



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

January 15, 2010

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday	January 18	Martin Luther King Day (Federal Holiday)
Tuesday	January 19-20	Dr. Carmen Arroyo, Assistant Superintendent Mediterranean District will visit our school
Wednesday	January 20	Parent Forum at 1630, Ms Waller's Office
Thursday	January 21	GBB v Boa Viagem at 1830, HS Gym BBB v Angra Basket at 2000, HS Gym
Monday	January 25	GBB v TAC at 1900, HS Gym BBB v Viterinos at 2030, HS Gym
	January 25-28	Middle and High School Semester Exams
Tuesday	January 26	PTO Meeting at 1500 "Sounds Like Fun" Presentation at 1445, in Room 108
Thursday	January 28	GBB v Boa Viagem at 1830, HS Gym BBB v Angra Basket at 2000, HS Gym
Friday	January 29	No School for Students (Teacher Work Day)

COACHES CORNER - You may now access the most up-to-date Varsity sport schedule at the Lajes Elementary High School website. Select the Activities/Clubs tab on the left and then click the link to the Sports Schedule - January and February. <http://www.laje-ehs.eu.dodea.edu/> Due to scheduling issues with local basketball teams there have been numerous changes to the Varsity sports schedule. We sincerely apologize for any inconveniences these changes may have caused.

PTO NEWS - The next PTO meeting will be on Tuesday, January 26, at 1500, in the library.

YOUTH CENTER NEWS - LYP Basketball/Cheerleading registrations are happening at the CAC until January 25. Teen Paintball Day Out Social, January 23 from 0900 to 1300. Signups and payments are at the Community Center (bldg T-307). Payments must be received by Tuesday, January 19.

PARENT FORUM - Parent Forums are held monthly. These forums are a way to develop our communication and partnership with the parents, and community. The January Parent Forum will take place on Wednesday, January 20 at 1630. Our District Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Carmen Arroyo, will be visiting our school. This forum will allow our community an opportunity to meet Dr. Arroyo, ask questions, express concerns, or give suggestions for our school community. In February, we will be conducting another new parent orientation for all of our new parents. Be looking forward to our March Forum where parents and teachers will come together to learn more about autism. Dates and more information will be forthcoming.

MENTORING PROGRAM - The M & M's Mentoring Program is back again. All Lajes students are eligible to enroll. This wonderful and effective program will provide your son/daughter with a volunteer mentor. Middle School students can benefit greatly from participation in this program. Our mentors are willing to provide academic, social, and emotional support to our student. This program takes place in the school's Information Center, on Thursdays from 1430 until 1530, each week. Please contact the Mentoring coordinator at 295-57-4151 for additional information.

NO SCHOOL - There will be no school for students on Friday, January 29, due to a teacher workday.

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.

"SCIENCE MATTERS" - a program by the National Science Teachers' Association, is an internet site dedicated to promoting science education at home. "Tips for busy parents" lists easy, concrete ways that parents can encourage science learning. Check out the link: <http://www.nsta.org/sciencematters/tips.aspx>
Here is an example from the website.

Myth #3: I'm not a scientist and don't know enough about science to help my kids.

You do not have to be a scientist to help your children learn science. The majority of parents in this country are not scientists, but it doesn't mean they can't help their children learn science. Questions like Why is the sky blue? Why does ice float? Or how does a Frisbee soar through the air? are just a few examples of science questions you can explore with your children. The most important starting point is to ask: "Why?"

LIBRARY MOMENT - Hello Parents, Take a deep breath, let the troubles of the day go, and enjoy some reading time with your youngsters. Young children especially enjoy having you to themselves - it calms them, and you may also find devoting your full attention to this simple act is calming for you as well:) Enjoy!

LAJES ES/HS PRESENTATION - "Sounds Like Fun 2"- This workshop is offered to help parents support their child's speech sound development and is a follow-up to the first session. However, you are welcome to enroll even if you did not attend the first workshop. It will be held on Tuesday, January 26, from 1445 to 1545 in Room 108 (Speech Room)

For more information or to reserve a spot (adults only, please), please call the Speech Pathologist at 295-57-4151 no later than January 22.

NURSE'S NOTES - I try to keep spare changes of clothing for our younger students (K-2nd grade) who may slip in a puddle, experience "exploding" ketchup packets at lunch, or not make it to the restroom in time. Over the past few months clothing has been borrowed for such emergencies yet not returned after being laundered. If your child needs to borrow clothing, please return it as soon as possible after laundry day. As you are cleaning out children's closets,

know I welcome clothing that fit these needs, especially in sizes 5 to 8. Sweatpants are gender-generic and easily span several sizes. Pants and underwear are borrowed the most often, shirts and socks occasionally.

COUNSELOR NEWS -

DEPLOYMENT - If you or your spouse will be deploying, please call the ES and/or HS counselors at 295-57-4228. We want to provide extra support to all of the children of our deployed service members. These service members are indeed heroes and we want to do everything possible to support their children.

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 17.

Air Force Excellence Scholarship - The Air Force Association is currently accepting applications for the 2010 AF Excellence Scholarship. Applications must be received no later than April 30 2010. Go to <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/afexcel.asp> to learn more about this scholarship.

The Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) Resource Center - The Military Child Education Coalition website contains a wealth of resources for military families. MCEC provides information to parents who are PCSing back to the states. The "Checklist for Transferring Students", go to <http://www.militarychild.org/military-parent/checklist-for-transferring-students/> To find specific information about schools and educational resources in a specific state, go to <http://www.militarychild.org/education-resourcecenter/> where you can select any of the 50 states to locate schools and educational resources applicable to that state.

2.0 GPA Requirement for Students Baggers - One important requirement for students (14 years of age or older) who would like to bag groceries at the commissary is that they must maintain a 2.0 grade point average (GPA). Parents can monitor their child's grades via the online GradeSpeed program. Students can also monitor their grades online by using their assigned GradeSpeed account. If parents or students need information as to how they can access GradeSpeed to monitor grades, please contact the counselor at 295-57-4228.