

# Dragon Tales

Alconbury Middle/High School

NEWSLETTER

Issue 7 October 7, 2011

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## *“Quality Not Quantity”*

*Quality Through:*

*Rigor - challenging curriculum and instruction*

*Relevance - assignments with a purpose*

*Relationships - mutually respectful interactions*

**Upcoming Events:** **Oct 7** Tennis v. Bitburg (1400hrs), Volleyball scrimmage v. Bitburg 1500hrs  
**Oct 8** Cross Country & Volleyball @ Menwith Hill  
**Oct 10** Columbus Day – Federal Holiday – NO SCHOOL  
**Oct 12** AVID Parent Night 1730hrs AMHS Library

### **From the Principal**

I am pleased to announce that Jonathan Lee has been named a Commended Student in the 2012 National Merit Scholarship Program. A Letter of Commendation from the School and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program, has been presented to this scholastically talented senior.

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2012 competition for National Merit Scholarships, Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2012 competition by taking the 2010 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®).

“The young men and women being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success,” commented a spokesperson for NMSC. “These students represent a valuable national resource; recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the key role their schools play in their academic development, is vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our nation. We hope that this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities and encourage them as they continue their academic success.”

### **AVID STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS**

What you need to know about what colleges and universities require.

You should know that most all colleges and universities require prospective students to take either the Scholastic Aptitude Test-SAT I (Verbal and Math) and SAT II (Subject Area Tests) or the American College Test (ACT).

Here are four tests which you may have to take. Your admission to college is primarily based on these tests and your Grade Point Average.

**PLAN:** This test is practiced in your freshmen year and taken in the sophomore year as preparation and practice for the ACT.

**PSAT/NMSQT:** This test is the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. It is a two-hour test which has two sections: verbal and math. Students should take this test in 8th grade, 9th grade, and/or in 10th grade for “practice”. It is taken in October of eleventh grade to qualify for a National Merit Scholarship. If you score well, you will receive tons of information from a wide variety of colleges.

SAT I: The Scholastic Aptitude Test evaluates your ability in a wide range of skills; it is NOT an “intelligence” test, but tests certain thinking and analyzing skills. This is the most widely used test by colleges to help determine if students can handle college coursework.

SAT II: Achievement Tests are specifically geared to test your knowledge in a specific subject such as Spanish or biology. It is important to take these tests immediately after you have taken a specific course; if you are taking a biology course, take the biology achievement test in May or June of that year.

ACT: The American College Test differs from the SAT in that it tests both reasoning and knowledge in English, math, reading, and science. A few schools require it, and most schools allow you to take either the SAT or the ACT.

#### **A Reminder for ALL Middle School Parents:**

Please send in your Student’s signed permission slips for tutor.com. Tutor.com requires parental permission for all children under the age of 13 to have accounts.

#### **BrainPop**

**BrainPOP** is a group of educational websites with hundreds of short animated movies for students in grades K-12 (ages 6 to 17) covering the subjects of science, social studies, English, mathematics, arts and music, and health and technology. We now have a subscription to this website....

Login:alconburypta Password:aes123pta

#### **Yearbook Sales**

The Yearbook staff will be conducting its fall sales campaign for the 2012 Alconbury Middle/High School Yearbook for the next two weeks. Orders may be placed for both high school and middle school yearbooks now.

For all orders received by Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, the hardcover high school yearbook will cost \$45 and the middle school soft cover yearbook will cost \$22.50. After October 14, prices will go up to \$50 and \$25, respectively.

Checks should be made payable to “AHS Activity Fund: Yearbook.” Orders may be placed in the high school office or with the yearbook sponsor, Mr. Hansen, in Room 9 of the Library Annex. Also, on each Day One during 3<sup>rd</sup> Period, members of the yearbook staff will visit classrooms to collect orders and monies. Please order in advance to avoid disappointment at the end of the school year when yearbooks arrive, as only a limited number of extra copies will be on offer. Contact Mr. Hansen at 268-3265 if you have questions or require clarification. (See attached order form)

#### **Cross Country**

Without four of the Dragon's top cross-country runners, the High School placed 3rd at the ASC Cobham seven team meet on Saturday. Tom Irby led the Dragons running the 5-kilometer course and placing 21st out of 85. High School runners Eddie Kupec, Eric Martin, Josh Schappert, Madison Brann and Ian Raab all improved their times while helping the Dragons place third of seven teams.

Alconbury Middle School top runner, Anselm Short ran the 2-mile course to place 6th out of 79 runners, to lead the team to a 3rd place out of seven teams. Nick Dufresne, Armando Cordero, Matt Irby, Jacob Grimmage, Fritz Sherenco, Andrew Mantell, Max Hubbert, Wayne White, Alex Huibsch and Travis Rocha all improved their times and helped the Dragons Middle school place 3rd out of seven.

Ashley Cazier Place 7th out of 78 high school girls over the 5- Kilometer course. Additional results will be given Tuesday.

#### **Tennis**

The tennis team had some great matches this past weekend. With many of our players taking the SAT on Saturday, it gave a lot of our younger players the opportunity to play two to three seeds higher than usual. On Friday the team played Brussels, with the girls falling short 2 to 6. Ashley Hand won at the first seed singles and Ashley & Caitlin Cash teamed up to win the 1st seed doubles. Time ran out on our 3rd seed doubles girls, Victoria Fisher and Sophie Mobius, who were leading Brussels 3 to 1, which would have given our girls a 3rd win. For the boys, Ronnie Behr, Jacob Poole, and Solomon Grussing all won their singles matches. Ronnie teamed up with Matt Thrasher to win at the 1st seed doubles, giving the boys a 6 to 3 win. On Saturday, the Dragons played top ranked SHAPE, losing overall 3 to 15. Ashley Hand and Caitlin Cash won their singles matches and then teamed up to win at the #1 doubles in three sets. Ashley Hand is currently undefeated at the #1 girls’ single’s position. The team will host Bitburg this Friday at 2 pm.

## **Volleyball**

The Volleyball Lady Dragons varsity team played three good matches this weekend - the first against Rota, the second against Brussels, and the third against Rota again.

While none of the matches were wins in score, the Dragons had some big successes.

Against Rota, our Ladies steadily improved across six games, handling the jump serves of their top athletes with competence, making some fantastic aces and kills, and causing the Admirals to play through 3 or more rallies to win each point. Our strength continues to be our high serve percentage and our tenacity.

Against Brussels, the girls played a sound match right up until the end but after a long day of classes followed by a draining match against Rota, they didn't quite have the energy to close the match out in the fifth game.

The JV team played 2 matches, one against Menwith Hill and one against Rota, and they continue to improve with every game they play.

Today, we have a scrimmage with Bitburg after school and will travel to Menwith Hill on Saturday to take on the Mustangs once again. Thanks to all who supported the volleyball team this past weekend. We are very grateful to a community that supports its athletes in so many ways.

## **ASVAB**

On Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>- AHS will offer the **ASVAB test** for any interested student who is **at least 16 years of age**. You must provide your name, SSN and date of birth to Mrs. Mitchell no later than Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. This is a great interest/career inventory tool as well as the test that all US Military branches use to determine enlistment eligibility.

## **Lakenheath College Night**

Attention all parents and college bound students!!! During dead week this November (no sports practice for any teams) Alconbury Middle/High School will team up with Lakenheath High School to combine our great student bodies and communities for a one night event---College Night 2011!

Date: November 9th

Time: 1800hrs – 2000hrs

Location: Lakenheath High School

Transportation:

- Self drive
- Bus will be provided for the first 55 students and or parents interested and who sign up and pay 10 pounds each- if your child wants to attend without an adult please fill out parent permission form (see attached) and send to the AMHS office along with the £10.00. Sign up now for a spot on our BUS- please send in your money in check (made out to the Student Activity Fund- note that it is for Bus for College Night in the bottom left corner of the check) or cash- to the counselor by October 21<sup>st</sup>.

## **College Prep Seminar sessions:**

- On Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> - Dr. Whitaker will present a seminar session for any **senior** who would like help to **improve your College Application Essay**- please stop by the counselor's office to sign up if you are interested or send Mrs. Mitchell an e-mail to make sure that you are included.
- On Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> - Mrs. Mitchell will work with **juniors and seniors** who are interested in learning how to **write an academic resume** or just need to look at improving their current resume. See or e-mail Mrs. Mitchell to sign up for this session.
- On Thursday November 10<sup>th</sup>- Mrs. Mitchell will give interested **juniors and seniors** an **interest/career inventory**. If you are not sure what you want to study in college or what fields you might be interested in working - sign up for this great opportunity to fine tune your list of majors or possible careers. E-mail or stop by the counselor's office to sign up.

**Attachments:** Yearbook Order Form  
Lakenheath College Night Permission Slip

Lunch Menu

<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Columbus Day Federal Holiday</p> <p>NO SCHOOL</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Soft Taco w/Cheese Cheese Pizza Dippers Nic Nac Chicken Salad Meat Nachos w/Cheese Sauce Ham Salad w/Crackers Sweet Kernel Corn Steamed Broccoli Chilled Pears Mandariin Oranges</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Chicken &amp; Mashed Potato Bowl Ham &amp; Cheese Sandwich Grilled Chicken Caesar Hotdog on a Bun Turkey Salad w/Crackers Green Beans Montego Bay Veggie Blend Chilled Peaches Fresh Sliced Apples Oatmeal Cookies</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Hearty Pasta Bake w/Dinner Roll Three Cheese Boat Chef Salad Cheese Pizza Chicken Tender Wrap Flame Roasted Potato Medley Applesauce Banana</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Baked Mozzarella Sticks Chicken Alfredo w/Pasta Tuna Salad Baked Potato w/Cheese Chicken Fillet Salad w/Crackers Garden Salad Cauliflower &amp; Carrots Fresh Seasonal Fruit Chilled Peaches Fruited Jello</p>
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If you have any questions about our school policies or comments you would like the principal to know, please contact Dr. White using the following email address: [AlconburyHS.Principal@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:AlconburyHS.Principal@eu.dodea.edu) or Dr. Ronald McIntire, Isles District Superintendent at DSN226-7234/7252/7224.: or COM 01638-527234/7252/7224.

# 2012 Yearbook Order

Dear Parents,

If you would like to make a yearbook purchase please fill out the form below, fold the page, and staple it shut with the payment enclosed. Have your child take it to school, where it will be collected by a member of our staff during 3<sup>rd</sup> period.

Just as a reminder, yearbooks ordered by October 14<sup>th</sup> will only cost \$45 for the High School and \$22.50 for Middle School, after the prices will be raised to \$50 and \$25. Checks can be made available to "AHS Activity Fund: Yearbook." Cash is also accepted.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

High School Yearbooks: \_\_\_\_\_

Middle School Yearbook: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment: Cash/Check (circle one)

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

