



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

29 August 2008

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday	September 1	Federal Holiday (Labor Day) - no school
Tuesday	September 2	First day of school for Kindergarten
Tuesday - Friday	September 2 - 5	Sure Start Home Visits
Wednesday	September 3	Grades 6-8 Open House, beginning at 1520
Thursday	September 4	Grades 9-12 Open House, beginning at 1520
Thursday	September 11	First day of school for Sure Start
Friday	September 19	Students Dismiss at 1115 am - Teacher Training Day

START OF SCHOOL DAY - For students in grades 6-12, the entry bell rings at 0745 and their first class starts at 0750 and ends at 1435. Students in grades 1-5 (unless they ride the school bus) should not arrive on campus prior to 0745 since there is no supervision prior to that time. **Elementary students begin at 0800** and end at 1435. Elementary students will wait in the courtyard of the elementary school wing in the morning.

SURE START CLASS - Sure Start enrollment will be finalized during the week of September 1st. Parents will be notified by the end of that week. Remember that Sure Start classes start on Sept 11.

OPEN HOUSE - We look forward to seeing you on September 3rd and/or 4th so that you can meet your child's teacher, and go through a shortened version of their day. Teachers will share their curricular focus with you and familiarize you with their expectations, policies and procedures. **

****Parents visiting during Open House can stop by the office to update their data (e.g., emergency contacts, home/duty phone numbers if changed, provide cell phone numbers or e-mail addresses, etc)?**

SCHOOL WEBSITE - You can view our school's new website at the following address: <http://www.laje-ehs.eu.dodea.edu>
Please check it regularly for all of the school menus, current news, and information regarding our school.

TAP-TARDIES AREN'T PERMITTED - Lajes Elementary High School is a community of dedicated learners. All of our students are expected to demonstrate excellence in their learning. One of the expectations for students in the middle and high school grades is that students arrive in class on time ready to learn. This maximizes their instructional time. We will begin issuing TAPs on September 2. Students who are tardy will be assigned a one-hour after school detention (TAP) at 1440 on the day they are tardy. Students will call parent to notify them of assigned TAP.

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS - Shoe Safety Reminder... Students must have gym shoes to participate in Physical Education. While shoe selection is a parent/student decision, shoes such as tennis shoes, shoes with heel straps, and shoes with covered toes are highly recommended. **Wear safe shoes (no sandals or crocs) and appropriate clothing to P.E.**

SCHOOL-HOME-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS - Our school will continue to focus on excellence and ensure that every student is successful. We are looking forward to our continuing partnerships with parents and the military community in support of our children. Reading is the key to school and personal success. We at our school encourage reading by asking everyone to adopt reading as a Read-a-thon routine. Teachers send home reading tally forms on a weekly basis that are to be filled out every day by the parents or the students. At the end of the week or on the first day of the week, these tally forms are turned in signed by the parent. The total minutes are then sent in for a school wide score. The higher the reading minutes for the whole school, the better are we all on our reading targets. Please get on the Read-a-thon mode. Everyone read, parents, big sisters, big brothers, uncles, aunts, and grandparents. Just don't forget to sign the reading tally and send it in to your child's teacher.

Freerice.com is another one of our school's focus for this year. We are trying to improve our vocabulary. By participating in the freerice.com project, we are not only picking up vocabulary, but contributing with donations of rice for the poor people around the world. Visit freerice.com and improve your vocabulary.

COUNSELOR NEWS - SAT/ACT-- If parents have questions concerning any of the testing items listed below, please call Mr. Gronke at 535-4228

1. The SAT I Exam will be administered on Saturday, Oct 4th. Students need to register online by September 9th.
2. The ACT Exam will be administered on Saturday, Oct 25th. Students need to register online by Sept 19th and to pick-up the \$25 Waiver form from Mr. Gronke
3. All DoDDS 10th & 11th graders will take the PSAT Exam on Wednesday, October 15th

- The ASVAB Exam is scheduled for Oct 31st Interested juniors or seniors should contact Mr. Gronke

ADD/DROP CLASS: If you would like to add or drop a class, a written request from parents is required prior to September 5th.

YEARBOOK SAVINGS - Save money by pre-ordering your 08-09 middle/high school yearbook. By purchasing in advance, you can lock in the special rock-bottom price of \$45. Your child can bring a check made out to "Lajes High School" to Ms. Evans in room 130. The price will increase, so reserve your copy today!

AVID INFORMATION - What is AVID? AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. The AVID elective provides academic and organizational support for continued success in rigorous classes. The ultimate goal of the program is for AVID students to successfully attend four-year universities. AVID at Lajes ES/HS is bigger and better than ever. This year, 29 students and 3 student tutors are participating in the AVID program. The AVID induction ceremony for school year 2008/2009 will take place on September 17th.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CORNER:

The middle school teachers would like to extend a warm welcome to all students and parents. We have had a wonderful first week and look forward to an exciting and successful school year. Within your child's binder you should find their student planner which is used as an organizational tool to record all upcoming assignments, projects, and tests. One of the best ways to ensure student success is to review this planner with your child on a regular basis. We would also appreciate your help in ensuring that all of your child's textbooks are wrapped in a book cover by Friday, September 5.

LEARN ABOUT READ 180. --"READ 180 is an intensive reading intervention program that helps educators confront the problem of adolescent illiteracy and special needs reading on multiple fronts, using technology, print, and professional development. READ 180 is proven to meet the needs of struggling readers whose reading achievement is below proficient level. The program directly addresses individual needs through differentiated instruction, adaptive and instructional software, high-interest literature, and direct instruction in reading, writing, and vocabulary skills." (Taken from <http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/read180/overview/>)

To learn more and to see about the computer components of READ 180 log on to:

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/read180/overview/tour.htm>

Interested in how READ 180 works at Lajes. Please contact our READ 180 instructor, Dr. Jo Brei-Crawley

INFORMATION CENTER NEWS - The Lajes School Information Center (library) is currently working on giving library orientation to all students 1-5, through their homerooms, and 6-12 through their language arts classes. SS and kindergarten will also have library orientation after they start school. Reading is one of the best activities one can do for himself - visit other worlds, share ideas, learn new skills. The IC has more than 28000 titles to choose from. Last year, the school IC checked out about 300 items a week. If you are interested in learning about how libraries function, learning library assistant skills, like libraries and students, volunteer by contacting Christine Deisher Cabral ext 6858. Although you will not be paid a salary, you can gain work experience that will be part of your resume when you apply for a job. Christine Deisher Cabral, IS (information specialist - librarian), Lajes E/H School.

PARENT COMMUNICATION - Communicating with your child's teacher or the school administrators is easy. The email addresses are listed at the top of the page. Teachers email addresses are FirstName.LastName@eu.dodea.edu. Please email us with any questions and/or any feedback.

MS/HS BINDERS - Middle and high school students are required to have a binder. Supply lists indicate that a four-inch binder is required. Due to availability, two or three inch binders are acceptable.

PTO PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION - "We support our kids & we support our teachers" If you are interested in a board position or would like to volunteer please e-mail Lajespto@yahoo.com. First meeting in September.

SPORTS NIGHT --For more information contact Carter Hoff at 535-1100. Come join us for Sports Night at Lajes E/HS, Thursday, September 4th at 1730. All parents and students planning to participate in *any* high school varsity or intramural sport this year should attend. The event will be held in the school cafeteria, immediately following the High School Open House. The *Sports Night* is an opportunity to meet coaches, hear athletic and academic policies, and receive information about the Lajes Booster Club.

For students participating in Fall sports, a beginning of the season meeting for Volleyball, Cross Country, Golf, and Tennis will follow at 1800.