



FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores

9 September 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

Thursday	September 11	First day of school for Sure Start
Tuesday	September 16	Sure Start Meeting at 1730
Wednesday	September 10	SAC Meeting at 1500
Wednesday	September 17	AVID Induction/Family Night @1700-1800
Friday	September 19	Students Dismiss at 1115 am - Teacher Training Day
Monday-Friday	September 15-21	Bus Safety Week

NURSE'S NOTES- One requirement for DoDDS enrollment is that your child be current with the required immunizations as recommended by the Center for Disease Control. Several of our students were due over the summer months for immunization updates. If you are contacted by myself or the Immunization Clinic regarding past due immunizations, please take your child to the Immunization Clinic on Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays for this and then bring an updated printout from the Immunization Clinic to the school for our records.

I try to keep a small supply of clothing in my loan closet for the occasions when younger students may need a change of clothing and parents are unavailable. If your child has borrowed items, please launder and return them to the school so they will be available for future needs. Donations, especially of sweatpants and girls panties, are welcome.

SURE START CLASS - Sure Start enrollment was finalized during the week of September 1st. Remember that Sure Start classes start on Sept 11.

SCHOOL WEBSITE- You can view our school's new website at the following address: <http://www.laje-ehs.eu.dodea.edu>
Please check it regularly for all of the school menus, current news, and information regarding our school.

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. We began issuing TAPs on September 2. 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.

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS - Shoe Safety Reminder... Students must have gym shoes to participate in Physical Education. While shoe selection is a parent/student decision, shoes such as tennis shoes, shoes with heel straps, and shoes with covered toes are highly recommended. **Wear safe shoes (no sandals or crocs) and appropriate clothing to P.E.**

SCHOOL-HOME-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS - Develop your vocabulary power as you work on freerice.com. The Lajes School-Home-Community Partnerships committee would like to encourage everyone, young and old, to join us in this effort that will sponsor bowls of rice to the needy across the world. The site entails finding the right synonym from different levels of vocabulary lists. Choose your level from 1 to 60 and report how many points you have been able to make. Turn those points in to your child's teacher, who will turn those in for a school wide count. Be part of the solution. Go to freerice.com. Encourage others to do the same.

Read-a-Thon is another school wide routine sponsored by the School-Home-Community Partnerships committee. Make sure your child reads or is read to every day. Tally the minutes read and turn those in at the end or beginning of every week. Help us develop a school climate where reading is the key to success. Join in the Read-a-Thon. Make it one of your child's lifelong routines.

COUNSELOR NEWS - SAT/ACT-- If parents have questions concerning any of the testing items listed below, please call Mr. Gronke at 535-4228

1. The SAT I Exam will be administered on Saturday, Oct 4th. Students need to register online by September 9th.
 2. The ACT Exam will be administered on Saturday, Oct 25th. Students need to register online by Sept 19th and to pick-up the \$25 Waiver form from Mr. Gronke
 3. All DoDDS 10th & 11th graders will take the PSAT Exam on Wednesday, October 15th
- The ASVAB Exam is scheduled for Oct 31st. Interested juniors or seniors should contact Mr. Gronke.

YEARBOOK SAVINGS - Save money by pre-ordering your middle/high school yearbook 2008-09. By purchasing in advance, you can lock in the special rock-bottom price of \$45. Your child can bring a check made out to "Lajes High School" to Ms. Evans in room 130. The price will increase, so reserve your copy today!

YEARBOOK PHOTOS - The yearbook staff needs your summer photos. Whether you took an exotic vacation or relaxed on the island, turn in your pictures or disks to Ms. Evans in room 130. Include a short caption that explains who is pictured and where they are.

ASBESTOS - Every three years DoDDS has certified inspectors who come to the Lajes American School and conduct a thorough and complete asbestos inspection. We are happy to report that during past inspections, only minor traces of non-friable asbestos were found - none harmful to children or adults. As required by the EPA, a periodic surveillance program is in effect for these materials and their conditions are closely monitored. Copies of inspection reports and the school's Asbestos Management Plan are available for your review. Talk directly to one of the principals if you have any questions.

AVID INFORMATION - What is AVID? AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. The AVID elective provides academic and organizational support for continued success in rigorous classes. The ultimate goal of the program is for AVID students to successfully attend four-year universities. AVID at Lajes ES/HS is bigger and better than ever. This year, twenty-nine students and three student tutors are participating in the AVID program. The AVID induction ceremony for school year 2008/2009 will take place on September 17th.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CORNER:

The middle school teachers of Lajes E/H School would like to welcome you to the start of a great year! Middle School is often a time of adjustment for students, who are now thinking about changing classes, having multiple teachers, more social activities, and an increased level of academic challenges. It is a unique time in their lives, during which they need an increased amount of support (although they may resist). Part of the middle school philosophy is building positive relationships between students and the rest of the school community. This is the basis for our advisory program. On Wednesday and Friday afternoons, students participate in group activities such as discussions, team building activities, problem-solving activities, and Tooney Awards.

Lajes MS students cover the map - literally! Students placed sticky dots on our large hallway wall map to show the places around the world where they were born. CONUS is dotted from coast to coast, with concentrations in Alaska and the Eastern Seaboard. A high concentration of dots cover Germany and Japan, and spots appear in such far-flung locations as Guam and the Philippines. No wonder DoDDS kids love social studies!

LEARN ABOUT READ 180. --"READ 180 is an intensive reading intervention program that helps educators confront the problem of adolescent illiteracy and special needs reading on multiple fronts, using technology, print, and professional development. READ 180 is proven to meet the needs of struggling readers whose reading achievement is below proficient level. The program directly addresses individual needs through differentiated instruction, adaptive and instructional software, high-interest literature, and direct instruction in reading, writing, and vocabulary skills." (Taken from <http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/read180/overview>)

To learn more and to see about the computer components of READ 180 log on to:

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/read180/overview/tour.htm>

Interested in how READ 180 works at Lajes. Please contact our READ 180 instructor, Dr. Jo Brei-Crawley

INFORMATION CENTER NEWS - The Lajes School Information Center (library) is currently working on giving library orientation to all students 1-5, through their homerooms, and 6-12 through their language arts classes. SS and kindergarten will also have library orientation after they start school. Reading is one of the best activities one can do for himself - visit other worlds, share ideas, learn new skills. The IC has more than 28,000 titles to choose from. Last year, the school IC checked out about 300 items a week. If you are interested in learning about how libraries function, learning library assistant skills, like libraries and students, volunteer by contacting Christine Deisher Cabral ext 6858. Although you will not be paid a salary, you can gain work experience that will be part of your resume when you apply for a job. Christine Deisher Cabral, IS (information specialist - librarian), Lajes E/H School.

PARENT COMMUNICATION - Communicating with your child's teacher or the school administrators is easy. The email addresses are listed at the top of the page. Teachers email addresses are FirstName.LastName@eu.dodea.edu. Please email us with any questions and/or any feedback.

MS/HS BINDERS - Middle and high school students are required to have a binder. Supply lists indicate that a four-inch binder is required. Due to availability, two or three inch binders are acceptable.

PTO PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION - "We support our kids & we support our teachers" We would like feedback from you on school portraits, what would you like this year. Also, look for pre-order forms for school shirts and coming in October, we will be operating the student store. And finally, be on the lookout for the PTO membership forms. For any concerns or questions, please e-mail Darlene Ciotuszynski at Lajespto@yahoo.com. Our first meeting will be in September.

CLOTHING ALERT - As a reminder, your shorts, skirts, and dresses cannot be any shorter than where your fingertips touch your legs when you stand up straight with arms straight down.

REMINDER OF START OF SCHOOL DAY - For students in grades 6-12, the entry bell rings at 0745 and their first class starts at 0750 and ends at 1435. Students in grades 1-5 (unless they ride the school bus) should not arrive on campus prior to 0745 since there is no supervision prior to that time. **Elementary students begin at 0800 and end at 1435.** Elementary students will wait in the courtyard of the elementary school wing in the morning.