



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

September 4, 2009

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday	September 7	Federal Holiday (Labor Day) - No School
Tuesday	September 8	First Day of School for Kindergarten Students
Tuesday - Friday	September 8 - 11	Sure Start Home Visits
Wednesday	September 9	School Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting at 1500
Thursday	September 10	Open House Grades 4-5 at 1530 in rooms 148 and 150
Tuesday	September 15	First Day of School for Sure Start
Friday,	September 18	Student Dismissal at 11:15, Teacher Training

SCHOOL HOURS -

- Students in grades 6-12 will start school each morning at 0750 and will dismiss at 1430.
- Students in grades K-5 will start school each morning at 0800 and will dismiss at 1430.

KINDERGARTEN - The first day of school for Kindergarten students will be on Tuesday, September 8.

SAC MEETING - The SAC, comprised of elected parent and educator representatives, will be guiding the administrators on school procedures and policies. Your input is valued. This is a way for the Lajes Elementary/High School community to voice their opinions and make suggestions regarding school improvement. Parents we welcome your participation and currently have positions available. Please call the office to let us know if you are interested in running for a position on the SAC. The first SY meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9, at 1500 in the principal's office.

SURE START - The first day of school for Sure Start students is Tuesday, September 15.

OPEN HOUSE FOR GRADES 4-5 - Will be on Thursday, September 10. Open House will be on Thursday, September 10 at 1530 in rooms 148 and 150.

TARDIES AREN'T PERMITTED (TAP) - Lajes Elementary High School is a community of dedicated learners. All of our students are expected to demonstrate excellence in their learning. One of the expectations for students in the middle and high school grades is that students arrive in class on time and ready to learn. This maximizes their instructional time. We began issuing TAPS on 17 September. Students who are tardy will be assigned a one-hour after school detention (TAP) at 1430 on the day they are tardy. Students will call their parent to notify them of the assigned TAP.

PARENT COMMUNICATION - Communicating with your child's teacher or the school administrators is easy. The email addresses are listed at the top of the page. Teachers' email addresses are FirstName.LastName@eu.dodea.edu Please email us with any questions and/or feedback.

SHOE SAFETY REMINDER - Students must have gym shoes to participate in Physical Education. While shoe selection is a parent/student decision, shoes such as tennis shoes, shoes with heel straps, and shoes with covered toes are highly recommended. Wear safe shoes (no sandals or crocs) and appropriate clothing to P.E.

COUNSELOR NEWS - SAT/ACT - If parents have questions concerning any of the testing items listed below, please call the school counselor at 295-57-4228. You can also register on line at <http://www.collegeboard.com>

2009-2010 SAT Testing Schedule

<u>Saturday Testing Dates</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>
4 October	9 September
1 November	26 September
6 December	5 November
2 May	31 March

2009-2010 ACT Testing Schedule

25 October	19 September
13 December	7 November
4 April	27 February

SCHOOL LUNCHES - AAFES will continue to provide school lunches for students. Parents are encouraged to open lunch accounts for their children at the BX. Information regarding the lunch program can also be obtained there. AAFES will allow a student to charge a lunch if there is no money in his/her lunch account, but this should rarely happen. Please ensure your child has a sack lunch or money in their account each day.

STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK - The Student/Parent Handbook is posted on our website for your reference. <http://www.laje-ehs.eu.dodea.edu/>

STUDENT DROP-OFF POINT - Parents are to use the designated drop off point when bringing students to school. Please DO NOT drop off children on the main road. Enter through the gate and proceed as far as possible along the side of the curb before stopping to let students disembark. This will help keep the traffic moving. Please do not leave car unattended in front of the building between 0730-0830 and 1400-1445.

NURSES CORNER - As you may know flu is spread easily from person to person and school-age children are among the groups most affected. The flu season will soon be upon us and we are taking steps to prevent the spread of flu within our school. **We need your help to do this.**

Here are a few things you can do to help minimize the spread of flu within your family, our school and our community:

Teach your children to wash their hands often with soap and water.

Teach your children not to share personal items like drinks, food or unwashed utensils, and to cover their coughs and sneezes with tissues.

Know the signs and symptoms of the flu. (100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater), cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, and feeling very tired. Some people may also vomit or have diarrhea.

Don't send children to school if they are sick. Children should be fever free for 24 hours without any fever reducing medication being given before they return to school.

For more information, visit www.flu.gov for the most current information about the flu.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the school nurse at 295-57-6108.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CORNER - The Middle School daily schedule includes a Seminar period during which students may seek extra help from teachers and complete homework. What you may not know, is that once each week, often on Fridays, Seminar becomes Advisory. Middle School is a time of enormous change for young people, as they move from the protective environment of elementary school, towards greater independence and the demands of high school. During Advisory, teachers provide information and conduct discussions on topics such as time management, study skills, problem solving, community involvement, and career awareness. Students meet in large or small groups to share thoughts and ask questions. Meetings also appeal to middle schoolers' social needs, with fun activities such as team-building exercises. Advisory is a great opportunity for students to interact outside the regular academic environment, while developing important life skills.

COACHES' CORNER - Participating in sports helps keep you fit and is a fun way to socialize and meet people. The sports physical each athlete will have to take at the beginning of the sports season is important. The exam helps determine whether it's safe for the athletes to participate in particular sports. DoDEA requires that all athletes have a yearly sports physical before they can start a new sport or begin a new competitive season. Please ensure that your child has an up-to-date physical submitted to the school nurse prior to the start of the sports season.

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS have several opportunities to get involved in athletics at Lajes E/HS. Intramural Cross Country, Golf, Volleyball, and Tennis are currently being offered. Students can participate in Middle School Basketball in the Winter as well as Middle School Soccer and Intramural Softball in the Spring. Please call 295-57-4151 if you have any questions or concerns.

TENNIS - The Lajes intramural tennis team is up and swinging. The team is open to Middle and High School students attending Lajes E/HS. The team meets and practices daily from 1500 to 1700. When the weather is bad the team meets in the Coaches' classroom to learn scoring and court strategy. All team members must have a Sports Physical to participate. Due to extremely limited court space the team has been limited to 8 members. Interested students should call 295-57-6514 to ask about joining the team.

VOLLEYBALL - Volleyball is another team sport offered to females in grades 9-12. Practices will be on Monday - Friday, from 1530-1700. Hopefully, there will be two games a week. The teams we play are mostly from Praia. Our focus is to work as a team competitively, while having fun. We will be gearing up for the DoDD's European Volleyball Tournament in November. Any high school female who thinks she has the desire and dedication to play volleyball should come out to the first practice this coming Monday at 1530. Hope to see you there!

CROSS-COUNTRY - The Lajes High School Cross Country team will meet Monday through Friday at 1600 for workouts. The workouts will last approximately one hour each day and the runners will be running on base during these times. Please call 295-57-4151 if you have any questions. Hope to see you there!

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) CLASSES - AP classes are an opportunity for your child to experience the rigor of college-level study and possibly earn college credit. Research shows that students who take AP classes are more likely to gain college admission and to have a successful college experience. Courses offered this year are Calculus, Chemistry, English Language and Composition, English Literature, Spanish, and United States History. Please call 295-57-4228 for more information.