



# FALCON PRIDE

## LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

April 17, 2009

Principal: Ms. Mary Waller  
Assistant Principal: Ms. Daisy Weddle  
Phone: 295 57 6216/4151  
DSN: 535-4151  
e-mail: [Elizabeth.Walker@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:Elizabeth.Walker@eu.dodea.edu)  
[Mary.Waller@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:Mary.Waller@eu.dodea.edu)  
[Daisy.Weddle@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:Daisy.Weddle@eu.dodea.edu)

Mediterranean District Superintendent: Dr. Elizabeth Walker  
DSN Phone: 634-8460

### 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 20-24	Late Spring Registration
Thursday	May 7	PTO Meeting at 1545
		Mentor Program (School Library, 1430 -1530)
Wednesday	May 13	School Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting @1500
Wednesday-Saturday	May 20-23	European Soccer Championships
Thursday-Saturday	May 21-23	European Softball Championships
Friday	May 22	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** - "A book is the only place in which you can examine a fragile thought without breaking it, or explore an explosive idea without fear it will go off in your face. It is one of the few havens remaining where a man's mind can get both provocation and privacy." Edward P. Morgan.

**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.

**EARTH WEEK** - Native American storytellers wanted for an Earth Week project at the Elementary grades. Interested participants please call 295-57-4151 to set up presentation times.

**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!!!

**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 2:30-3:30
  - Thursday, May 14, 2009 2:30-3:30
  - Thursday, May 21, 2009 2:30-3:30
  - Thursday, May 28, 2009 2:30-3:30

Interested individuals can look forward to more information, coming soon, or contact the Lajes School.



**Office of the Director, DoDDS-Europe  
Diana J. Ohman, Director**

**Parent Newsletter Article for April 2009**

*Principals: Please include the following article in your next parent newsletter.*

Spring registration for School Year (SY) 2009-2010 is going on in most DoDDS-E schools this month. This is an essential step for DoDDS-E to plan for adequate resources, including appropriate staffing at each school. Parents can begin registration online at [www.eu.dodea.edu/enrollment/registration.php](http://www.eu.dodea.edu/enrollment/registration.php), and complete the process in person at the school your child will attend. Parents should contact the school registrar to verify the documents required for registration.

While the majority of children attending DoDDS-E are space-required students, many fall under the space-available or space-created categories. Although space availability for those students cannot be determined until around mid-August, it is important that ALL students are registered for school as soon as possible. Please encourage new families with school-aged children to contact the school soon after arrival to register students.

It is also important to have your child immunized before school begins. The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) has posted information regarding required immunizations on their website at [www.dodea.edu/parents/immunizations.cfm](http://www.dodea.edu/parents/immunizations.cfm). These requirements follow the guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

New entrance age requirements will go into effect for SY 2009-2010. The change in entrance age aligns DoDEA with national trends as well as with the age requirements in many military-impacted states. According to the new requirements children must be 4 years old by September 1 to attend Sure Start, 5 years old by September 1 to enroll in kindergarten, and 6 years old by September 1 to enroll in first grade. During SY 2009-2010, exceptions will be made to accommodate all students who have completed kindergarten in SY 2008-2009.

April is also the Month of the Military Child, underscoring the important role military children play in the Armed Forces community. The Month of the Military Child is a time to applaud military families and their children for the daily sacrifices they make and challenges they overcome. Installations will have special programs and events to salute military children. These events may include, carnivals, health screening for children, and youth talent shows. Events that celebrate the Month of the Military Child stress the importance of providing children with quality services and support to help them succeed in the mobile military lifestyle – and hopefully have some fun along the way.

**DIANA J. OHMAN  
Director, DoDDS-Europe**