



SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MIDDLETON NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 22, 2026



All families were emailed the [2026-27 Student-Parent Handbook](#). We ask that you review it in its entirety and then discuss the last two pages with your student(s). Once you've done so, please complete the [Acknowledgement Form](#) for each of your Sage students. Completion of the Acknowledgement Form is due this Friday, September 25, 2026.



We are enrolling! We have seats available in several grade levels, mostly Grades 6-11, and would love for you to share this opportunity with anyone you think would benefit from an awesome Sage education. Please [share our website](#) with them or have them email middleton.info@sageintl.org.



Attendance: If your student will be tardy or absent, please let us know as soon as possible by emailing middleton.attendance@sageintl.org with your student's full name, grade, estimated date of return, and reason for the absence. If the absence is due to an appointment, please provide a note from the provider's office to excuse the absence.

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

September 28 - October 2: FALL BREAK!

October 8: Picture Retakes

October 22: Conferences 4:00-6:30

October 24: Sage Trunk or Treat

[2026-27 Academic Calendar](#)

FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EMILY DOWNEY



Dear Sage families and staff,

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year! Seeing our classrooms and hallways come alive with energy, curiosity, laughter, and learning is inspiring. It is a joy to watch our students build relationships and reconnect with their Sage community. There is much to look forward to!

I'm Emily Downey, and I have the honor of serving as Executive Director of the Sage International Network of Schools. During 12 years as a Sage parent, board member, Chief Financial and Operating Officer, and Executive Director, my appreciation for Sage continues to grow. I see our mission come to life through the dedication of our staff and our partnership with families.

I am profoundly grateful for the impact Sage has had on my family. My three sons graduated from Sage with their International Baccalaureate Diplomas, thrived in college and now enjoy meaningful careers. The rigorous, supportive, and globally minded education they received prepared them for that success. Their experiences stand as a powerful testament to the lasting power of a Sage education, and the extraordinary opportunity we provide as a free, public charter school.

An IB education at Sage prepares students for far more than academic success. It teaches them to think critically, ask thoughtful questions, consider perspectives beyond their own, take meaningful risks, and contribute to the world around them. This would not be possible without our exceptional educators and staff. Their talent, care, and belief in every child are at the heart of what makes Sage so special. They inspire me, and I hope you feel the difference they make each day.

Our commitment to exceptional learning never stands still. Strong learning in reading, writing, and mathematics remains central to our work. We want every student to experience joyful, challenging learning, and to know they are seen, supported, and capable of meaningful work.

Our families help make that vision possible every day. Two of the most powerful ways you can support your child are also among the simplest: prioritize regular attendance and make time for reading at home. Whether your child is five or fifteen, engaging with them in what they are reading, learning, and wondering about sends a powerful message that their education matters.

Thank you for choosing Sage! I am excited about what lies ahead and deeply grateful to share another school year with you. Together, we will continue building up students who are confident, compassionate, curious, and prepared to thrive.

With warmth and gratitude,

Emily Downey
Executive Director

WELCOME JESSICA!



You may have noticed a familiar face spending more time at our front desk! Jessica Doramus has officially joined the Sage team as our new Front Desk Receptionist! Jessica has been an important part of the Sage community for many years as a parent, volunteer, and staff member, and we're excited to have her step into this new role.

We are also incredibly grateful to Jessica Humphries for the warmth and kindness she brought to our front desk over the past several years. She made students, families, staff, and visitors feel welcome and cared for each day, and we deeply appreciate all she has contributed to Sage Middleton.

Jessica Doramus is already bringing that same welcoming spirit to the front desk. Please join us in congratulating her on her new role and saying hello the next time you see her!

PYP (K-5TH) WITH JACQUE BETTENCOURT



Dear PYP Families,

There are so many wonderful things happening around our building, and I wanted to take a moment to share a few highlights with you!

Our Spanish learning is bringing such joy to our hallway! Our Spanish teacher has students greeting one another in Spanish. It is such a delight to hear a second language becoming a natural part of our school community. Hearing students confidently use Spanish with one another is something special!

Our fifth-grade students are also deep in their learning around the central idea: "Examining perspectives helps us understand the complexity of historical events." Students are researching an invention from history and using their research to help explain and understand this important idea. I have heard fifth graders saying, "That's perspective!" It is exciting to hear students making connections and applying their learning in authentic ways.

Our fourth-grade students had a wonderful visit from Wagon's Ho as they learned more about Idaho pioneers. The students had the opportunity to wash clothes using a washboard and water pump, create old-time games using a button and string, and



participate in a potato sack race. To say they had fun is an understatement! It was hands-on, engaging learning that brought history to life for our students.

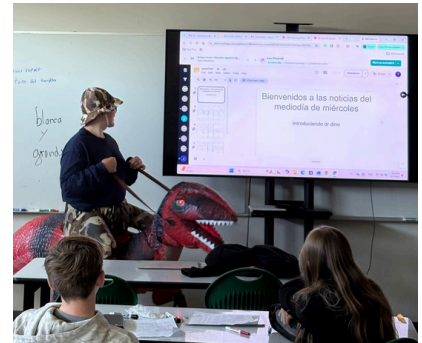
PYP continued...

Finally, thank you to everyone who joined us for “I See IB” Night! We loved connecting with you as a community and sharing how we can ALL be inquirers!



Dear Sage Families,

It has been a wonderful few weeks of learning, creativity, and community across our campus! Our Middle School students enjoyed building community during Sage Fort, while students in Mrs. Garrison's class stepped into history through a mock trial inspired by the Salem Witch Trials. In Art, students have been creating self-portraits that explore identity and perspective, and our students have been putting their language skills into practice by creating and presenting weather reports in Spanish.



High School students have also been engaged in meaningful and memorable learning experiences. In Mrs. Roberson's class (left), students participated in Gummy Bear Government, a hands-on activity that brought concepts of government, decision-making, and civic systems to life. Our seniors also recently enjoyed their Senior Camp Trip, where they were able to strengthen relationships, build community, and create lasting memories. You can read more on the next page!

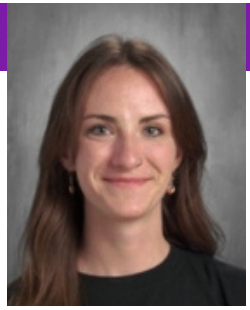
One of my favorite parts of serving as the 6–12 Principal is seeing the many ways our teachers create opportunities for students to learn beyond a traditional textbook. Whether students are investigating historical events, expressing themselves through art, practicing a new language, exploring government, or building relationships with their peers, our campus is full of engaging learning experiences.

Thank you to our incredible teachers and staff for the time and creativity they invest in our students, and thank you to our families for your continued partnership and support. We are proud of our Sage students and look forward to all that is ahead!

EXPEDITIONS

We're so excited to get more Middleton students outdoors with us this school year!

This September we hosted the very first Senior Campout on our Middleton campus. Our senior class spent two days and one night at Lake Cascade State Park, where they spent time together, made memories, and built a strong class culture for their final year with us at Sage. Congratulations, Class of 2027, on being risk takers and beginning a new tradition for our Sage Seniors!



We've got big plans for Sage Middleton in the coming months and into the winter! Check out our [Expeditions Catalog](#) and email megan.furois@sageintl.org if you have questions about our program.

ENRICHMENT

ESage

ESage has been having fun after school and on Fridays! Recent field trips have included a nature walk at Duff Pond, exploring the Boise Aquarium, picking peaches at Gem Orchard, mini golf at Wahooz, exploring several local parks and splash pads, and lots of fun activities after school!

If you would like to sign your student up for ESage, you can do so on our [website](#). Registration options are flexible, with set schedules or drop-in days as needed, and all activities and snacks are included in daily tuition! Please reach out to esage_middleton@sageintl.org with any questions.

Athletics

Girls Volleyball season is going great! We are so proud of our players and would love for you to come cheer on our team. Here is their game schedule:

9/22 @ Home vs Falcon Ridge at 4:15

10/6 Away @ Doral Academy at 3:30

Girls Middle School Basketball [Registration is open](#), and Sage students of all ability levels are welcome! Registration will close October 7. Practices will begin on October 12 and will be held Monday - Thursday from 4:00 - 6:00 pm. The game schedule is TBD.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our students and staff by volunteering with our wonderful PTO! We would love for you to join us for a meeting or one of our fun upcoming community events below.



Also, a big thank you to the PTO for supporting our community at our Back to School and I See IB Event last week!

Upcoming Events:



Middleton Community Harvest Festival **September 26 from 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

Come support Sage in the community! We'll be sharing information about our amazing school while enjoying everything the Middleton Community Harvest Festival has to offer. Stop by the Sage tent to say hello—and enjoy the festival's games, food, and family-friendly activities!



Sage Garbonzo's Night **October 6 from 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

Make dinner easy while supporting our school! Grab a pizza from Dr Garbonzo's, mention Sage when ordering, and 20% of your purchase will be donated to support Sage students, teachers, and staff.



PTO Meeting **October 6 at 7:00 p.m. | School Gym**

Join us as we look ahead and begin planning for fall conferences, Trunk or Treat, the canned food drive, and Winter Fest. All Sage families are welcome!



Sage Trunk or Treat **Save the Date: October 24**

Join us for a fun, free family event! More information will be coming soon about how to decorate a trunk, volunteer, donate, or get involved.
No registration is required for families to attend and enjoy the event.

Stay Connected!

For the latest information about events, fundraisers, and ways to get involved, please follow Sage Middleton PTO on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/SagemiddletonPTO) at [facebook.com/SagemiddletonPTO](https://www.facebook.com/SagemiddletonPTO) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/sagemiddletonpto) at [instagram.com/sagemiddletonpto](https://www.instagram.com/sagemiddletonpto). We look forward to seeing you and your families soon!