe and enjoyable for all.



The PTO wrapped up a very successful fundraising effort with the Fun Run on April 2nd. The energy and enthusiasm from students were incredible, and we are so grateful for the generosity of our families and community. Your support directly impacts the opportunities and experiences we are able to provide for our students.

As we continue through this important testing season, I want to extend a sincere thank you to all of you. Your encouragement at home, support of routines, and partnership with our staff make a meaningful difference in helping students feel prepared and confident. We appreciate all that you do to support your child's success. Thank you for being such an important part of our school community. We are proud of our students and grateful for the strong partnership we share with our families.

ENRICHMENT



Music lessons offered here at Sage Middleton!

Brighter Notes Group Special: \$110/month
Lessons are 1 hour: 20-minute private and 40-minute group lessons

Private Lessons: \$142/month
Lessons are 30 minutes

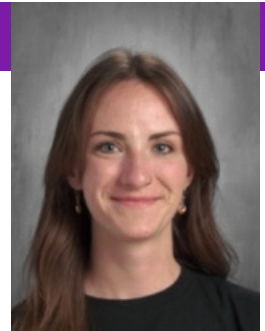
Call or text for more information: 208.921.0382

EXPEDITIONS

Winter expeditions are officially wrapped up and we are very busy prepping for Spring and summer opportunities!



In March, we took a group front-country camping at Osprey Point Yurts in Lake Cascade State Park. Despite the lack of snow, we had a great time! Students participated in snow science lessons, snowshoeing, and community building exercises while spending time in the beautiful mountains.



We have a lot to look forward to in the next several weeks:

- This weekend, several secondary Students from both Sage campuses are taking a great camping and climbing clinic with Idaho Mountain Guides at the City of Rocks National Reserve.
- In May, our whole 5th- grade class gets to enjoy our 5th annual trip to Idaho Basecamp, located in the Wood River Valley. 5th-grade parents, check Toddle for the Zoom link to join our parent meeting on 4/21/26 at 5:30 pm!
- In June, several lucky students get to enjoy a 5-day, 4-night adventure on the gorgeous Salmon River. They will spend their days on the water with professional guides learning the basics of white-water kayaking, and their evenings on the Salmon River Adventure Company campus, which includes activities such as rock climbing and disc golf!

With all that being said, if your student didn't get a chance to go on an expedition with us this year make sure to keep your eyes peeled for 2026-2027 outdoor learning opportunities! We already have plans in the making, including a camping trip in the Sawtooths in July! Watch your inboxes in the coming months for information on next year's trips, and as always you can check [our website](#).

ESAGE

ESage just had a really fun Spring Break! ESage students went to the Idaho Humane Society, Regal Theater to watch Mario, the Ada County Highway District for a facility tour of their big trucks, drones, and traffic cameras, and lastly Pojos for games, bumper cars, and prizes! We would love to have your child join in on the fun! [Click here to enroll.](#)

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!

Sage Summer Camp registration is now open! ALL students in K-6th grade, not just Sage students, are welcome to enroll for a fun summer full of action and adventure with daily field trips and fun! Visit our [website](#) for more info. Please email esage_middleton@sageintl.org with any questions.



PTO

Join us as we wrap up the year at our next **PTO meeting on May 5th!**

We'll be covering:

- Teacher Appreciation
- Graduation planning
- Swearing in new board members for the upcoming school year
- Fundraiser updates
- Planning ahead for next year

We'd love to see you there as we finish the year strong and look ahead together!

Parent Teacher Conferences are April 23rd & 24th!

Help support our amazing teachers by donating toward dinner on conference nights. Your contribution helps make a long day a little easier—thank you for your support! Donate at the link below:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/food-for-teacher-conferences>

Teacher Appreciation Week is coming up May 4–8!

Our PTO is planning a fun “Around the World” week filled with treats and gifts to celebrate our incredible teachers. We'd love your help in making it special—please consider volunteering or donating. Every little bit makes a big difference!

To volunteer, please reach out to the PTO directly at sagemiddletonpto@gmail.com

Donations are being accepted at the link below:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/teacher-appreciation-27>