



# FALCON PRIDE

## LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

March 26, 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 27	Youth Center Teen Bowling Social March 27, 1800-2100, 7-12 graders
Saturday	March 27-April 2	Honors Music Festival
Tuesday	March 30	PTO Meeting, MPR at 1500
Saturday	April 3-7	Junior Science and Humanities Symposium
Thursday	April 8	End of Third Quarter
Friday	April 9	Teacher Workday, no school for students
Monday	April 12-16	Spring Recess, no school for students

**REMINDERS** - We are required to be accountable for every child in our school at all times. The school needs the following requirements from our parents who are going TDY or are deploying and having their child/children staying with someone other than a parent:

- a copy of the Loco Parentis Power of Attorney
- the name of the guardian and their current phone numbers

- up-to-date emergency contact information

First Sergeants have a check list for anyone going TDY so there is no confusion as to what procedures need to be done so that the school is notified. Parents can find DODDS policies in the Student Parent Handbook on the school website <http://www.laje-ehs.eu.dodea.edu>. We thank you for your help and support.

Also, parents, please remember to call in by 1000 if your child will be absent or tardy.

**HONORS MUSIC FESTIVAL** - Three Lajes students have been selected to participate in the 2010 Honors Music Festival in Germany. The Honors Music Festival is a five-day musical collaboration involving the best 60 high school instrumentalists and 80 vocalists selected from across Europe. This is the most musicians ever selected from our school. Congratulations again to those students!

**PTO NEWS** - The PTO will be having their board meeting on 30Mar @1500 in the cafeteria; we are still looking for 2010-11 board members to take over. We will be discussing the upcoming School Carnival that will be held at the school on 7May from 1730-1930. Many more volunteers are needed to make the Carnival happen. Please contact the [lajespto@yahoo.com](mailto:lajespto@yahoo.com) and volunteer to help with the carnival.

**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 10:55 and 11:25. 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 any of your teachers or the Middle School Coordinator at 535-4151 to schedule your meeting.

**CSI COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE** - One of our CSI (Continuous School Improvement) goals is to improve reading comprehension across the curriculum. A better vocabulary means better reading comprehension, so why not discuss word roots at the dinner table tonight? One example that can be used from kindergarten to high school is the root **tele**, which means distance. So **television** allows us to see from a distance and the **telephone** lets us hear from a distance. A quick look in the dictionary will give you a plethora of **tele** words, from **telegram** to **telesthesia** to **telemetry**.

**JUNIOR SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES SYMPOSIUM** - The Junior Science and Humanities Symposium for the DoDDS European Region will be held in Riedstadt, Germany April 4-7. Three Lajes students have been invited to present their original scientific research at this year's event. Please congratulate them!

**THIRD QUARTER ENDS** - Third quarter ends on Thursday, April 8. Parents, please ensure that your student makes up any missed assignments prior to this date. Students will not attend school on April 9 as this is a Teacher Workday.

**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.

**COACHES CORNER** - Lajes High School/ Middle School softball is an intramural co-ed team which began this spring season with a meeting on Monday, March 22. There are two coaches this season. Their goal is to play hard as a team while having fun. The first practice was Tuesday at 3:00 on the LYP field. We hope to see you all out there!

**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.

### **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/>.

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

- We have an event this Saturday for the Youth Center Teen Bowling Social March 27 6-9 pm, 7-12 graders. Meeting LYP Bld. T-240. Must sign up ahead of time. FREE EVENT!!
- 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 -**

**Lajes Community Scholarship Program** - graduating seniors will be eligible to participate in this year's Lajes Scholarship Program. Historically, many Lajes organizations have generously provided scholarships for our college bound seniors. Community members interested in learning more about the Lajes Community Scholarship Program and the participating Lajes Organizations, please contact the counselor at 535-4228.

**ASVAB Exam** - the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery will be administered to interested 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders on Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup> (last day of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, students will not be in attendance that day). Parents wanting their son or daughter to take the ASVAB exam should contact the counselor (535-4228) and request their child be scheduled for the exam. If more information is needed about ASVAB testing, please contact the counselor.

**Spring SAT Exams** - The SAT Exam will be administered on **May 1<sup>st</sup>** (deadline to register online <http://collegeboard.com/sat-register> is **March 25<sup>th</sup>**). 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.