



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

12 December 2008

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday	December 19	Early Dismissal @1115
Monday	December 22 - January 5	Winter Break
Monday	January 5	Return to School From Winter Break
Wednesday	January 14	School Advisory Council Meeting at 1500
Monday	January 19	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Federal Holiday
Thursday	January 22	End of Second Quarter
Friday	January 23	No School - Teacher Work Day

EARLY DISMISSAL - There will be an early dismissal on Friday, December 19th at 1115.

GATE CLOSURE - Due to the construction in the back for the new fence the Kindergarten gate on the west (high school) side will be closed from now until the fence is complete - hopefully by the end of January.

WINTER BREAK - School will dismiss at 1115 on Friday, December 19th and will resume on Monday, January 5th, 2009. The office will be open Monday-Friday 0800-1500, with the exceptions of December 25th and January 1st.

WINTER BREAK VACATION - Families traveling in December need to notify the school two weeks in advance if possible. The procedure is as follows: 1. Get form from counselor. 2. Ask teacher(s) for assignments during absence. 3. All assigned work is due on the **first** class meeting after the student returns.

TEACHER WORK DAY - There will be no school on January 23rd due to a scheduled teacher workday.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED!! - Becoming a substitute teacher is easier than you think and it can be a very rewarding experience. A degree is not required and it pays \$95 per day. If you are interested in becoming a substitute teacher, please contact the school office at 295-57-4151 to find out more information.

ADOLESCENT SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELING SERVICES (ASACS): MTV (My Teen Voice) - Teen grades 9-12 will be invited to have a voice in their community. Teens are welcome on January 2nd from 1pm-4pm in the CAC ballroom to discuss any issues or concerns they have. There will be an open forum, food, prizes, and a free movie. Parents and teens will be receiving more information as the date approaches. Save the date!!!

LOST AND FOUND - There are many items that have been collected in the lost and found, since the beginning of this school year. Please come by the school to see if any of these items belong to your child, before they are denoted to local charities on December 19th. There is one lost and found basket in the main office and one located in the cafeteria.

YEARBOOKS - There is still time to buy yearbooks for \$45, until the end of this semester. Once the semester ends, the price will increase to \$50. Please call 295-57-4151 for more information.

ECO-ISLAND CLUB - is visiting the town of Sao Mateus on the Southern coast of Terceira. They will have the opportunity to observe a fishing community. They will stop at the wharf and the outdoor whaling museum. They will learn about the Atlantic Ocean, Tectonic plates and settlement of the Azores. Grades 2-8 are involved.

WINTER ART SHOW - Congratulations to all of the outstanding artists who have been selected to display their work in the Winter Art Show! The show is being held in the lobby at the Ramo Grande Theater in Praia. The Winter Art Show opened last night in conjunction with the performance of *Witch Way Christmas* to rave reviews. The show features artwork from artists in every grade from Sure Start through High School. If you missed it last night, the art show will continue to be open to the public from Thursday, December 11th - Saturday, December 13th in the lobby of the Ramo Grande Theater (Open Friday and Saturday nights only). A full list of participating artists is posted in the front lobby of the school by the main office. Congratulations again to all of our hard working artists!

ART CLASSES - are in need of the following items: Fabric, Outdoor Paint (spray paint or house paint), Shoe Boxes, Daisy Sour Cream containers, Empty fruit-cups or apple sauce cups. Please send your donations to the art room.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING (SAC) - There will be a SAC meeting on January 14th, at 1500, in room 302A (the principal's office).

NURSE'S NOTES - We are reaching the time of year when our weather becomes very unpredictable. A sunny sky can turn to wind and rain within a few hours and catch our students unprepared for the suddenly cooler temperatures. Even on a clear day a shift in wind direction can change the outdoor temperatures very quickly. Please make sure your child has a jacket or sweatshirt available each school day.

If you will be off island and friends will be caring for your children, don't forget to let the front office know with whom your children are staying. Also remember to let the front office know who has power of attorney for medical care in your absence.

Cold season is gearing up and more and more students and staff are reaching for tissues. The following general guidelines will help parents determine if their child should stay home due to cold symptoms: a fever over 100 degrees, nagging cough or sneezing that will be disruptive to classmates and prevent the child from being a productive student in the classroom, excessive need for tissues, general malaise and lethargy, and/or not being well enough to go outside during recess time for fresh air.

LAJES ES/HS TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE - Wondering how to keep your student in the learning zone over the holidays? Lajes ES/HS Technology Committee would like to suggest the following websites that will definitely have your student moving toward their educational goal:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/> -Official White House page

<http://www.si.edu/> - Smithsonian Institute

<http://www.candlelightstories.com/Homepage.php> - online audio stories

<http://www.20q.net/> - online 20 questions game in which the computer asks the questions (AI?)

<http://www.gamequarium.com/index.htm> - various games and activities

http://www.professorgarfield.org/pgf_home.html variety of educational games

<http://nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/vlibrary.html> math site for students K-12

<http://www.uen.org/tours/fieldtrips2.shtml> take a virtual field trip sitting at your computer

DEPLOYMENT - If you or your spouse will be deploying, please call the ES and/or HS counselors. We want to provide extra support to all of the children of our deployed service members. They are indeed heroes and we want to do everything possible to support their children.

LAJES BIG GIVE - Calling all students and parents! It's time for the first annual Lajes BIG GIVE necessities drive! The BIG GIVE is a competition between all the grades to collect donations of food, clothing, toiletries, household goods, toys & school supplies for local charities. This is your chance to do something that makes a difference in the lives of others. Plus, the grade that collects the most donations will win an ice-cream party for their whole class! For more information call 295-57-4151. All donations are welcome, including both new and gently used items, so start bringing in your donations today!

DoDEA CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY - is available from November 1 through February 28, 2009. It takes about 20 minutes to complete and is available online at www.dodea.edu (click on the CSS graphic link). Please contact the school at 295-57-4151, if you need to use a school computer or receive a paper copy to complete the survey. We encourage all parents to participate in this valuable project.

BUS MONITORS NEEDED - Volunteer bus monitors are needed. It's only one hour out of your day and anyone 18 or over can do it. Please contact the MSG office at 295-57-6104 for more information.

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 Middle School Coordinator to schedule your meeting at 535-4151.

SCHOOL WANT ADS - Wanted: Bowling ball for physics. The science teacher would like to have a bowling ball for classroom demonstrations. A bowling ball in any condition is acceptable. The bowling ball will be given a loving home and be a star in demonstrations on such topics as momentum, angular momentum, forces, etc. Please call 295-57-6498 if can help.

PCSing? Want to get rid of old junk? The Booster Club is looking for all of your unwanted items (i.e., clothes, toys, books, ANYTHING!) to be sold at the monthly Flea Markets. All proceeds will help to offset the cost of the high school sports team's travels to tournaments in Germany. We will be more than happy to pick up your donations, or they can be dropped off at the school office. Please call 295-549-206 or e-mail Lajes15@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

STUDENT-2-STUDENT PROGRAM AT LAJES HELPING PCSING STUDENTS: If your family will be PCSing during the school year, and you would like to have your child communicate with another student and/or counselor from the school they will be going to, please contact the middle and high school counselor, at 535-4228). An important facet of the Student-2-Student program is to assist student transitioning in and out of DoDDS schools. Learning about one's new school before leaving Lajes would lessen the student's anxiety about moving and going to a new school.

MCEC EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER: The Military Child Education Coalition website contains a wealth of resources for military families. One of the most useful features of this site is to provide information to parents PCSing back to the states. To review the "Checklist for Transferring Students", go to <http://www.militarychild.org/military-parent/checklist-for-transferring-students/> To find specific information about schools and educational resources in a specific state, go to <http://www.militarychild.org/education-resource-center/> where you can select any of the 50 states to locate schools and educational resources applicable to that state.

LAJES COMMISSARY DECA SCHOLARSHIP FOR SENIORS: The deadline for eligible seniors to submit a completed application and essay for the 2009 DECA Scholarship (worth \$2000) is February 18th. Eligibility requirements for interested seniors include applicant must be a dependent of a military parent/sponsor, applicant must have 3.0 or higher cumulative *GPA* (grade point average), applicant must intend to apply to a 4-year college or university, and the completed application must be submitted to the Lajes Commissary NLT February 18, 2009. Interested seniors can pick-up a copy of the application form from the guidance counselor or ask for a copy in the Lajes Commissary Office. A copy may also be downloaded from www.militaryscholar.org