



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

May 15, 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
Mary.Waller@eu.dodea.edu
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

All Month	May 1-31	Better Hearing and Speech Month
Monday	May 15-31	Yearbooks Available Until Sold Out
Wednesday-Saturday	May 20-23	European Soccer Championships
Thursday	May 21	Lajes E/H School Volunteer Ceremony 1500 in the Library
Friday	May 22	Early Dismissal at 1100 (Professional Development)
Monday	May 25	Memorial Day Holiday
	May 25	PTO End of Year Carnival from 1100-1600
Friday	May 29	Sports Banquet
Saturday	May 30	Senior Breakfast
Saturday	May 30	High School Prom from 2000-2400

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 - "Reading has given me more satisfaction than really anything else." Fashion designer Bill Blass.

LAJES E/H SCHOOL'S VOLUNTEER CEREMONY - Teachers will recognize their indispensable volunteers next Thursday, May 21, at 3pm in the elementary multi-purpose room. Volunteers add so much to our school -- their concern for students, their interests and experience, and most of all, their hard work! From hands-on in the classroom, to sharing specialized knowledge, school would not be the same without them. Thanks, volunteers!

CLASS 2009 SENIOR BREAKFAST - The annual Senior Breakfast Program is the event at which seniors are recognized for their various school related achievements, and for the Lajes Community Organizations to publicly announce the recipients selected for their organization's scholarships. This year's Senior Breakfast is scheduled for

Saturday, May 30, 0930, in the TORC Ballroom. Anyone wishing to attend this event should contact the Lajes E/H Counselor at 295-57-4228 for more information.

HIGH SCHOOL PROM AND AFTER PROM "LOCK-IN" PARTY - The high school prom is being held at the golf course on Saturday, May 30 from 2000-2400. Tickets are on sale during high school lunch from now until May 29 and are \$28 per person, which includes the cost for the after party. If you are paying with check, please make your check payable to "Lajes E/H School S.A.F." We will also be selling Prom Photos for \$10 for a full CD of pictures! We will have a professional photographer available throughout the evening during prom to take individual and group photos. We will then put all of the photos on one CD so that everyone can treasure the memories of the night. You can print as many pictures as you want! CDs will be \$10 pre-sale or \$12 after prom.

PROM AFTER-PARTY & LOCK-IN: There will be a Prom After-Party and Lock-In from 2400 until 0600 at the Community Activities Center (CAC) for all high schoolers that attend prom. This party is being offered as a safe alternative for students who wish to spend their evening in a supervised, drug and alcohol free place. There will be a bus to take students directly from the golf course to the CAC, after the prom. All students must have a permission slip to attend. Permission slips with more information will be sent home with your Prom ticket purchase. It should be an amazing night of fun! We have had generous donations from several base organizations that have sponsored our food, fun and prizes for the night. There will be games, contests, give-aways, movies, food, friends and lots of big prizes!

HELP NEEDED FOR PROM AFTER PARTY - Calling all high school parents...We need your help!!!

We are looking for a few parent volunteers to plan activities, entertainment, and refreshments for the party. There are lots of jobs to be done, from making phone calls to baking cookies, so if you're willing to help, we can find just the right job for you! We are also seeking donations of food & prizes. We will be hosting games and contests throughout the evening and need prizes of all kinds! We still need some specific food items as well, including paper plates & napkins, fruit trays, chips, and veggie trays. If you would like to donate food, a prize, or if you would be willing to help with the event organization please contact the ASACS Counselor at 295-57-3963. We will not be able to do this without your help!!!

POEM SUBMISSION - If your child submitted a poem to *Showcase Magazine*, his or her work was published in *The Reels of Life*, a collection of Lajes E/H School poetry. Published writers should have received their copies last Friday afternoon. Some extras are available in room 130.

BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH - For over 80 years, May has been designated as Better Hearing and Speech Month by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). This is a time to raise everyone's (our own and our students) awareness, knowledge, and understanding of the various forms of communication impairments to include those of hearing, speech, language and voice. Check out www.asha.org/bhsm/ to learn more.

YEARBOOKS - The 2008-2009 yearbooks have arrived! We have extras, but they will sell out quickly. This is your last opportunity to purchase an annual. Please bring your check for \$50 to room 130. If you've already purchased one, you or your child can pick it up from room 130, immediately after school.

SURE START HOME VISITS - Sure Start Home Visits will begin on June 1. In order to allow you enough time to make arrangements for both parents to be present during the visit, we have begun to make out the schedule. You can arrange for a visit on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday afternoon after 1430, or on Friday between 0845 and 1600. Each visit will take about thirty minutes. When you are ready to schedule your visit, stop by the Sure Start Classroom or call the office at 295-57-4151 to set up a time. Thank-you. We look forward to seeing you!

Sure Start needs 16 empty spools of thread. If you have some please drop them off in the Sure Start room or call 295-57-2035. Thank you.

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, until May 20. The yearbook cost will increase to \$15 on May 21. Popcorn - There are still time 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 popcorn request form for your child or children.

The End Of Year Carnival will be held at the school on May 25, from 1100 until 1600. We will have games, food, face painting, and jumping castles. If you would like to volunteer please email lajespto@yahoo.com

We are still looking for people who are interested in being Lajes E/H School Officers. Please e-mail 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!!!

FUNDING EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL - *Guide to Federal Student Aid 2009-2010* booklets are now available in the counselor's office. This 53-page document is one of the most comprehensive and useful resources available to students and parents. If you would want to acquire a copy of this booklet to begin researching and planning your child's post-secondary education, please stop by the school office and request a copy.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS - DoDEA Class of 2009 and Beyond Graduation Requirements - Go to <http://www.dodea.edu/parents/graduation.cfm?print=y&> to see the listing of required courses and the specified number of credits needed to graduate from DoDDS schools (in accordance with DS Regulation 2000.1). In addition to the specified 26 credits needed to graduate, the student must also have a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher.

FREE ONLINE ASVAB TEST PREPARATION - Parents of high school students might want to check out the Military.Com website <http://www.military.com/ASVAB> to review the free ASVAB Test Prep resources available. The **Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)** Exam is used by all branches of the military as a preliminary assessment for possible enlistment into the military. The ASVAB is a timed multi-aptitude test, which is given at over 14,000 schools and Military Entrance Processing Stations (MEPS) nationwide and is developed and maintained by the Department of Defense. To learn more about the ASVAB exam and how it can be used, go to http://www.military.com/ASVAB/0,,ASVAB_Explained1.html

MARCH 2 SUCCESS - is a **FREE**, no obligation tool that provides educational content to help anyone improve their knowledge and test scores in the areas of Language Arts, Mathematics and Science. Check the March 2 Success website: <https://www.march2success.com/index.cfm> The content in *March 2 Success* is provided by Peterson's, Educational Options, and College Options Foundations. *March 2 Success* provides materials to help improve scores on standardized tests such as SAT, ACT, state exit exams, and ASVAB. Content selection includes course material from middle and high school level lessons, SAT and ACT practice

tests, an SAT/ACT preparation game, and vocabulary and math flashcards. *March 2 Success* also provides information to help students plan for post-secondary options.

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 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.