



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

November 13, 2009

Principal: Ms. Mary Waller
Assistant Principal: Ms. Daisy Weddle
Phone: 295 57 6216/ 4151
DSN 535-4151
e-mail: Elizabeth.Walker@eu.dodea.edu
Mary.Waller@eu.dodea.edu
Daisy.Weddle@eu.dodea.edu

Mediterranean District Superintendent: Dr. Elizabeth Walker
DSN Phone: 634-8460

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

	November 1-30	National American Indian Heritage Month (See events listed in newsletter.)
Saturday	November 14	High School Homecoming Dance, 1800-2230 at Fiddler's Green
Tuesday	November 17	Military Career Day, High School Gym
Thursday and Friday	November 26-27	Thanksgiving (Federal Holiday) and Recess
Tuesday	December 8	Speech Therapy Workshop (from 2:30-3:30 in Room 108)

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION - Winter weather will soon be upon us, bringing flu and cold season, as well as unexpected weather conditions. Please make sure the school has the following current and correct information: home, work and cell phone numbers, email address, and Emergency Contact Person who is authorized to pick up your child if you are unavailable to do so. This information periodically changes so please make sure we have accurate contact information.

NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH - November is National American Indian Heritage Month (NAIHM). It is a time to learn and celebrate the history of American Indian peoples. The history of Native peoples is filled with beauty, courage, sadness and triumph. Unfortunately, the rich history of these peoples is fading quickly with the passing of each generation. Please join in with the Cultural Diversity Awareness Committee (CDAC) and the NAIHM committee in sharing American Indian history with our youth and telling the story of American Indians, so they will not be forgotten. In conjunction with the base, here are some events that will occur in the school.

- A reader will be available for the elementary students on 16 and 18 November in the PM, two readers will be available on 17 and 19 November in the AM and a reader will be available on 23 November in the AM and PM.
- An essay contest for the middle and high school with the topic: "Famous American Indians in History" or "The Contributions of American Indians to the United States" which will begin 16 November and are due 24 November. English and History teachers, could you talk this up with your students and possibly offer some credit to the ones who participate??

- Library Speaker on 24 November - Mr. Livingston

COMMUNICATIONS INTERVENTION COMMITTEE NEWS - Check out www.spellingcity.com to help your child with spelling tests—or just for spelling practice.

LOST AND FOUND - Please stop by the office and check out our lost and found box. It is overflowing with everything from backpacks to shirts and jackets.

HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING DANCE - will be on November 14, from 1800 to 2230, at the Fiddler's Green. This year's theme is Arabian Nights. If anyone would be willing to loan us throw pillows and rugs, it would be greatly appreciated. Please be sure that you have your name on the items so we can return them.

We also still need two chaperones for the dance. Any parents who are interested in volunteering may call the school at 295-57-4151.

This year we are trying something a little different by having food available at the dance, instead of having students go out to dinner before coming to the dance. Any donations of appetizers, or simple entrées, or dessert are welcome. The Student Council will provide the rest, including water or juice. As always, thank you for your support.

INTERNET SAFETY FOR PRETEENS AND TEENS - Staying connected through social networking site is an important item in the life of today's teens. This article from has good hints about how to keep your teen's and preteen's safe online. <http://lifestyle.msn.com/your-life/family-parenting/articlegh.aspx?cp-documentid=20985104>

SPEECH THERAPY WORKSHOP - "Sounds Like Fun"-Lajes ES/HS presentation. This workshop is offered to help parents support their child's speech sound development. Tuesday, December 8, 2009 from 2:30 to 3:30 in Room 108 (Speech Room). For more information or to reserve a spot (adults only please), send an email no later than December 4, 2009 to [diane.mcdaniel@ eu.dodea.edu](mailto:diane.mcdaniel@eu.dodea.edu)

DoDEA CHAT ROOM PROGRAM - The Public Affairs Office of DoDEA Headquarters is hosting a series of three Chat Room programs that will focus on the College Admissions process. The link to view the first program is <http://www.dodea.edu/pressroom/video/cfm?cld=chatrm>. The featured guest for the first program is Dr. Andrew Flagel, Dean of Admissions at George Mason University. Dr. Flagel provides invaluable tips on applying to schools and an insight into what admissions officers are looking for in the admissions process. The remaining two Chat Room programs will be accessible later in November. The featured presenter for the second Chat Room program is Holly Anderson, a specialist from the U.S. Department of Education outlining the many web resources available for student and parent use relative to career decisions to be made after high school. The third and final Chat Room Program will feature Stephanie Gross, another specialist from the U.S. Department of Education, who will focus on a "walk through" exercise in accomplishing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEARBOOK - Yearbook request forms will be sent home with your children. We will be collecting the yearbook forms and money every Friday.

THE FALCON YEARBOOK - of Lajes Middle School / High School is on sale every morning, at 0745 in the lobby. This year's book will be filled with memories, activities, academics, superlatives, and so much more to get middle and high school students "in the picture." The initial cost to reserve a book is \$45.00. However, the price will increase as the year goes on. Be one of the first to reserve your copy at the lowest price available!

SPORT'S CORNER - The Girl's Volleyball Team came back from the tournament in Germany on Sunday night. We had four match losses to Menwith Hill, Ankara, Florence, and Alconbury. Florence and Ankara were quite a surprise and ended up being a challenge. Menwith Hill and Alconbury are one of the top seeded schools in our division and we knew we would have to step it up with them. But it wasn't enough. Overall, the girls learned more about volleyball by watching the other matches and we did some shopping at the Bazaar at the Rhine Ordinance Barracks and checked out the new BX/PX Mall at Ramstein. Despite the losses, the girls still had a great time together in Germany.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CORNER - Lajes Middle School students are working on a variety of activities in their Social Studies classes. Sixth grade Ancient Civilization students are working on a cross-curricular unit in Social Studies and English. Students in seventh grade World Geography are developing a variety of resources to help raise awareness for the Darfur crisis. Eighth grade US History students are creating a colony with a charter, flag, and village design.

MATH TIPS - Parents: You can help your children learn their multiplication facts at www.multiplication.com. Click on the middle box "New!...", then click on the left box "Self Correcting Quiz." Your children can type in the answers, click "Finished" and find out which ones were missed! The site also has flashcards and more.

NURSES CORNER - We are still waiting for the H1N1 vaccine to arrive on-island - stay tuned for details. In the meantime, you can check out http://www.cdc.gov/flu/freeresources/2009-10/pdf/parents_guide_flier.pdf for some helpful flu information, provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

COUNSELOR NEWS - The 8th annual Military Career Day at Lajes E/H School is scheduled for Tuesday, November 17. This popular event, first started in school year 2002-2003, draws a lot of community attention and base-wide support. The planning for this year's Military Career Day is being coordinated by the Lajes Career Assistance Advisor. Military personnel from Lajes squadrons and worksites will setup displays and career-related information booths in the school's gymnasium, to showcase the many career fields and military occupations at Lajes. Recruiters from all branches of the military services in Europe have been invited to attend and to participate in the planned activities.

Students will assemble in the gymnasium for a "kick-off" program activity featuring a guest speaker along with key Lajes support personnel. After the assembly, middle school and high school students will have designated times in which they can browse through the many display tables, to talk with the exhibitors and in some instances to have "hands-on" experiences with the work items on display. The displays will be open during both the middle school and the high school lunch periods, allowing students to browse through all the exhibits. Juniors and seniors who wish to speak with a recruiter will be given a pass during their seminar period to do so (or be scheduled to meet after school). Parents who would like to talk with any of the visiting recruiters should contact the Lajes Career Assistance Advisor (295-57-6197) to schedule a meeting.

Military Career Day at Lajes E/H School has always been a popular and worthwhile experience for our students. Parents interested in learning more about this event and/or wanting to volunteer their services to promote Military Career Day, should contact the Lajes Career Assistance Advisor.

SAT/ACT - If parents have questions concerning any of the testing items listed below, please contact the counselor at 295-57-4228.

1. Specific information about online registration for either the SAT and/or the ACT can be obtained by contacting the counselor at 295-57-4228

Free Online ASVAB Test-Prep - Juniors and/or seniors interested in a possible career in the military can go to <http://www.military.com/ASVAB> to learn about the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB), a general

aptitude test used by all military branches for enlistment purposes. Interested students can take a series of diagnostic practice tests that will provide feedback as to areas of strengths and areas needing improvement. Interested students can also learn what kinds of scores they would need to qualify for specific career fields.

Free Talk Kit for Parents of Military Families - <http://www.timetotalk.org/military/> This free "Talk Kit" is specifically designed for military parents of "tweens & teens" providing ideas and ways to start the conversation about drugs and alcohol, scripts to help you find the right words and tips for answering tough questions and getting support from other adults around you. Also from this website, you can download an informative article, "***10 Things Military Teens Want You to Know***". Another useful download for military parents, "***Transitions & Teens: A Guide for Military Parents***" is also available from this website.

How can DoDEA students and their parents prepare for college during the high school years? Visit the **DoDEA Chat Room** at <http://dodea.edu/home/index.cfm> and view the video of Dr. Andrew Flagel, Dean of Admissions at George Mason University, explain what the characteristics and qualities colleges are looking for in student admissions today.

My College QuickStart Program - students who took the PSAT Exam earlier this month will receive a special access code to the College Board ***My College QuickStart Program*** when their PSAT score reports are received in December. Students will be able to access this program (without charge) to research virtually all aspects of their post-secondary educational planning. More information on ***My College QuickStart*** will be made available in December.