



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

January 29, 2010

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday	February 1	GBB v TAC at 1900, HS Gym BBB v OSS at 2030, HS Gym
Thursday	February 4	Job Shadow Day at 0900 - 1030 GBB V Boa Viagem, at 1830, HS Gym BBB v Angra Basket, at 2000, HS Gym
Friday	February 5	Elementary Parent Conferences Portuguese Student Shadow Day at 1000
Monday	February 8	No School for Students (CSI Day)
Tuesday	February 9	Odyssey of the Mind Night at 1830 in the Multi-Purpose Room
Friday	February 12	Valentine Dance at Fiddler's Green, at 1900-2200
Monday	February 15	President's Day (Federal Holiday)

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.

DOD TUTOR - All U.S. military families have unlimited access to Tutor.com provided by the Department of Defense. Military service members and their dependents around the world can work with a certified, professional tutor online 24/7 to get help with homework, studying, test prep, resume writing and more. For more information, please visit <http://www.tutor.com/military-programs>

PTO NEWS - Elementary Year book sales are still only \$13. Prices will go up soon so please get your order in soon. School Staff and parent volunteers for the upcoming spring carnival are needed. Please call 295-549-232 or e-mail lajespto@yahoo.com to sign up.

2010 HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARBOOK -If you have fun pictures of things you have done with your families and/or friends—outside of school—we would like to put some of them in the 2010 High School / Middle School Yearbook. We are dedicating a few pages to what goes on "Outside these Walls." Beach parties from summer, outings you have taken around the island, vacations you have been on away from here, other things that keep you busy while you are in the Azores. These pictures should feature middle and high school students and should be 2009 or 2010 vintage. You may send or bring the photos or digital files to me by hand or via email - neata.wiley@eu.dodea.edu. Help us make the 2010 Falcon Yearbook a real memory for you. ALSO if you haven't ordered your yearbook, be sure to reserve one for \$45.00. The cost will be \$50.00 when they come in May.

CSI COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE - As part of our CRI, or Continuous School Improvement plan, we have the goal of improved reading comprehension across the curriculum. So the next time you travel any distance by car on vacation, why not listen to Books on Tape? These can be purchased as CDs or downloaded onto your iPod or MP3 player. Children can comprehend at a higher level when they listen to a book rather than read it, so it is a good way to not only pass the time but also introduce more difficult classics such as Robinson Crusoe or Alice in Wonderland. Listening to Books of Tape has the added advantage of being a fun, shared, family activity.

ODYSSEY OF THE MIND - Odyssey of the Mind teams will be performing on February 9 in the multi-purpose room. The performance will begin at 1830. Come on out and see the shows! More information to come.

CONTINUOUS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT DAY (CSI) - On February 8th, teachers will discuss interventions and make revisions on our CSI plan to best meet the needs of our students. It is this process that makes our school continue to grow and improve.

JOB SHADOW DAY - High School students at Lajes E/H School have been invited to participate in a Job Shadow Day on base on Thursday, February 4. Permission slips containing detailed information and a student's choices form have been emailed to parents. Permission slips and student's choices forms must be returned to us no later than Wednesday, January 27 so that we can match students up with sponsors. Forms can be turned in to the school's main office or returned via email to: LajesEHS.Principal@eu.dodea.edu. Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at 295-57-3357/4151.

PORTUGUESE STUDENT SHADOW DAY - On the 5th of February, Lajes Elementary High School will be the host for the School of Biscoitos 9th grade classes. About 41 students are coming to school for a Student Shadow Day. Portuguese students will be shadowing the American students for the school day, going to classes with them and interacting with them during their activities. Four Teachers will come with them also and the teachers will shadow the American teachers. The Portuguese and Americans will share experiences and knowledge. This activity will not only complete our curriculum activities but at the same time help to establish cordial relations.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CORNER - To facilitate parents' busy schedules, the Middle School teachers cordially invite parents to meet with them during Middle School Team Time Monday through Friday between 1055 and 1125. You may meet with one teacher or all, to discuss specific concerns or just check on your child's progress. Feel free to bring your lunch! Please contact Middle School Coordinator or any one of your child's teachers to schedule your meeting at 295-57-4151.

VALENTINE GRAMS (PRE-K TO 12 GRADE) - Would you like to send a special message to your son or daughter this Valentine's Day? Would you like them to have a little treat to brighten their day? Do you want them to know you care enough to send the very best? Then send them a Valentine Gram! The Sophomore class is sponsoring

Valentine's Grams for Lajes school. For the low, low cost of one for \$1.25 or two for \$2, you can send a message with a candy treat attached to family and loved ones. Parents are invited to send one to children. Students may want to say "thanks" to a teacher, friend or family member. You may just want to let someone know you appreciate them. All proceeds go to the sophomore class.

Valentine Grams will be sold during lunch and during basketball games, or send your money and message in an envelope to the school in care of room 306. Don't miss this easy opportunity to let them know you care! Delivery will take place on Friday, February 12.

VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE - Volunteers needed. Adult chaperones are needed at the high school St. Valentine's Day Dance. Come out and impress the teens of Lajes High School with your dance moves! They'll love it! You can volunteer to chaperone the whole dance, Friday, February 12, from 1900-2200, at Fiddler's Green, or just work a one hour shift. Either way, Lajes is counting on you, and you wouldn't want to miss this opportunity to get a glimpse into the lives of teenagers! Just think of all the glamour and excitement, call 295-57-6498 for a shift.

PARENT FORUM - Parent Forums are held monthly. These forums are a way to develop our communication and partnership with the parents, and 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.

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?"

COUNSELOR NEWS -

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 (worth \$3,000) <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/afexcel.asp> download the 4-page .pdf application from <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/afexcel.pdf>

Lt. Col Romeo & Josephine Bass Ferretti Scholarship (worth \$2,500) download application from this website <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/ferretti.asp>

ACT & SAT Exams - The last ACT Exam will be administered on April 10 (deadline to register online <http://www.actstudent.org> is **March 5**). The last SAT Exam will be administered on May 1 (deadline to register online <http://collegeboard.com/sat-register> is **March 25**). Applicants for the ACT can save the \$26 International fee by obtaining the ACT voucher form from their counselor. Students or parents needing assistance with the online registration can contact the counselor at 295-57-4228.

Career Explorer - <http://www.careerexplorer.net/> This website provides a great tool for students and/or parents to learn about careers and to search for information about educational programs within various career fields. This site provides an online *Career Aptitude Test* that will provide the user with feedback as to potential careers and occupations to research further. Career Explorer will also help the user search for the colleges, universities or vocational schools offering the programs the user is interested in. Other free online assessments include a *Job Diagnosis* program to assess one's skills, interests and abilities to identify the career(s) suitable for the individual taking the assessment.

Parent GradeSpeed Accounts - GradeSpeed is the online grading program used in all schools in DoDDS (4th through 12th grade). Parents can create an online GradeSpeed account and have access to view their child's current grades. If you have not created your Parent GradeSpeed Account yet, please contact the counselor at 295-57-4228 to receive the information needed to create the account.