



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

March 19, 2010

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

	March 1-31	March is Music in our Schools Month
	March 1-April 5	Lajes Youth Program (LYP) Baseball Season Registration Ages 3-18 years.
Saturday	March 20	Lajes Youth Program (LYP) Preteen Picnic at Monte Brazil Playground 4-7 pm. No Fee!
Monday	March 22	"Can I Kiss You" Presentation, 1045 Community Activity Center (CAC), Grades 9-12 only.
Monday	March 22	"Can I Kiss You" Parent Presentation, 1530 at the CAC
Monday	March 22	Arbor Day Celebration, base grounds from 1330-1500.
Monday	March 22	Educational and Developmental Intervention Services (EDIS) Sure Start Presentations, 1700 in HS Multi Purpose Room
Wednesday	March 24	Educational and Developmental Intervention Services (EDIS) Parent Presentations, 1700 in Information Center
Friday	March 26	Military Parents' Picture Day (in uniform with child) for Elementary Yearbook at 2:30-4:00, ES front hall
Tuesday	March 30	PTO Meeting, MPR at 3:00

REMINDER!! - Parents, please remember to call in by 1000 if your child will be absent or tardy.

THE EDUCATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL INTERVENTION SERVICES (EDIS) - The EDIS team from Lakenheath will give a presentation on parenting tips and skills on Monday, March 22 from 1700-1800 in the school cafeteria. The focus will be on preschool and early elementary ages (Childcare services will be provided in the Sure Start classroom). Also, Wednesday, March 24 from 1700-1800 there will be an open forum/question and answer session. The team will be open to discussing a variety of parent concerns, including social skill development, behavior strategies, and autism spectrum disorders in the information center. Please feel free to contact the local EDIS team with further questions at 535-3194 or via email at jill.bowman.ctr@lajes.af.mil.

CAN I KISS YOU? - USAFE along with the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), the School Liaison Officer (SLO) and Department of Defense Dependent Schools-Europe invite you and your dependent to participate in "Can I Kiss You?" Several books including *Help! My Teen is Dating* and *May I Kiss You* will be facilitated by the author. The founder and executive director of The Date Safe Project is located at <http://www.thedatesafeproject.org/index.html>. The project is committed to being the nation's leading organization for creating healthier dating environments, a clearer understanding of "consent," and for raising awareness of the many issues surrounding sexual assault.

The forum will address communication, dating, and sometimes the violence that comes with relationships. The intent is to help your student get more comfortable with these topics and develop skills for making the right choices.

"*Can I Kiss You*" will be presented on **March 22 at 1045 to students in grades 9-12.**

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION - This year Arbor Day will be celebrated on Monday, March 22. Lajes E/H School in conjunction with a local Portuguese school will take part in a tree and bush planting activity on base grounds. This is an activity that we do in partnership with the base environmental engineering. This study trip will involve the third, fourth, and fifth graders. Students will leave the school at about 1:30 and return to school at about 3:00.

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 fewer instructional days prior to the end of a semester grading period due to the family being reassigned. This acceleration provision applies only to students taking high school level courses for high school credit. Acceleration ensures that students are not adversely affected by their family's reassignment 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 the 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 given assignments that essentially cover 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.

TerraNova TESTING - This annual test is administered to students in all DoDDS schools and in many stateside schools. Parents will receive a *Home Report* copy of their child's test results in May (along with explanatory information concerning their child's achievement).

COACHES CORNER - Lajes High School/ Middle School softball is an intramural co-ed team which will begin this spring season with a meeting on Monday, March 22 after school at 2:45. The coaches are Coach Hood and Coach Sorrell. The meeting will take place in Coach Hood's room. Our goal is to play hard as a team while having fun. The first practice will be Tuesday at 3:00 on the LYP field. We hope to see you all out there!

MILITARY PARENTS' PICTURE DAY - A page will be dedicated in this year's elementary yearbook to military parents. Military parents (in uniform) and children are invited to take a picture for the elementary yearbook on March 26 from 1430-1600 in the elementary front hall. If you are unable to come on Friday afternoon, please come any day next week during lunch at 1200-1300 or after school on Monday or Tuesday from 1430- 1500. Check in the office and someone will take your picture.

JUNIOR CLASS -The Junior class is working hard to make this year's Prom a night to remember. The Junior/Senior Prom will be May 29 at the golf course. It is open to all high schoolers. Ticket sales and prices will be announced next month.

PTO NEWS - Scholastic is now on-line. No need to wait for a flyer. Go to www.scholastic.com/parentordering. User Name: lajesamericanschools. Password: falcons. Please remember to use your child's first name and the teacher's last name for easier distribution. The next close out date is March 30th.

Also, the March PTO meeting will be March 30 at 3:00 pm in the cafeteria. We'll be discussing the upcoming SCHOOL CARNIVAL and other school activities that are coming up. Popcorn is still being offered for elementary students who haven't signed up for it yet. Spirit Wear is still available!! We have youth or adult long and short sleeve t-shirts and hoodies, polos, and crew neck sweatshirts. Stop by the front office with any questions. Elementary yearbook preorder sales will be done the end of March. Prices will go up the beginning of April!

TECHNOLOGY NOTES - Tech Warning

Now is the time to double-check the filters on your web browser, reset your parental controls, and monitor your child's surfing habits.

A new web site is emerging as the hottest new chat site around. This site, called 'chatroulette,' allows users across the world to have an online video feed chat with a randomly selected person. You just connect your web cam, log into the site, and hit connect. You don't even have to log in. While at first glance this might seem a fun way to meet people and chat across country lines, there is a darker side to this site. There is no age monitoring nor restrictions placed on who can chat. As you click on 'next' to move to the next person to chat, you never know if you are going to chat with a very interesting person or see some disturbing live video feed.

To read more about 'chatroulette' see the NPR article located at:
<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=124210394>

For more information about keeping your child safe on the internet, visit <http://www.wiredsafety.org/>.

CSI COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE - One of our CSI goals is that "all students will improve their problem-solving skills across the curriculum." One way to solve a problem is to use **P.A.R. or Plan, Act, Review**. Try this at home the next time you have a family "problem," such as the best way to clean out the garage or where to go on vacation. Making your children actively aware of the problem-solving process--whether they are participating or watching you model the process--will help them become better problem-solvers themselves.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CORNER – Friday, March 19, the middle school celebrated the Sixth Annual Potato Day. Students, led by the Lajes Middle School Student Council, brought all the ingredients for a wonderful potato feast. This activity coincided with the completion of the Terra Nova testing week. Students were recognized for their hard work and were treated to a presentation of music and a history of St. Patrick's Day and the Irish potato famine. Over the past few weeks, the Middle School team developed and presented a variety of activities to support the upcoming TerraNova test. Middle Schoolers participated in an Advisory activity on Friday, March 12, dealing with test anxiety and stress management.

LAJES YOUTH PROGRAM (LYP) - The Lajes Youth Program is offering different activities for students. These include:

- A Preteen Picnic (bring a sack lunch) at Monte Brazil Playground 1600-1900 on 20 March
- Youth Baseball Season Registration, 1 March -5 April, ages 3-18.

The baseball season runs 24 April - 12 June. Pick up registration packets at the Community Center. For more information contact the Youth Center at 535-4135.

COUNSELOR NEWS -

Spring SAT Exams - The SAT Exam will be administered on **May 1st** (deadline to register online <http://collegeboard.com/sat-register> is **March 25th**). Students or parents needing assistance with the required online registration can contact the counselor at 535-4228. The applicants' APO address in their online registration procedure will exempt them from the \$25 International Processing fee.

Student Seminar & Lajes' Goal of "Highest Student Achievement" - All students in the middle and high school are assigned to a 35-minute seminar class meeting each day from 1355 - 1430. Students are assigned to a specific teacher based on their grades at the quarter and mid-quarter marking periods. The design and purpose of the seminar is to place students in the classes where they are receiving their lowest grades. This arrangement provides students with additional help to raise their grades. Students do not receive grades for their seminars. Seminar students are allowed to "travel" to other seminar teachers' classes when they need help there. If you have questions about how the seminar classes are used in the middle and high school, please contact the counselor at 535-4228.