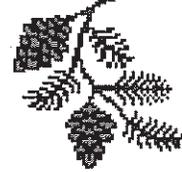




**SEASONS GREETINGS
TO ALL DODDS-EUROPE
FACULTY AND STAFF**



As another year passes I can't help but think about our achievements within DoDDS-Europe. Our successes are the result of incredible teamwork, proving once again that our greatest strength is our people. Our collective dedication, professionalism, skills, and resolve have been consistently demonstrated throughout the year and have served us well. I am proud of our accomplishments, very proud of all of you, and feel honored to work with you.

This month many of you will take leave to celebrate the holiday season. I encourage you to do that. It's a great time to focus on family and friends while addressing your social and spiritual needs and recharging yourselves for the coming year. As you celebrate, please remember the servicemembers deployed from our communities who are away from home and in harm's way. Please support their families here in Europe by continuing to monitor their children, provide a listening ear and counsel them as needed.

Although change on many fronts is imminent, the future is promising. We have a new President and administration, and a new DoDEA director. Our best wishes go with them. As 2008 ends, all of us have much upon which to reflect and much for which to be grateful. Some of the same challenges we have faced in 2008 will be with us in 2009, but I have no doubt you will step up to the plate and continue to hit homeruns.

Thank you for what you do for our students. I will keep all of you in my thoughts this holiday season. Be safe – your family, friends and co-workers need you back in 2009. Have a wonderful holiday season.

Diana J. Ohman
Director, DoDDS-Europe

