



# SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MIDDLETON NEWSLETTER

MARCH 10, 2023



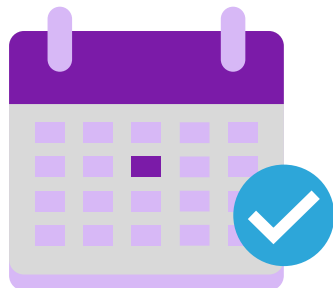
Our annual Parent Engagement Survey is open through March 31st and we would greatly appreciate your input! This survey helps the State and our leadership team measure how we are doing in meeting your needs and supporting our Sage students. The survey only takes 5-10 minutes and responses are anonymous. You can access the survey [here](#), then choose Forge International School. If you have any questions please feel free to email [dani.zwolfer@sageintl.org](mailto:dani.zwolfer@sageintl.org)



Class photos and Individual student photos will be taken on **Wednesday, March 29th!** All students in grades K-5 will be photographed with their class, and students in 6-10 will be photographed as a grade level. Students can have an individual photo taken as well, which is in addition to those offered in the fall. All prints must be pre-ordered online or by returning the packet that will go home with students soon. You can find ordering information [here](#). We are looking for 3 parent volunteers that day, and in return, you will receive a free individual and class photos of your student! Please email [jessica.humphries@forgeintl.org](mailto:jessica.humphries@forgeintl.org) if you'd like to volunteer.



**March Breakfast and Lunch Menus** can be found [here](#). Please be sure you have a positive account balance by logging in [here](#) and clicking on the food service tab.



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**March 16** - End of 3rd Quarter

**March 30** - Career Day

**March 30 - 31** - Student-led conferences

**April 10 - 14** - Holiday Break, no school

**May 29** - Memorial Day, no school

## STAY IN TOUCH



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

## OUR MISSION

“ Forge International School engages students within an inclusive international learning community, challenging all members to take risks and contribute locally and globally through open-minded inquiry. ”

## A MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANDY JOHNSON:



Dear parents and staff of Sage International Schools,

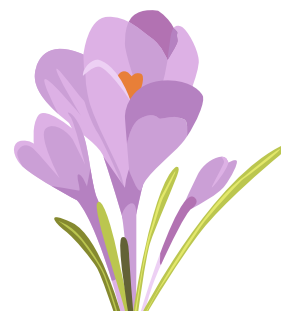
March is a month of hope, growth and promise. At Sage International Schools, March is the month in which we typically hold our lottery - the time at which hundreds of families hope to see that they've been selected (at random) for a seat at one of our two fabulous campuses. I am happy to report that demand remains very high for a Sage International Kindergarten experience. About 120 new families will join our schools soon and begin their journeys to graduation. They will join just as our very first class of kindergarteners is finishing their IB coursework in preparation for exams and graduation in May.

March also represents growth. In March we see a change of seasons (despite recent wind and snow), lengthening days, the first sprouts of crocus flowers and we start to look forward to all the events at school which mark our students' and children's growth and development. One of those events, the 100th Day of School, happened on the 7th of March. Soon, we'll be able to enjoy and celebrate our 5th and 10th Graders as they exhibit their learning through the Exhibition and the Personal Projects

March also offers promise. At Sage Schools, this period between the Presidents' Day break and Spring Break in April, is a perfect time to put our best efforts into school. Our students are ready to accelerate their learning right now. You can support them by ensuring they are at school on time, everyday with everything they need to be successful during the day. At home, encourage older students to work in a quiet, supportive environment near the rest of the family. If your student is unsure what to do - ask them to reach out to their teachers for more guidance. For the parents of our youngest students - read to them everyday and, even better, ask them to read to you. Encourage them to sound out difficult words they encounter and always be sure to ask them questions about what they have read.

In closing, thank you for your continued support and encouragement of our students, teachers, support staff and leaders. We have done incredible work together over the last three years and we are excited about what we will accomplish together over the next months and years.

All the best,  
Andy Johnson



## A NOTE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL, DARCI STELZNER



Hello, Sage Middleton families. I want to take a moment and acknowledge where we are as a school community as I am incredibly proud! We have disciplined, committed learners. We have parents who volunteer on a weekly basis listening to emerging readers or assisting with the spelling bee. We even have parents who have signed up to run SoleKids! We know our students and parents appreciate our learning environment which is safe for kids. We have experienced a lot of growth and are leaps and bounds ahead of where we were last year. This is due, in part, to our parents who have committed to being involved in their child's education. Thank you!

March is an incredibly important month for learning as it is a solid chunk of time without interruption for breaks or testing. Our teachers have wonderful learning experiences planned for your students. We are always thankful for your support at home to continue their learning! Our learner profile this month is **principled**. We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences. With this learner profile attribute I am fair, tell the truth and show INTEGRITY toward others.

How can parents help to develop students who are principled at home?

- ~What you do as a parent matters. How you treat and respond to your child should come from a knowledgeable, deliberate sense of what you want to accomplish.
- ~Connect behavior to character.
- ~Provide opportunities for your child to make their own decisions, discuss the consequences of their decisions.
- ~ Read and tell stories in which the story characters demonstrate making principled decisions
- ~ Discuss how being principled is life long commitment and well sought after as a characteristic to have.

## WIN SAGE SWAG BY REFERRING YOUR FRIENDS

We held our 2023-34 Enrollment Lottery this week and have seats available in some grades for the fall. You play an important role in building our community! February 17th kicked off a referral contest, when you refer a new family that has not already applied for the lottery, and they list your name as a reference on the application, you will be rewarded with **one free Sage t-shirt!** If that family enrolls and becomes part of our Sage family in the fall, we will **outfit your entire household** with t-shirts and sweatshirts! New families can find enrollment information [here](#).

## THE PYP WITH COORDINATOR NORA STRAUCH

The PYP classes are moving into their next Units of Inquiry for this school year. Our inquiry time in the classroom is also a great time for students to practice being Principled by showing integrity, respect and responsibility while learning and working in a group.



Here are the new units for our PYP students:

Kinder - How We Organize Ourselves: Communities provide resources

Grade 1 - Where We Are In Place and Time: Cultures grow and change through time

Grade 2 - How We Express Ourselves: Creative thinking can lead to innovation

Grade 3 - How The World Works: The natural world follows laws and predictable patterns

Grade 4 - (combined) How We Organize Ourselves and How We Express Ourselves

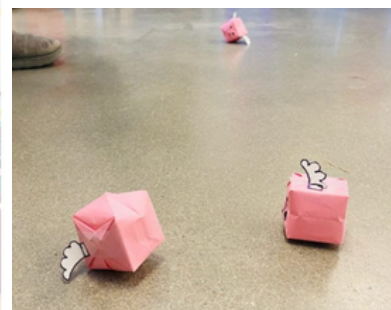
Grade 5 - Sharing the Planet / PYP Exhibition

Ask your student about what they are learning about in their Unit of Inquiry!



## THE MYP WITH COORDINATOR LISA MARSHALL

In their current Poetry units in Lang & Lit, 6th and 7th graders have been studying figurative language, including idioms. Each student selected an idiom to create and present to their classes. They then presented the origin of their idiom, based on their research, and showed side-by-side image comparisons of the idiom both figuratively and literally. Students (and staff!) had fun letting others guess what idioms they chose. Can you figure out what idioms these photos represent?



On March 6-9th 10th Grade students had the opportunity to attend [MOSS](#) (McCall Outdoor Science School) for an entire school week (Monday-Thursday) absolutely free of charge! Through hands-on exploration of the environment and guided inquiry, these five participants observed and investigated the relationships between biological, physical and social systems around them. Such a great experience!

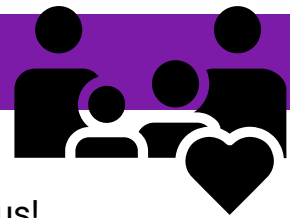


## FORGE EXPEDITIONS IN COSTA RICA!

Expeditions Leader Megan Furois, Head of School Darci Stelzner, and 4 parent chaperones spent 6 days over winter break in Costa Rica with 10 students in grades 6-8. These students showed incredible IB attributes all week long! They were **risk-takers** by snorkeling, zip lining, and hiking in new places. Students were **caring** and **principled** while learning about sustainability and experiencing a new culture. They were **knowledgeable** using their Spanish skills to talk to new people and make new friends. They even played soccer with local kids! They were **open-minded** trying new things and new foods while asking questions and being eager to learn. They visited thermal hot springs and experienced the culture through cooking classes and local farm tours. They visited Rincon de la Vieja national park and Cano Negro national park, and the Arenal volcano/ La Fortuna waterfall. They hiked, swam in the ocean and rivers, and took a boat tour. On that tour they saw 3 kinds of monkeys, sloths, toucans, countless birds, caymans, crocodiles, iguanas, lizards of all sorts, and so much more. ¡Qué bueno! You can find more info about all of our planned Expeditions on our [website here!](#)



## GET INVOLVED



**Our PTO** meets the first Tuesday of every month! Next meeting is on March 14th at 7:30 in our Gym and all parents are invited to join us!

We are preparing for another exciting **Career Day on Thursday, March 30th** for all Sage Middleton students. Our PYP learners will also get to experience our FUN parade! If you or someone else is interested in volunteering please contact our school counselor Joy Kaplan at [joy.kaplanrood@forgeintl.org](mailto:joy.kaplanrood@forgeintl.org).

GOAL: \$40,000



Thank you to the families who have donated to **Mind the Gap** to help our school bridge the "Gap" in funding we receive from the state, and what it actually costs to operate our awesome school! As a public charter school, we don't receive any local funds like area school districts and hope you can help. **We are at \$4,225 with 18 generous families donating.** We are hoping for participation from ALL families this year in any amount to help us reach our **BIG goal of \$40,000**. We hope you will consider a gift to support the opportunities we provide your students. **Click [here](#) to learn more, thank you!**

## ENRICHMENT

### Soccer Shots:

Returning this spring to the Sage Middleton Campus for students in Kindergarten through 2nd grade! This is a 6-week program.

**Dates:** Wednesdays at 4:00 pm from March 29th - May 10th

Cost: \$126 for the season

Click [here](#) for more info, and Enroll [HERE](#).

### Camp Invention Summer Camp:

A STEM Summer Camp Program that builds curious kids into innovative thinkers! Introducing their all-new program for 2023, "Wonder!" This camp will be held on our Sage Middleton Campus for all students entering Grades K-6 in the fall.

**Dates:** June 19-23 from 9:00am - 3:00pm  
You can learn more and save \$25 with early registration [here](#).

### Middleton Music Academy

Offers a variety of opportunities here on campus after school. Group classes include Violin/Viola ensemble, Guitar basics, and Brighter Notes Piano. Private lessons are also available at different times throughout the week for Guitar, Piano, Voice, Strings, and Drums. You receive a discount for any group class and registration fees, email [info@middletonmusicacademy.com](mailto:info@middletonmusicacademy.com) to secure your spot!

**Community Opportunities** - You can find other activities offered in our community [here](#)! If you have something to add, please email it to [info@forgeintl.org](mailto:info@forgeintl.org).