



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

December 11, 2009

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday	December 12	Drama Production at the CAC at 1830
	December 21 - January 4	Winter Recess

2009 HOLIDAY CONCERT - The Lajes E/H School Fine Arts Department will proudly present the 2009 Holiday Concert on Thursday, December 10, 2009. The concert will be held at the Auditório do Ramo Grande in downtown Praia da Victória, beginning at 1930. All musical ensembles at the school will perform. Doors will open at 1900. For further information or directions to the theater, please contact 295-57-4151.

"IMAGINE!" - The cast and crew of the Lajes High School Drama Troup will present the play John Lennon & Me. Please come to this 2009 Fall Drama Production at the Community Activity Center on Saturday, December 12, at 1830. See special invitation to the community!

MENTORS AND MENTEES PROGRAM -The Mentors and Mentees Program is available to Lajes EHS students at all grade levels. The program goals focus on educational achievement through academic, social, and emotional support. Who can be a mentor? A mentor is a caring adult who is willing to spend time helping our students excel. Mentors are sincere, committed individuals who are positive role models. For more information, call 535-4151.

BIG GIVE CLASS COMPETITION - The last day to donate to The Big Give is Friday, December 18th. Have you been a big giver yet? The Big Give is our schools chance to come together and support local families in need. It doesn't take much to help. Did you know that if every teacher and student in the school brought in just 1 can of food, we could raise over 320 pounds of food? If everyone brought 4 cans, we could raise more than 1,200 pounds of food! Please do your part to donate canned food, dry goods, pet supplies, and household goods to the Big Give. You can also donate new or used toys, clothes, and school supplies to families that need them. All donations are welcome! The class that raises the most pounds of donations by Friday, Dec. 18th will win a class pizza party. For more information please contact Mr. Smith or Mrs. Hoff.

PTO NEWS - The PTO sponsored an elementary movie night for students and their families on Fri. 4Dec. The turnout was fantastic! We sadly had to turn some away due to the theater being full. We had them come back for the Sunday showing. Since we had such a good response from this, we **hope** to have a teen movie night and another elem. movie night in the near future.

Thank you to all who helped with the event, we couldn't have done this without you. The Box Tops' Program has started!! Please check your child's backpacks for information on the contest. If you have any questions, please e-mail the lajespto@yahoo.com. A huge thank you to our box tops POC person for all her hard work, she spent many hours putting all the information together!!

NURSES CORNER – Thank you to all parents who have recently provided the school with updated immunization records. While the immunization record submitted to the school at initial registration indicated the student was current at that particular time, as time passes follow up immunizations are often required and given yet new copies of the record are not provided to the school. Any time your child receives a new immunization, please remember to provide the school with an updated copy of their record.

LYP SNACK BAR - LYP snack bar will be closed on Monday, December 14 and until further notice.

LAJES E/H SCHOOL INTERNET - The Lajes EHS internet page has been updated with a link directly to Gradespeed. This link will work for students or parents. There is now also a link to the Web Master, who can help with questions about Gradespeed as well as questions/problems with our internet. Links and information are continuously being updated on our site. Check here for the latest edition of the Falcon and the current school calendar. <http://www.laje-ehs.eu.dodea.edu/>

COMMUNICATIONS INTERVENTION COMMITTEE NEWS - Learn vocabulary and feed the world! www.freerice.com is a great site for vocabulary practice. As you answer correctly, questions get harder. As you answer incorrectly, questions get easier. For every correct answer, 10 grains of rice are donated to the UN World Food Program. New subjects on this site include art, chemistry, English grammar, foreign languages, geography, pre-algebra, and multiplication tables.

Notification of AHERA inspection (or re-inspection) -As required by the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) of 1986, our buildings have been inspected or re-inspected for asbestos containing materials (ACM). The most recent inspection was conducted on 7/10/2009 in accordance with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations and DoDEA policy. The results of the inspection indicate we have asbestos materials in our school. As required by EPA, a triennial re-inspection and six month periodic surveillance program is in effect for any asbestos materials that remain in place and their condition will be closely monitored. A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan, which includes the recommended management response action(s) for ACM, is kept in our office and is available for your review. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school at 535-4151.

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!

MIDDLE SCHOOL CORNER -The Middle School team has planned a variety of Study Trips this school year. The first trip is planned in late January and students will travel to Angra to visit the museum, gardens, and science center. Middle School students will participate in math, science, and English activities at Duck Lake in March. Finally, students will conduct a beach clean-up and nature walk towards the end of May. Detailed information and permission slips will be provided prior to the Study Trips.

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.

COUNSELOR NEWS - **Update on PSAT Exam Results** - Lajes E/H School has been notified by College Board that our students' PSAT Exams have been scored and the student scores reports have been mailed. When our school's PSAT results are received, students will receive their *Score Report Plus* form containing 2 pages of explanatory information about their PSAT scores. A copy of each student's *Score Report Plus* will be mailed home to parents along with explanatory enclosures providing additional information about their child's PSAT results. Students will have the opportunity to view the *Understanding Your PSAT Results* PowerPoint slideshow and to obtain personal *My College QuickStart* information that will allow them to go online and to use this resource program for further educational planning. More information about PSAT information will be publicized and sent to parents after the results are received.

Lajes DECA Commissary Scholarship - seniors who are dependents of a military sponsor are eligible to apply for the local Lajes DECA Commissary Scholarship. This annual scholarship is worth \$1,500. Interested seniors may pick-up a copy of the application form from the Lajes Commissary, or download the application online: <https://www.commissaries.com> or from <http://militaryscholar.org> All eligibility requirements are listed on the application form. The deadline to submit the completed application to the Lajes Commissary is close of business on February 17th.

High School Student Acceleration - in accordance with DoDEA Administrator's Manual 1005.1, the principal may authorize accelerated withdrawal for a student who must withdraw 20 or less instructional days prior to the end of a semester due to their family being reassigned. This acceleration provision applies only to students taking high school level courses for high school credit. Acceleration ensures that a student is not adversely affected by their family's reassignment occurring before the end of a completed semester. **Note:** acceleration is not permitted for personal family leave during the Winter Break and/or early return of dependents stateside in May.

To qualify for acceleration, the student's sponsor must officially notify the school of the family's reassignment and submit a copy of their PCS Orders. The school will notify teachers of the student's acceleration and each teacher will prepare an acceleration plan wherein the student will be assigned assignments that would essentially cover much of the subject content for the remainder of the semester. When the student is withdrawn within the 20 day window, he/she will receive final grades for the semester. If more information is needed concerning the DoDEA student acceleration policy or to determine if your child might qualify for acceleration, please contact the counselor at 535-4228.

DoDEA Graduation Requirements - DoDEA Regulation 2000.1 outlines the graduation requirements, specifying the number of credits to be earned in each Subject Area and the minimum 2.0 cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) needed to graduate. If you have questions concerning the credits needed and/or the 2.0 GPA requirement, please contact the counselor at 535-4228.