



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

December 4, 2009

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday	December 4	PTO Movie Night, Base Theater, 1900
Tuesday	December 8	Parent Workshop (from 1430-1530 in Room 108)
Thursday	December 10	Holiday Concert at the Auditório do Ramo Grande, 1930
Saturday	December 12	Drama Production at the CAC at 1830
	December 21 - January 4	Winter Recess

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.

PTO MOVIE NIGHT - The PTO is sponsoring a movie night at the base theater. Paid admission for elementary will include popcorn, cookie and a drink to enjoy. Parents are required to stay and pay for the featured movie "**Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs!!!**"

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!" - as John Lennon sang, and you will become part of the show!
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.

LYP SNACK BAR - LYP snack bar will be closed on Tuesday, December 1 and 8 due to Portuguese holidays. It will also be closed as of Monday, December 14 until further notice.

PARENT 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 1430-1530 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

BIG GIVE CLASS COMPETITION - Students at Lajes are collecting donations for the **20th Annual Lajes BIG GIVE**. Students are collecting new or gently used items to donate to others in need. Each elementary classroom and each grade level at the middle & high school has a collection box in their classroom. Each grade will be tracking how many pounds of donations that they can collect in order to compete to be the biggest givers at Lajes. We will be collecting food, clothing, toiletries, toys and other necessities for this drive. *-All donations are welcome* The class that collects the most pounds of donations will win a Pizza Party!!! **SPONSORED BY THE LAJES E/H SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL**

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.

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.

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>

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 - In a demonstration collegiality and cooperation, students in Lajes Middle School English classes are working on cross curricular activities in Language Arts and Reading.

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.

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.

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 Wednesday, February 17.

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 295-57-4228.

Funding Education Beyond High School - the 52 page *Guide to Federal Student Aid, 2009-2010* booklet is available for student and parent use. If you would like to have a free copy, just come by the School Office and ask the school counselor for your copy. This publication is a useful resource to identify the many different sources of federal and public student aid programs.