



LES MISSION STATEMENT –

"Increasing Reading Comprehension & Expressive Writing Across the Curriculum"

Issue 29

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Lakenheath Elementary School

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Dates to Remember



6-10 Apr - SPRING BREAK
17 Apr – PTSO Spirit Day
22 Apr – Rocky's Café, 1st & 3rd
23 Apr – Rocky's Café, 2nd & KG
24 Apr – Parent Conf – NO SCHOOL

The Principal's Column

SPRING BREAK



Trying to compile a collection of all the songs and poetry written about spring would be a mammoth task! Finding a place to contain such a collection would be an even larger challenge and no doubt fill our largest warehouse on base!

This marvelous season inspires. And our thoughts turn from winters gray and cold to the world around us bursting in color, song and sunshine. We are awe struck at the sight of the many flowers covering the landscape of this beautiful country, and marvel at the small green leaves that appear on the same trees that just a few weeks ago looked like an awkward collection of sticks. We smile more, enjoy the

longer days, break out the colorful clothing and join together to celebrate new life!

In this season of renewal and growth, resolve to strive for the very best, think positive thoughts, and nurture healthy habits. Make the most of the here and now and 'bloom where you're planted!'

Happiness, peace, safe travels and best wishes from everyone at Lakenheath Elementary School for a wonderful spring vacation.

PICK-UP/DROP OFF OF STUDENTS



Parents - we know that the increase in traffic around the school causes unexpected delays at the start and end of the school day. However, with the help of our Support Group Commander, Col. Clarke, adjustments to the traffic lights at Lord's Walk have changed from what was once a 15-minute wait to 5 minutes.

In order to avoid your child missing important instructional time we encourage students to arrive to school on time and that you not pick up your child until school is over at 1435. It's understood that medical appointments are the reason for many of the early pick-ups. However, early departures simply related to traffic patterns are disruptive to learning and getting those students who have legitimate reasons for leaving before dismissal. Thank you for your understanding. Please call me if you have any questions about our dismissal or attendance procedures.

ACCREDITATIONS VISIT THIS MONTH!



We are making the final preparations for a visit April 21-23 from the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), a division of [AdvancED](#). AdvancED is the world's largest education community representing 23,000 public and private schools and school districts in 30 states and 65 countries while serving close to 15 million students.

We are in year three of the accreditation process, which follows a five-year cycle that begins with an in-depth self-study to develop school improvement goals. During the five-year cycle each accredited school receives a Quality Assurance Review (QAR) visit from an examining team of local DoDDS and two state side school leaders. They provide support, insights and recommendations related to the school improvement process. Our last site visit was conducted in April of 2004 where the visiting team noted many positive attributes about our staff, programs, and the community. This year's team will review our School Improvement Plan (SIP) strategies, goals, interventions, and accomplishments to provide suggestions or 'next steps' in the SIP process. During the QAR visit the team will focus on what they call the 'Seven Standards for Quality Schools.'

The seven standards were highlighted in detail in back issues of the Eagle

Express, between November 21 and January 16. They are:

1. Vision and Purpose
2. Governance and Leadership
3. Teaching and Learning
4. Documenting and Using Results
5. Resources and Support Systems
6. Stakeholder Communications and Relationships
7. Commitment to Continuous Improvement

We welcome your input and suggestions and value your opinions. My email address is listed in the heading of the Eagle Express.

We've spent a large part of this school year implementing and revising various teaching strategies to help us meet our goals. Parents will be invited to participate and will be receiving an invitation in the coming weeks.

TRAFFIC PATTERNS – SAFETY FIRST!



REMINDER/NEW PARENTS BE AWARE: Due to the heavy bus traffic before and after school, all vehicles must enter the school grounds via Lords Walk. At the end of **LORDS WALK make a right, then a left on to CHATHAM ROAD.** Follow Chatham Road to the rear parking lot. If you plan to accompany your child to the school, you may park in either the rear or the front parking lots. The **Kiss and Drop Zone is adjacent to the large flower boxes in the rear parking lot.** Please keep to the left, as close to the flower boxes as possible. Only emergency vehicles and taxis for our special needs students may enter the front gates of the school from Norwich Road. Thank you for your understanding, and please remember to drive carefully on our campus!

FLAG POLE CARE



Parents – Are you or your unit interested in taking on a patriotic task for the benefit of our school and new

housing community? We have two flagpoles in the front of the school that need to be restrung with ropes and new flag clips. The pulleys at the top could probably use a good greasing as well. New lights have been installed recently to allow the flags to be displayed both day and night. Let me know if you or your organization would be willing to tackle this project at charles.yahres@eu.dodea.edu or call me at 226-3721. Thank you!

ATTENDANCE REPORTING PROCEDURES



If you need to report your child absent or late, please contact the school by **email at**

les.attendance@eu.dodea.edu or on **01638-523721 / 226-3721.** Due to circumstances beyond our control, we do not have a service where you can leave a message at this time. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

CSI, Jr. Club



The LES after school CSI, Jr. Club is now available to Kindergarten students interested in learning more about reading, writing, and **Continuous School Improvement.** The class will participate in hands-on activities involving reading and writing across all curricular areas.

See attached permission form for more details.

PTSO BOARD ELECTIONS



It's that time of year again to elect new PTSO executive board officers of president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. If you would like to be nominated for a position on the board please email

lakenheathES.ptso@eu.dodea.edu indicating which position you would like to be considered for.

Elections will be held at our general membership meeting on April 30th. At this time we are only taking nominations and more information on

the meeting will follow in the near future.

SCHOOL EVENTS

Kindergarten Children Smiling and "Rolling Along"



On March 19 and 20th, five kindergarten classes from Lakenheath Elementary School enjoyed the newly renovated skating facilities on Lakenheath Base.



The children, teachers and chaperones walked over to the rink to enjoy skating and a snack before walking back to school in time for lunch. The employees at the rink were very helpful and well organized. They were able to get three classes of kindergarteners in their skates and on the move within 15 minutes of arrival. The children were delighted to experience a new adventure!



