

Dragon Tales

Alconbury Middle/High School

NEWSLETTER

Issue 3 September 9, 2011

Unit 5570 Box 60

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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: **Sep 9** Meet the Dragons 1730-1900 hrs Large Gym
Sep 10 Football v. Menwith Hill 1300 hrs
Sep 12 CSI Meeting 1515hrs in AMHS Library
Sep 14 Senior Class/Parent Meeting 1730hrs in AMHS Library
Sep 15 **Early Release Day for Students – School Dismissed at 1120hrs**
Sep 15 **Attendance Policy Meeting 1800hrs Large Gym**

From the Principal

Thanks to the community for supporting school activities! Please join me in recognizing our AFJROTC Unit for organizing and conducting today’s 9/11 remembrance ceremony. I also want to thank all the men and women who serve our country to ensure our freedom.

Students and staff are diligently working towards student success in all areas. We appreciate your partnership! I encourage you to create a GradeSpeed account. You will find this tool helpful in monitoring your student(s)’ progress. We have several upcoming events and look forward to seeing you!

Please contact me with any questions, comments, or suggestions at justin.white@eu.dodea.edu.

Go Dragons!

Continuous School Improvement

Please join our Continuous School Improvement team to help raise achievement for our students.

Our Continuous School Improvement Leadership Team meets monthly to discuss strategies and interventions for student improvement and to support the school accreditation process. Our next meeting will be Monday, September 12 at 3:15 in the Alconbury MHS library. For more information contact the school office or the CSI Co-chairs, Tammie Grimmage and Kyle Siftar.

GradeSpeed

Please see the attached informational sheet to sign up for GradeSpeed, which will enable to see your students’ grades, homework assignments, etc. Please contact Wendy.Okamoto@eu.dodea.edu if you have any issues.

Add/Drop Deadline

Tuesday, September 13th is the last day to submit paperwork to drop or add a class. After the 13th students will not be permitted to switch classes until 2nd semester- this is a DoDEA policy.

Youth Center opens early for next week’s early school release day

RAF Alconbury Youth Programs will be adjusting their hours of operation for our Open Recreation activity to accommodate the school’s early release day on Sep 15th. By opening earlier, this will alleviate children wandering around the base with little or nothing to do until 1500 (their normal hours). Second, by opening early they will offer lunch for those children who are members at the Youth Center. Thursday, 15 Sept, they will be open for Open Rec at 1120. Children may buy a hot lunch for \$3.00 (with their membership card) and \$5.00 if they forget their membership card. They will only be feeding paid Open Rec youth, those who are registered members. In addition, they will not be offering High School lunches, in order to accommodate the Open Rec youth

Dr. Katz Assembly for 10th-12th graders

On Wednesday, September 14, 2011, students in grades 10-12 will participate in a special student assembly to hear Jackson Katz speak. Dr. Katz is an educator, author, and filmmaker who is a notable speaker on gender violence prevention. The co-founder of the Mentors in Violence Prevention program at Northeastern University’s Center for the Study of Sport in Society, Dr. Katz seeks to educate young people and adults in strategies to prevent gender violence. He has worked with many professional athletic teams and military personnel, and spoken to thousands of students around the world. We are fortunate to work with the base to provide this opportunity for our students. Parents are welcome to join the base-wide adult presentation at 0930 at the base theater.

Meet the Dragons

This is an event where students/parents meet the fall sports teams. The teams will be selling items for dinner/dessert and will also have fun activities for the students! Come out and support the Dragons!

School Pictures

Individual pictures will be taken on Wednesday, October 5th. Seniors will be informed regarding dress/what to bring by Ms. Heimburger, the Senior Sponsor.

Textile Recycling Fundraising

Fall is the perfect time to get rid of old clothing and support the school’s athletic department! We will be collecting textiles (clothes, belts, shoes, bedding, rags/towels, curtains, soft toys, handbags) for recycling from September 1 to September 30. You can include textiles that are old, worn, torn, stained, etc... We will get paid by the trash bag (not weight), so please fill as many trash bags as possible and drop off at AHMS. You can drop off Monday – Friday in the front office between 7:30 – 16:30. All funds with go to the AMHS Athletics Department Activity Fund.

Attachments: Fall Sports Schedule
GradeSpeed informational sheet

Lunch Menu

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| <p>12</p> <p>Turkey w/Mashed Potatoes Breaded Chicken Chunks ABC Salad w/Crackers Hamburger Sliders Turkey Caesar Wrap Roasted Vegetable Medley Steamed Carrots Melon Cup Juicy Orange Wedges Dinner Roll</p> | <p>13</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 Mandarin Oranges Whole Fruit Bar</p> | <p>14</p> <p>Chicken & Mashed Potato Bowl Ham & 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 Cookie</p> | <p>15</p> <p>Early Release for Students School dismissed at 1120 hrs</p> | <p>16</p> <p>Baked Mozzarella Sticks Chicken Alfredo w/Pasta Tuna Salad Baked Potato w/Cheese Chicken Fillet Salad w/Crackers Garden Salad Cauliflower & Carrots Fresh Seasonal Fruit Chilled Peaches Fruited Jell-O</p> |
|--|---|---|--|---|

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 or Dr. Ronald McIntire, Isles District Superintendent at DSN226-7234/7252/7224.; or COM 01638-527234/7252/7224.

ALCONBURY DRAGONS FALL SPORTS 2011

CROSS COUNTRY

A - Lakenheath September 17
Menwith Hill

H - Brussels September 24
Menwith Hill
Lakenheath

A - ACS Cobham October 1
ISH
TASIS
ASL
Hillingdon

A - Menwith Hill October 8
Shape

H - Menwith Hill October 15
Homecoming

A - Menwith Hill October 22
Lakenheath
European Championships
Heidelberg October 29

TENNIS

H - Lakenheath September 17

H - AFNorth September 24

A - Brussels September 30

A - Shape October 1

H - Bitburg October 7

H - ISB October 15
Homecoming

European Championships
Wiesbaden October 27-29

FOOTBALL

Pre Season Jamboree
Lakenheath September 3

H - Menwith Hill September 10

A - Bamberg September 17

H - Brussels September 24

A - Rota October 1

A - Sigonella October 8

H - Menwith Hill October 15
Homecoming

Playoffs - October 29

Super Six

Baumholder November 5



VOLLEYBALL

A - Lakenheath September 17
Menwith Hill

A - Menwith Hill September 24

H - Brussels October 1
Menwith Hill
Rota

A - Menwith Hill October 8

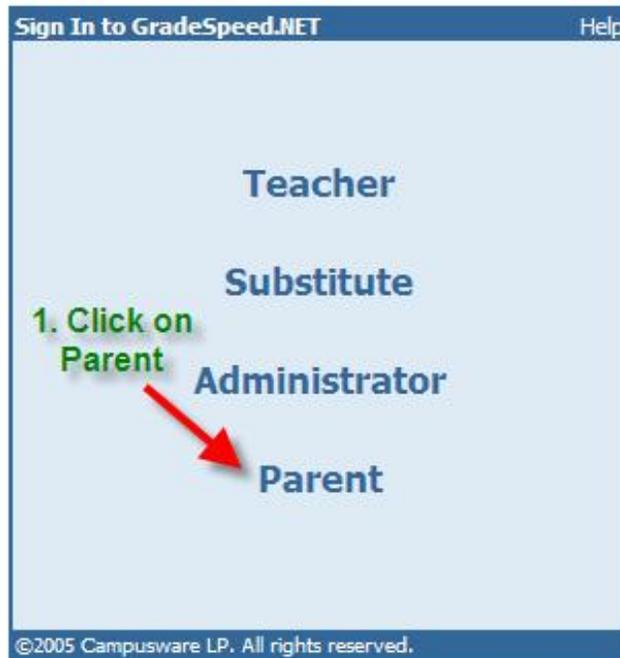
H - Menwith Hill October 15
Homecoming

A - Lakenheath October 22
SHAPE
Menwith Hill
Brussels

A - Cobham October 29
Menwith Hill
Lakenheath

European Championships
Kaiserslautern - Ramstein
November 3-5

Directions to Create a Parent Account in GradeSpeed



2. Select "Department of Defense Europe"

Sign In to ParentConnection Help

District Department of Defense Distance L

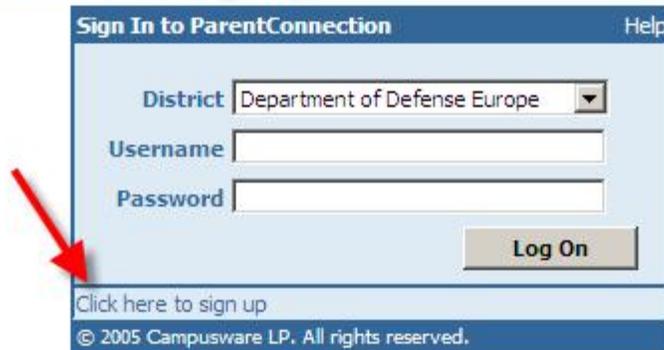
Username

Password

Log On

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3. Click on "Click Here to Sign Up"



Welcome to the ParentConnection and to the 2008-09 school year.

New Users:

If you do not already have a ParentConnection account, please select your district and then click on the 'Click here to sign up' text link above.

Returning Users:

Please select your district from the list above and then enter your username and password.

Please allow 3-5 days for us to process your account.

4. Fill out form.

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------|--------------------------|
| Username: | <input type="text"/> | Your First Name*: | <input type="text"/> | M.I. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Password: | <input type="password"/> | Your Last Name*: | <input type="text"/> | | |
| Confirm Password: | <input type="password"/> | Your Address*: | <input type="text"/> | | |
| | | | <input type="text"/> | | |
| | | City*: | <input type="text"/> | | |
| | | State*: | Armed forces Europe | | |
| | | Zip*: | <input type="text"/> | | |
| | | Primary Phone: | <input type="text"/> | | |
| | | Alternate Phone: | <input type="text"/> | | |

Email Addresses

Please click the button below to add an email address to this account.

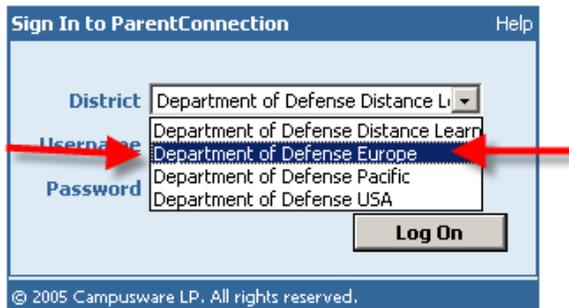
5. Click on Sign up

Add Email

Sign Up | Cancel

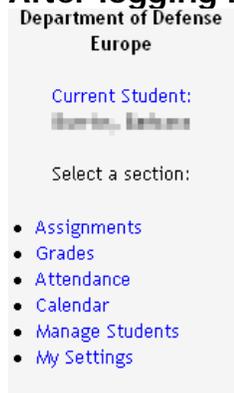
[Directions on how to see Overall Grades and Preview Assignments in the Parent Portal:](#)

Log onto Gradespeed at this address www.dodea.gradespeed.net



You must select Europe

After logging in with user name and password, this window will pop up...



Welcome to GradeSpeed ParentConnection!

Use the links on the left to view information about your students or to manage your account. Use the dropdown box to select which student you are currently viewing.

[Add a student to my account](#)

Click on Assignments...

ParentConnection **Opening Screen**

Display

Assignments: You are on the assignment page, select the period you wish to view from the drop down menu. *(This where you can view files attached to assignments.)*

Grades: When you select Grades, you will see your student's current teacher and their current grade.

- Assignments
- Grades
- Attendance
- Calendar
- Manage Students
- My Settings

3. Tarea: CP pp. 1-2 - Due Tuesday, September 9, 2008
Class: [Period P1](#). Spanish IV-1 - Cycle 1

Choose Grades ...

Student Grades

| Teacher | Period | Cycle 1 | Cycle 2 |
|-----------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|
| Barrack | P1 | B- | |
| Thompson, Kevle | P2 | A | |
| Johnson, Matthew | | B+ | |
| Davis, Scott | | A | |
| McCullough, David | | | |
| Rahn, Bernell | | A+ | |
| Heathley, Gay | P7 | B | |
| Telle, Theodore | P8 | | |

Your student's teachers, **click on their NAME** to send them an email.

Click on the letter grade to preview assignments.

Yearbook Prod-1 (Period P7) **85**

By clicking on the letter grade you see all of the assignments.

Grades 100 % You will not be able to view files attached in this view.

| Assignment | Assigned | Due | Grade | Note |
|-------------------|----------|---------|-------|------|
| layout and design | Sep-8 | Sep-9 | 85 | |
| | | Average | 85 | |

If you would like to view files attached, go back to your opening screen and select the period you are interested in from the drop down menu.



GradeSpeed

connecting DoDEA parents & students

Parental/Student Guidance on *GradeSpeed* Program Usage

For the 2008-2009 School Year, DoDEA has implemented *GradeSpeed* in all 4th - 12th grade classrooms worldwide. *GradeSpeed* is a web-based program that enables parents to log-in to view grade and attendance data for their student(s). *GradeSpeed* will be the only authorized and supported grade book used by DoDEA employees in Grades 4-12.

All teachers have secure access to *GradeSpeed* through the use of an Internet web browser. Teachers use the grade book portion of *GradeSpeed* to enter assignments, grades, and to maintain grade calculations. Teachers are also able to email progress reports to parents through *GradeSpeed*.

GradeSpeed provides secure parent access via the Parent Portal. Parents must register at: <http://dodea.gradespeed.net> to establish a personal *GradeSpeed* access account. After their account has been established, parents will be able to login to view grade and attendance data only for their student. They will also be able to view school announcements and calendar events. There is a note feature available in *GradeSpeed* that parents can use to directly contact their student's teachers.

Since *GradeSpeed* is web-based, the program can be accessed from anywhere. Parents who are deployed will be able to stay informed and involved in their child's academic life regardless of location.

GradeSpeed makes communication between parents and teachers easier, more effective and timelier. DoDEA's mission is continuous improvement toward academic success for all students. When parents have timely information about student progress and are involved in the education of their student, the entire learning environment is improved. *GradeSpeed* enhances that all-important connection between their home and the school.

Parents, remember the following:

- *GradeSpeed* is not intended to replace face-to-face communication between parents and teachers in meetings and parent conferences.
- A teacher's primary job is to teach! While communication with parents enhances the educational experience, parents must be reasonable about expectations on the posting of grades and responsiveness.
- Be patient when waiting for an email response.
- While students may have concerns about how much information parents will have, the truth is children with parents who are involved in their education have a much greater chance to be successful.
- Always keep your email address current.

For more information, go to: http://www.dodea.edu/back_to_school/gradeSpeed.cfm or contact your local principal.