



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

17 October 2008

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday-Friday,	October 20-24	PTO School Picture Week
Monday-Friday,	October 20-24	Red Ribbon Week
Tuesday,	October 21	AVID Middle School Family Night at 1630
Tuesday	October 21	Girl's Volleyball at 1930
Wednesday	October 22	Education Fair during Period 3
Thursday-Sunday	October 23-October 26	Cross Country at Europeans
Thursday,	October 23	Parent Forum at 0930
Tuesday-Sunday	October 28-November 2	Volleyball at Europeans
Thursday,	October 30	End of First Quarter
Friday,	October 31	No School for Students - Teacher Workday
Friday,	October 31	ASVAB Exam
Saturday,	November 15	Homecoming Dance

Reminders - Please READ!

Visitors - Please check in at the front office to get a visitor's pass prior to going anywhere in the building.

Doors - Outer perimeter doors will be locked during school hours to ensure the safety of students, all must enter through the front entrance.

Nuisance Items - Ipods, electronic toys and equipment/cell phones are not to be out during the instructional day (before and after school and during lunch, they are permitted.) Please remind your student of this.

Valuables - We advise that you do not send items of value to school with your child as we have had some items taken.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS - Thank you to all students, parents, faculty, and staff that participated in and supported our Spirit Week activities. Our Student Council Sponsor would like to especially thank those that helped officiate the Powder Puff game, as well as those that helped with the setup, serving, and cleanup for the burger burn. Everyone had a great time! Due to scheduling issues, the Homecoming Dance will take place on November 15th from 19:00-22:00 at the TORC.

CROSS COUNTRY TEAM - Lajes Girls' Cross Country Team will travel to Heidelberg, Germany for their competition on October 25th. We wish them the best of luck!! **GO FALCONS!!!**

AVID - Middle School AVID students are hosting "Are You Smarter Than an AVID Middle School Student?" on Tuesday, October 21, from 1630 to 1730 in the Information Center. AVID students will be pitted against their parents, answering a wide variety of questions about social studies, science, math, and English taken from elementary textbooks, grades 1-8. This fun, family event will include refreshments and prizes—though not necessarily a million dollars.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SIP) - Lajes E/H School teachers and administrators participated in a SIP in-service day on Friday, October 10th. SIP is a critical part of our school's accreditation process. In other words, 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. Our two SIP goals are as follows:

All students will improve their problem-solving skills across the curriculum.

All students will improve their reading strategies in all areas of the curriculum.

The staff at Lajes E/H School is working hard to help your children in these areas, and in the future we will be giving you tips on how you can help them, too.

SCHOOL WANT ADS - The art department is seeking donations of the following items: (shoe boxes; outdoor paint—spray or house paint; quilting fabric—any scrap will do; large rocks for landscaping borders). Items can be dropped off in room #117. For questions or if you're interested in volunteering in the art room, please call 295-57-3861.

The Elementary School Guidance Counselor is looking for individuals who love their work in the following career fields (artistic—e.g. photography, music, design, etc; entrepreneurship/management; accounting, secretarial, inventory control; mechanic, electrician, or other hands-on trade). If you are interested in providing information on November 10th and 13th to elementary aged students, about what you do in your job and why you enjoy it, please call 295-57-6475.

PTO PHOTOS - This is a reminder to all parents that there will be a \$5.00 sitting fee on photo day. Please be on the look out for Elementary and MS/HS photo schedules that are coming home. This information is very important because this will indicate what day your child will be photographed. Retakes will be held on Thursday and Friday for any child that misses their designated day. Please contact Lajes PTO with any questions at 295-57-6834.

THE ECO ISLAND CLUB - is a club that fosters observation and investigation. The participants of this club learn to respect their surroundings, the environment and the culture around. This coming Monday, October 20, we meet all 2nd graders through fifth graders. Monday, October 27, we meet again with the Middle School and High School students. Any student who wishes to join may do so still. See you then. Make the difference. Join us.

HOMECOMING DANCE - The Homecoming Dance will be on 15 November at the TORC, from 1900-2200. More information will follow in upcoming newsletters.

PARENT FORUM - There will be a Parent Forum on, Thursday, October 23 at 0930, in the principal's office - room 302A. Parent Forums are held monthly with the principal so that parents and community members can air their concerns, give suggestions and/or ask questions in regards to the school community. Please mark your calendars and plan on joining us.

LEAP - Learning Expected Assistance Provided

Middle and High School students who do not turn in assigned work when due will be assigned to a LEAP session. LEAP is held every Tuesday and Thursday in **Room 305** from 2:40 to 3:40 PM. Students who fail to show up for assigned LEAP or who are still behind on assignments are then assigned to Saturday Morning LEAP in Mr Brown's room from 8:00 to 10:00 AM. If a student is assigned LEAP the student will call or the referring teacher will email a parent to inform them of the LEAP session. More information regarding LEAP can be found in the Student Parent Handbook,

by communicating with referring teachers or by contacting Ms Waller, Lajes American School Principal, at 295-57-4151.

TAP-TARDIES AREN'T PERMITTED-Lajes Elementary High School is a community of dedicated learners. All of our students are expected to demonstrate excellence in their learning. One of the expectations for students in the middle and high school grades is that students arrive in class on time ready to learn. This maximizes their instructional time. Students who are tardy will be assigned a one-hour after school detention (TAP) at 1440 on the day they are tardy. Students will call parent to notify them of assigned TAP.

COUNSELOR NEWS - The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery exam (ASVAB) will be administered to interested juniors and seniors on Friday, October 31st. Students will not be in school this day as it is an end-of-quarter records keeping day for teachers. Parents wanting to know more about the ASVAB exam and/or wanting their child to be signed-up to the ASVAB should call 295-57-4228.

Juniors or seniors wanting to take the December 6th SAT I Exam must complete their online registration by NLT November 5th. Call 295-57-4228 if more information is needed.

Juniors or seniors wanting to take the December 13th ACT Exam must complete their online registration by NLT November 7th. Call 295-57-4228 if more information is needed.

Military Career Day is scheduled for November 14th for the middle and high school grades. More information about this event will be publicized in future newsletters.

The PSAT Exam has been administered to 61 students at Lajes. The students' test results should be returned to our school in early-to-mid December. When the results are received, the students will receive their Score Report and a copy will be mailed home to parents.

To graduate from a DoDDS school, a student must have a minimum GPA (grade point average) of 2.0 and have a total of 26 credits. The specific DoDDS graduation requirements can be reviewed on the DoDEA website <http://dodea.edu/students/graduation.cfm> If you have further questions about graduation requirements, please call the school counselor at 295-574228.