



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

January 8, 2010

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday	January 13	School Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting at 1500 Basketball (Boys) - Lajes v Viterinos at 1900 HS Gym
Thursday	January 14	Basketball (Girls) - Lajes v Boa Viagem at 1820 HS Gym Basketball (Boys) - Lajes v Angra at 2000 HS Gym
Friday	January 15	Martin Luther King Walk - 0730 at the Community Center Early Release for Students at 1115 (Teacher Training Day) Movie Night at 1615 in the Base Theater
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
Monday	January 25-28	Middle and High School Exams
Tuesday	January 26	PTO Meeting at 1500
Friday	January 29	No School for Students (Teacher Work Day)

SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC) MEETING - Will be held on Wednesday, January 13, in room 302A (principal's office). Please feel free to attend to share your ideas and concerns.

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/>

PTO NEWS - Middle and High School movie night will be on Friday January 15, at 1615, in the base theater. The movie is New Moon (the 2nd of Twilight). Admission is half price and a kid's popcorn is included.

T-Shirt and sweatshirt sales will begin on Monday, January 12, in room 123 from 1100-1300. Sales will be all week from 1415-1445, but Mon only at 1100-1300 sales. The new color is navy with a yellow and white logo. Prices will be coming soon!

Thank you to all the elementary students and parents for turning in the Box Tops. The top 3 classes that won a surprise party will be announced and we'll send out information when we schedule the party!

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

EARLY RELEASE - Students will be released early on Friday, January 15 at 1115, for a teacher training day.

PARENT FORUM - Our District Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Carmen Arroyo, will be visiting our school. A Parent Forum will take place on Wednesday, January 20 at 1630 This will allow our community an opportunity to meet Dr. Arroyo, ask questions, express concerns, or give suggestions for our school community.

DRAMA CLASS - The High School Drama class was privileged to share puppets that they had created with 4 classes from the elementary wing on December 16, 2010. Grades K-4 classes came to the library to see a new take on some old and new fairy tales. The drama teacher and three of her drama students, and Information Specialist were happy to entertain these attentive students.

Look for other "productions" from the Drama class as the spring approaches.

MARTIN LUTHER KING WALK - Will take place on January 15, at 0730, from the Community Center to the TORC. Some of our Lajes M/H students will participate in the walk.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CORNER - Middle schoolers discussed plagiarism in our advisory program this week. Middle School teachers have had several concerns over students misusing resources and presenting it as their own work. Plagiarism is the act of presenting the words, ideas, images, sounds, or the creative expression of others as your own. Our hope is that after this presentation students will be better informed of teacher expectations and be aware of the consequences of plagiarism. Please help us by encouraging students to use resources in an appropriate manner by reinforcing teacher expectations and supporting academic integrity.

MENTORING PROGRAM - The Lajes Mentoring Program is up and running. This enrichment program will take place once a week and is offered to all Lajes students from Kindergarten to 12th grade. For more information, please call 535-4151.

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

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/>

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 - My College QuickStart Program - students who took the PSAT Exam last October received a special access code to the College Board *My College QuickStart Program*. Students with access to this program are able to research virtually all aspects of their post-secondary educational planning. Students must first create their College Board login account using the access code before they can access the *My College QuickStart* program. The program can be accessed via any internet connection, so students and their parents can use this program at home. If you have questions concerning this program and/or need assistance to create the student account, please contact the counselor at 295-57-4228.

Free Online ASVAB Test-Prep - Juniors and/or seniors interested in a possible career in the military can go to <http://www.military.com/ASVAB> to learn about the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB), a general aptitude test used by all military branches for enlistment purposes. Interested students can take a series of diagnostic practice tests that will provide feedback as to areas of strengths and areas needing improvement. Interested students can also learn what kinds of scores they would need to qualify for specific career fields. The second ASVAB Exam will be administered to interested juniors or seniors in early April.

Free Talk Kit for Parents of Military Families - <http://www.timetotalk.org/military/> This free "Talk Kit" is specifically designed for military parents of "tweens & teens" providing ideas and ways to start the conversation about drugs and alcohol, scripts to help you find the right words and tips for answering tough questions and getting support from other adults around you. Also from this website, you can download an informative article, "**10 Things Military Teens Want You to Know**". Another useful download for military parents, "**Transitions & Teens: A Guide for Military Parents**" is also available from this website.

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.

STUDENT-2-STUDENT PROGRAM AT LAJES HELPING PCSING STUDENTS: If your family will be PCSing during the school year, and you would like to have your child communicate with another student and/or counselor from the school they will be going to, please contact the middle and high school counselor, at 295-57-4228. An important facet of the Student-2-Student program is to assist student transitioning in and out of DoDDS schools. Learning about one's new school before leaving Lajes would lessen the student's anxiety about moving and going to a new school.

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.

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.