



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

11 January 2009

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday - Wednesday	January 12-14	Air Force Recruiter Visit
Wednesday	January 14	School Advisory Council Meeting at 1500
Wednesdays	January 14, 21, 28	Girls BB Team VS Vitorinos (HS Gym)@1830
Friday	January 16	Freshman Dance (HS Gym)
Friday - Thursday	January 16-22	Final Exams
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
Thursday-Friday	January 22-23	Sure Start Conferences
Thursday	January 29	Parent Forum@0930
Friday	January 30	K-5 Parent Conferences
Wednesdays	February 4 and 11	Boys BB Team vs Terceira (HS Gym)
	Nov 1-Feb 28	DODEA Customer Satisfaction Survey

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

AIR FORCE RECRUITER VISIT - An Air Force Recruiter for the Mediterranean District will be visiting Lajes for 3 days, from January 12th - 14th. Juniors and seniors who took the ASVAB Exam in November will have the opportunity to have their exam scores reviewed by the recruiter and to find out what potential career fields they might be considered eligible to select for enlistment purposes. Other interested high school students and interested parents wanting to meet with the Air Force Recruiter should contact 295-57-4228, to schedule a time to meet with the recruiter.

SURE START- Mid-Year Conferences for Sure Start will be held on January 22 and 23. Parents will be contacted to schedule their conference.

K-5 PARENT CONFERENCES - will be held on January 30th. Please mark your calendars. More information will be forthcoming.

GATE CLOSURE - The Kindergarten gate on the west (high school) side will be closed until the construction for the new fence is complete. Target completion date is the end of January.

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

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.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SIP) - Have you heard your middle school or high school student talking about a reading test on the computer? Middle school and high school students are taking the Scholastic Reading Inventory during their language arts/English classes this week and next. This is a computerized test that adjusts to the level of each student, according to his or her correct or incorrect responses. In other words, as a student answers questions correctly, the reading passages and questions become more challenging. If, however, the student answers incorrectly, easier passages and questions appear. Students receive their scores in "lexiles," which are indicators of reading level. Hopefully the lexile level of each student will increase during the school year and from one year to the next. One of the goals of our SIP is to improve reading comprehension across the curriculum. One way we measure student achievement in these areas is by administering the Scholastic Reading Inventory three times a year.

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

NAEP TESTING of 4th & 8th GRADE STUDENTS - All 4th and 8th grade students in all DoDDS Schools will take the NAEP (*National Assessment of Educational Progress*) exam during the month of February. Lajes Fourth graders will test on February 24. Eighth graders will test on February 25. An explanatory letter will be sent home to parents of Fourth and Eighth graders in early February providing parents with more detailed information about NAEP testing. Parents will have the opportunity to visit the NAEP website and to view sample test questions and to learn more about the NAEP exam. If you should have any questions, the Fourth grade guidance counselor point-of-contact's number is 295-57-6475 and the Eighth guidance counselor point-of-contact is 295-57-4228.

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 1055 and 1125. 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 the Middle School Coordinator to schedule your meeting at 535-4151.

LAJES BASKETBALL TEAM - The girl's basketball team will play the Vitorinos in the high school gym at 1830, on the Wed of Jan 14, 21, and 28. Come on out to support our team. The boy's basketball team will play Terceira in the high school gym at 1930, Wed on 4 and 11 Feb. Come on out to support our team. GO FALCONS!

FINAL EXAMS - Final exams for the first semester will begin on 16 Jan and continue through the 22nd.

FRESHMAN DANCE - The "Welcome in the New Year and Back to School Bash", Freshman Dance will be held on 16 Jan, from 1930-2000 in the high school gym. Price of admission is \$2 per person, if tickets are purchased in advance. Tickets will be sold on 12, 14, & 16 (Mon, Wed, Fri) Jan in front of the school office. Tickets may also be purchased at the door for \$3.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

LUNCH MONITORS NEEDED - Lunch monitors are needed. This is a paid position for about 1.5 hours Mon-Fri. Please call 295-57-4151 for more information.

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 295-57-4228. 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.

SCHOOL LUNCHES - AAFES Lunch Menu can be viewed by visiting the school website <http://www.laje-ehs.eu.dodea.edu/>