



# FALCON PRIDE

## LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

April 24, 2009

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### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SIP) GOALS

All students will improve their problem-solving skills across the curriculum.  
All students will improve their reading strategies in all areas of the curriculum.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday-Friday	April 27 - May 1	Late Spring Registration
Thursday	May 7	PTO Meeting at 1545
Wednesday	May 13	Mentor Program (School Library, 1430-1530)
Wednesday-Saturday	May 20-23	School Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting @1500
Thursday-Saturday	May 21-23	European Soccer Championships
Friday	May 22	European Softball Championships
		Early Dismissal at 1100 (Teacher Work Day)

**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS (SIP)** - What is SIP? SIP is a critical part of our school's accreditation process. To be accredited by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, we work toward improving our school on a five-year cycle. Two years ago we assessed our student's academic needs and set goals. Then we designed lessons and activities to help students meet those goals. Last year we began implementing the activities, and the process continues in this, the third year of the cycle.

**SIP MOMENT** - "This will never be a civilized country until we expend more money for books than we do for chewing gum." Elbert Hubbard.

**SCHOOL YEAR 2009-2010 MANDATORY SCHOOL REGISTRATION** - Registration for returning students was held April 6-10. If you have children who will be returning for next school year, including Sure Start students coming back from Kindergarten, and you did not complete registration, please come by the school to do so, as soon as possible. If you have extended, we will require documentation noting sponsor name, social security number, and new DEROS. If, on the other hand, you are leaving Lajes, please let us know by giving us a call at 295-57-3357.

**SAC MEETING** - There will be a SAC Meeting on May 13, at 1500 in room 302A (principal's office). Please feel free to attend and share your ideas and concerns.

**PTO NEWS** - If you like to be guaranteed an Elementary School Yearbook, please stop by the PTO Office to fill out the pre-order form. The Yearbook cost is \$11.00.

Popcorn - There are still seven weeks left for your child to receive popcorn at the end of each week. Please come by the PTO Office to submit your \$5.00 and fill out the pop-corn request form for your child or children.

PTO Board - Are you interested in being a Lajes E/H School Officer? Please e-mail [lajespto@yahoo.com](mailto:lajespto@yahoo.com) We are accepting nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

**ART NEWS** - The Art Department is seeking donations of the following items:

- Bags of Dried Beans or Rice
- Cases of Water (with individual, small water bottles)
- House Paint or Spray Paint
- Nails
- Crochet Thread or Embroidery Floss
- Fabric or Ribbon Scraps
- Bird Seed

**We are also collecting the following recyclable items:**

- Milk Cartons
- Egg Cartons
- Bleach Bottles
- Empty Applesauce & Fruit Cups

Please bring your donations to Art Room #117. Thank you!!!

**AP EXAM TESTING AT LAJES** - Students taking College Board AP (Advanced Placement) courses will take their end-of-course exam in early May. The AP Exams to be administered include AP U.S. Government, AP Spanish, AP Statistics, AP English Literature and AP English Language. These comprehensive exams are administered off-campus and are generally 3-4 hours in length. The scoring of the exam is based on a 5-point scale, with many colleges awarding college credit if the student scores a "3" or higher. AP Courses are on par with many college level courses. All DoDDS high school students taking AP Courses receive a "weighted" grade (i.e., an additional 1.0 point of GPA value is added) which is reflected on the student's transcript. Parents or students wanting to learn more about the AP Courses to be offered during School Year 2009-2010 should contact the counselor at 295-57-4228.

**LAJES COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM** - Graduating seniors from the Class of 2009 are currently vying for scholarships being offered by 12 Lajes community organizations. The annual Lajes Community Scholarship Program has historically generated generous scholarship awards for our Lajes Alumni. Current applicants have submitted their formal scholarship applications and will be participating in an applicant interview in mid-May. The Senior Breakfast on Saturday, May 30 will be the event at which the Lajes Organizations will publicly announce the recipients selected for their respective scholarship awards. The June Falcon Newsletter will report the highlights of this year's Lajes Community Scholarship Program.

**MENTORS AND MENTEES PROGRAM** - The Mentors and Mentees Program will hold an end of the year session, available to students at all grade levels. The program goals focus on educational achievement through academic, social and emotional support.

Who can be a mentor? A mentor is a caring adult who is willing to spend time helping our students excel. Mentors are sincere, committed individuals who are positive role models.

\* Mentors & Mentees End of the Year Session Schedule

Thursday, May 7, 2009: 1430-1530

Thursday, May 14, 2009: 1430-1530

Thursday, May 21, 2009: 1430-1530

Thursday, May 28, 2009: 1430-1530

Interested individuals can look forward to more information coming soon, or contact the Lajes School at 295-57-4151.