



SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

November 3, 2021 Newsletter

A Message from Executive Director, Andy Johnson:

Dear families and staff of Forge and Sage International Schools,

I hope this note finds you all well! I wanted to start by sharing with you that we did our first joint Friday professional learning session this past Friday. The teaching teams at Sage and Forge got together to begin developing mutually supportive relationships at each grade level across the Network. This was a goal we set last winter and I am proud of the work that our Heads of School did to organize this session. The energy and happiness of everyone that I spoke with was obvious. Relationships really matter.



Our effort to bring the staff of each school together more frequently and regularly is driven by their desire to feel connected to and supportive of each other. Those sentiments are at the heart of our schools' mission. Our mission asks us to engage within an inclusive IB learning community, challenging all members to take risks and contribute locally and globally through open-minded inquiry. Supporting this mission, we hold up the International Baccalaureate's Learner Profile as our set of guiding values.

This month Forge is highlighting the value of Knowledgeable and Sage is focusing on Caring. Their efforts on Friday were superb ways of kicking off their respective monthly Learner Profile focuses with their students.

I encourage you all to explore the Learner Profile and, this month, ask your child(ren) what it means to be knowledgeable and caring.

Finally, November is a month when Americans pause to honor, give thanks, and remember. November is Native American Heritage Month. Please take time to learn about and honor the indigenous peoples of America. [At this link](#), you will find a number of resources to explore. On November 11th, I urge you to find ways to remember and give thanks to our veterans. Please see [this link](#) from the Veterans Administration for ways to learn about and participate in Veterans Day. I also wish you all the best for [Thanksgiving](#).

With thanks, Andy Johnson



OUR MISSION:

SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL ENGAGES STUDENTS WITHIN AN INCLUSIVE IB LEARNING COMMUNITY, CHALLENGING ALL MEMBERS TO TAKE RISKS AND CONTRIBUTE LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY THROUGH OPEN-MINDED INQUIRY.



A Note from our Head of School, Kali Webb:

Greetings Sage Families,

Welcome to November! I hope you all continue to stay healthy and be well as we enter the final two months of 2021. As I mentioned in a previous email, there is nothing more important we do than keep kids safe. At Sage International, we hold the safety and security of our students and staff to very high standards. We are always looking to refine our practices and utilize effective systems in order to protect students, staff, and families on the Sage Campus. In addition to practicing regularly scheduled fire and lockdown drills, we also have a Campus Safety Team that works diligently to ensure that the security of our campus is upheld at all times. We are excited to announce that we are adopting the iVisitor Management (IVM) System by Ident-a-kid to aid in screening and tracking all visitors. IVM uses information from a visitor's driver's license to run a nationwide sex offender and custody (no-contact order) background check and alerts our staff if a check-in needs review. When visiting our campus, please be prepared to check-in at the front desk and scan your Driver's License in order to obtain a visitor sticker, and please check back out upon departure.

Thank you for your support and cooperation as we continue to ensure the safety of our students and staff! It takes all of us to stay safe - thank you for playing your part!

In service,
Ms. Kali Webb, Head of School
Sage International School of Boise



COUNSELORS CORNER

We are so excited to kick off our month-long focus on CARING here at Sage. **Please have a look at this calendar** so that you know what your student(s) are up to each day. There are events and activities that can be completed at home as well. Please talk to your kids about what caring looks like at your home and how we can care for one another. We are looking forward to a great month and sharing with you our caring project! Thank you for your support!

Your School Counselors,
Ashley Rivers & Brittney Meduna

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:



November 4-5 - Middle School (6-8) Parent- Teacher Conferences

November 22-26 - Thanksgiving Break - no School!

December 20-31 - Holiday Break - no school!

STAY CONNECTED!

Other than this newsletter, our website is the best resource for general info about Sage. You can also find us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!





Nurse P's Health Corner:



Please Fuel Young Minds with Healthy Eating!!!

We are seeing an increasing number of students bringing unhealthy snacks and lunches. Research shows that students who eat healthy breakfasts, snacks and lunches perform better

in school! For students to feel and do their best please make sure that your child's lunch includes plenty of protein, whole grains and a fruit or vegetable. Please avoid sugar, simple carbs and processed foods whenever possible because these items do not provide adequate nutrition to fuel young minds.



CDC Approved COVID-19 Vaccine Ages 5-11:

The CDC followed the Food and Drug Administration's authorization and gave final approval for Pfizer-BioNTech's coronavirus vaccine for 5 to 11-year-olds. Please consult with your doctor to determine if the Covid-19 vaccine is recommended for your child(ren) as it will be available through local healthcare providers and pharmacies in the coming days. Sage is also investigating the possibility of hosting a drive-thru clinic soon for those that want to receive the vaccine. Stay tuned!

Keeping Kids Home With Symptoms of Illness:

Students with symptoms of illness, especially multiple symptoms, should be kept at home until symptom free (or at least very mild and well controlled) for 24 hrs. To continue with in-person learning we must protect our students and staff not only from contracting Covid-19 but other minor illnesses as well. Our staff is particularly vulnerable because they work with so many students and subs are critically limited. We appreciate everyone doing their part by conducting daily health screenings before sending students to school, and please use the CDC Covid-19 Symptom Checker if your student has symptoms.



Absences & COVID-19 Exposure/Case Reporting:

For absences due to minor illness, appointments, or for other reasons please email our attendance staff at attendance@sageintl.org or call 208-343-7243 and select Option 1.

Always provide your child's full name and grade. To report a COVID-19 exposure or positive case please notify the attendance staff by email or phone AND our health team (Nurse P & Jen Rabin, Health Assistant) at health@sageintl.org. Please keep students home with any concerning symptoms consistent with Covid-19, for direct exposure to a positive case, if they have a pending test after a known exposure, and especially if they tested positive for Covid-19. If you are notifying the school outside school hours you will be contacted on the next school day.



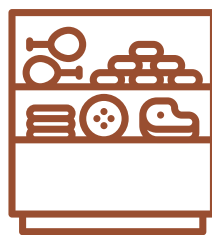
Sage Book Fair

Dates: November 15-18

Time: Daily 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Students and families are welcome to come shop, we accept cash, check, and cards.

Come get your holiday shopping done,
all proceeds benefit the Sage Library!



Food Pantry Items Needed:

We cannot stress enough the **importance that your student bring a WATER BOTTLE** to school every single day! Thank you for the generous donations we have received recently. Our needs often grow

and change and currently, we have an urgent need for PLASTIC FORKS. We also need individually packaged jerkyNature Valley Crunchy Oats 'N Honey Granola Bars, Chocolate Chip Soft & Chewy Granola Bars, and individually wrapped crackers. You can drop them off at either front desk, or you can purchase from our **Sage Amazon Wishlist** to have them shipped directly to us! We are **so thankful** for our generous Sage community and truly appreciate all the donations we have received and continue to receive!

THANK
YOU



The SAGE SPIRIT STORE IS OPEN!

You can now order Sage Spirit items at the Spirit Store! Order online through Nov 12th and pick up from the school when our shipment comes in early December. You will be notified by email when your items are ready, just in time for Christmas! Shop for hoodies, t-shirts, and masks at the store [HERE](#).



Help us Mind the Gap!



As the year draws to an end, many families spend some extra time looking into various charities they would like to support. As a non-profit School of Choice, we hope you and your family will consider Sage in your gift-giving this year! Did you know that you can receive a dollar-for-dollar Idaho Tax Credit for 50% of the amount donated to Sage, up to \$500 per individual (\$1,000 filing jointly)?! With our annual "Mind the Gap" fundraising campaign, we look to our Sage families to help us bridge the gap between the educational funding we receive (some of the lowest in the nation), and what it actually costs to run our top-notch K-12 IB World school. This year our goal is \$100,000, which amounts to about \$100 per student. We know that circumstances are different for every family, especially during this past year and a half, so we just ask that if you are able...you consider giving Sage a gift in any amount that feels right for your family. We invite you to read more about our **Mind the Gap Annual Campaign** [HERE](#), and thank you for your support!



Dani Zwolfer, our IB/Curriculum/Assessment Director is now the contact for Title IX at both Sage and Forge! More information about that role can be found on our website under student services [HERE](#).

MIDDLE SCHOOL AT SAGE:

It's been a nice couple weeks in middle school as we get settled into our new schedule. The staff is certainly beginning to hit their stride and dig deeper into the curriculum. For the best update on how your student is both academically and behaviorally, I recommend that you attend our in-person Parent-Teacher Conferences, Thurs (Nov 4) from 6:00 - 8:00 pm and Friday (Nov 5) from 9:00 - noon (masks are mandatory).



One of the best aspects for teachers at Sage is our Friday time in which we get to collaborate. I wanted to take a moment and "pull back the curtain" a bit and highlight some of the wonderful practices we have done this year.

- From a grade level and department perspective we collectively graded assignments to better align our assessment practices;
- Teachers have taken the lead to present strategies that all staff can and eventually, will use (ie. OPVL, Cornell Notes, CER writing). Such common practices across the curriculums take the guessing game that many students typically face when attempting to figure out best practices and teacher expectations;
- Departments have the opportunity to get together and plan curriculum, discuss common assessments, share strategies and practices that positively impact teachers;
- Mr. Mercer, our MYP Coordinator and middle school science teacher, is providing professional development on the key concepts from the IB curriculum.

In short, our amazing middle school staff has the time and ability to collaborate to increase their lesson planning, instructional practices and impact on our wonderful students. To be clear, the points noted are only conducted during 1/3 of our time on Friday. Our staff is busy and intentionally active each and every Friday. To say the least, I'm happy and proud to be part of this dedicated and hardworking team.



HIGH SCHOOL AT SAGE:

The High School is having a blast celebrating this Harvest season! Check out all of the amazing things happening across our campus:

This week Sagers in Mrs. Flores' Health class had an amazing opportunity to collaborate in a science lab led by Mr. Murray and his 12th grade DP Biology students. Students learned about the anatomy of the heart through a dissection lab where they took apart cow hearts! Check out these great photos!



Thursday, October 28th brought the return of the Fall Festival! Our fabulous DP leader, Amelia Pooser and Sage upperclassmen hosted an event to celebrate and connect Sage's K-12 community. The event, known as the Fall Festival, took place at Summit and all PYP students were invited to attend. The experience included several booths that the PYP students got to participate in. Stations included things like pumpkin bowling, coloring, face painting (above their masks) and a haunted maze, and of course treats. Check out these photos from the FUN event!



SAGE NEWS is back at it and each week Mr. Calderon's film students produce a new episode. This is a highlight of our week and typically features all awesome events that are happening at Sage, along with other Sagetastic segments. Head over to our [YouTube channel](#) so that you can see it in action. Be sure to subscribe so that you do not miss an episode.

The High School Student Council is holding a food drive. The food drive runs through November 18th. Each class is competing to see who can donate the most food per capita. The winning grade will earn a prize. In the past we've donated over 300 lbs of food to the Idaho Food Bank. Hopefully this year we can set a new record. The buckets are located inside the high school building and are labeled for each grade.



Bonjour! Kristin Jones (9-10th grade French) will be hosting an informational virtual meeting for parents with students interested in our Spring Break trip to Québec Canada, April 9-13, 2022! Students in 9-12th grades are welcome. Our tour guide Jason will join us, so you will get the chance to meet him as well. You can find the trip Agenda/Itinerary [here](#).

In order to keep the meeting short, please send Mme Jones your questions in advance at kristin.jones@sageintl.org.

Thursday, November 4 • 6:00 – 7:00pm
Video call link Or dial: (US) +1 252-986-3258
PIN: 390 242 465#





Friday Bogus Basin Program Returns!

Come and join us for Bogus Basin's fantastic "Life Sports" program. In this three-week enrichment program offered through Sage, your child will complete a 1.5 hour group lesson, along with receiving a day lift ticket and equipment rental. After their lesson, they will have 2 hours of ski time to practice their skills. Sage provides a ride from Sage to Bogus Basin and back, along with limited supervision.

- **3 Fridays: January 7th, January 21st and February 11th**
- **Students in 3rd grade and up who are self-sufficient on skis**
- **Cost: \$200 for 3-week session with Lessons and Rentals, \$175 for 3-week session with Lessons Only**

Click [HERE](#) for more information, spots are limited!



Thank you to our Boise Trader Joe's for donating DOZENS of pumpkins to our middle school advisory classes for their pumpkin decorating contest, we had a BLAST with them and are so impressed with what our students created!



This weekend Ms. Linda Bu will be installing her always popular student-created "Dia de Los Muertos" Art Exhibit at our favorite coffee Shop,



Zero Six across the street from Sage! It will be on display through November, be sure to pop in and check it out!



Clubs, Activities and Sports Currently active at Sage

Click on each for more info!

[Art Club 9th-12th grade](#)

[Board Game Club 9th-12th grade](#)

[Dance Committee 9th-12th grade](#)

[Gardening Club 6th-8th grade](#)

[Gardening Club 9th-12th grade](#)

[Girls on the Run 3rd-5th grade](#)

[Green Club 9th-12th grade](#)

[Middle School Student Council 6th-8th grade](#)

[Mock Trial Team 9th-12th grade](#)

[Model United Nations 9th-12th grade](#)

[Movie Club 6th-12th grade](#)

[National Beta Club 9th-12th grade](#)

[Rising Stars 1st-11th grade](#)

[Ski & Snowboard Team](#)

[Sole Kids K-6th grade](#)

[Ultimate Frisbee 9th-12th grade](#)

[Yearbook Club 6th-12th grade](#)



Once again, our Lost & Found is overflowing! Please come check it out and look for items that may belong to you at both entrances, and ask your student(s) to do the same. All remaining items will be donated on **November 12th!**

A note on our Vending Machines:

Our Admin team has been working on monitoring our vending machines more closely, and today they were moved into the "big" cafeteria toward the front of Everest. While they are popular, they should be used by students ONLY during lunch and after school and we could use your help reminding them of that. If you are in need of food assistance for your student(s), please reach out to any of our directors or counselors and we are happy to help. Thank you!

