



ALLEN SCHOOL'S E-NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2006



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VOLUME 3, NUMBER 4

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**Funny Hair/
Hat Day**
December 15th

Remember:

Check your Email

Every Thursday

for Important School

Notices and Reminders!

Contact Information:

Mrs. Christine Pukenas
Principal

Mrs. Susan Troy
Secretary

Mrs. Mary Kondracki
Nurse

Dr. Deborah Haggett
Guidance

School Phone:
609-654-4203

If you know your party's ext.	Press 1
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Office	Press 2
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Nurse	Press 3
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Guidance	Press 4
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Media Ctr.	Press 5
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Absence Line	Press 6
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Allen Info.	Press 7
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District Office	609-654-6416
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Principal's Message

The hustle, bustle of the holiday season is upon us. In the spirit of remembering others and rekindling holiday traditions, Ms. Scanlon's fifth graders organized the toy drive for children who are less fortunate. Allen School students generously contributed new toys that will delight many children, during the holiday season.

Ms. Barne's class will now be [collecting snack foods](#) that will be utilized in the Ronald McDonald House where families of critically ill children can find a home away from home as they stay with their children who are receiving treatment or who are hospitalized.

We truly appreciate your contributions and support of these activities that are designed to model the importance of helping others.

I encourage you to enjoy the spirit of the holiday season with your children. Share family traditions and help them understand the meaning those values that are important to your family. Often, the simplicity of a celebration spent with family and friends can mean much more than an elaborate event.

Winter break will begin on Saturday, December 23rd. Friday, December 22nd, will be a one session day with dismissal at 1:05 p.m. School will reopen on Tuesday, January 2nd.

On behalf of our Allen School family, I would like to wish your family a very happy, healthy holiday season and best wishes for the New Year!

Christine G. Pukenas
Principal

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December Events

This year is packed full of great happenings at Allen! Here a just a few of the exciting events happening in December:

- Dec. 4th to Dec. 15th: [Holiday Snack Drive](#)

Emergency Closing Number: 668

[click here for 2 hr. delay info.](#)



C is for Choices
According to Jim Fay, author of *Becoming a Love and Logic Parent*, giving children choices is more effective than making demands. He suggests...
-Never give choices if it might cause problems for you or anyone else
-Give only two options for each choice, both equally okay with you. For example, "Would you like peas or carrots?" Or "Do you want to do homework now or in 15 minutes?"
-If the child doesn't decide within 10 seconds, make the choice for him or her.

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- *December 15th: Funny Hair/Hat Day*
- *December 22nd: Early Dismissal and Winter Movie*
- *December 25th to January 1st : Winter Break (School Resumes Jan. 2nd)*

[For more information and a complete list of ALL the 2006-2007 school year's events check out the online Allen School Calendar!](#)

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All in a Gator's Day

Here are just some of the things your children will be working on in December! [Disclaimer](#)

Kindergarten	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We will be reading about the Gingerbread Man and Gingerbread Baby. We will compare the two stories, sequence the events, and do projects with both books. Our Gingerbread "theme" will end on Friday, Dec. 15 when the parents are invited in to make Gingerbread Houses!</i> • <i>Concepts in Math to follow up at home: Counting forward 0 to 50; counting back from 12 to 0; understanding each "teen" number as 10 + a digit. Concepts of greater than and less than; read and record amounts of pennies using cent sign; and to generate, continue, a copy patterns.</i>
1st Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Trip Around the World to Celebrate Winter Holidays. We will hear music and stories, taste food and make crafts at each stop</i> • <i>Reading and Writing: sight words and letter sounds and making writing easier to read</i> • <i>Math: introduction. to the dime and telling time to the 1/2 hour. We will add and subtract and work with patterns.</i>
2nd Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Creating Gingerbread Houses with family members on Dec. 20th</i> • <i>Starting rocks/earth and Volcanoes in science</i> • <i>Celebrating our small moments theme in writing</i>
3rd Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Native Americans</i> • <i>Flat Stanley letters are pouring in!</i> • <i>Working on creative personal narratives</i>
4th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check out pictures from Art Night! • <i>Anxiously awaiting letters from various schools from various counties in NJ as a culminating activity in the study of New Jersey.</i>

5th Grade

- *Ahoy, mates! December is "Explorer Month" in the fifth grade! Students will sail the uncharted seas to bring us ships, maps, hall displays and speeches.*

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What's New on Allen's Website?

The Allen School website changes often! Make sure you check it daily!

[Disclaimer](#)

- [Favorite Sports/Team Day](#)
- *4th Grade Art Night Pictures: [Art Night Pictures!](#)*
- [December's Lunch Menu](#) has been posted!
- [Nurse's Page: My Pyramid Blast Off Game; Figuring out Food Labels; Kids' Nutrition and Fitness Center; Mission Nutrition Game; \[Nutritional Nuggets Newsletter\]\(#\)](#)
- [Guidance Page: KC3 Update: Superhero of Our Own Attitude! \[Firm, Fair and Consistent December Newsletter\]\(#\); Free printable reward charts site!](#)
- [Art Room: December's Artist of the Month \(5th Grader Sophia M.\) and 4th Grade Art Night Pictures!](#)

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Learning Links for Kids

Here are some great sites for kids that are fun and educational!

[Disclaimer](#)

- [Snowflake Patterns](#) (Grades K-5) *What a great family activity and a wonderful way to help decorate the house for winter! Choose from the 4 snowflake patterns, click on the size of the snowflake and instructions, and create these amazing snowflake patterns!*
- [Read and Build a Snowman](#) (Grades K-2) *Here is another great site from Starfall. At this interactive site, click on the words to have the story read to you or read and choose the clothes for your snowman. Print out the activity at the end to write about your snowman.*
- [Grow Your Own Snow Crystals](#) (Grades 4-5: Need Parent Supervision and help!) *What a fun activity for the holiday break! Most of the materials you will need are everyday household items and the directions are simple! Watch snow crystals grow right before your eyes!*
- [Happy New Year in Different Languages](#) (Grades 3-5) *This New Year, start a new tradition! At this Enchanted Learning site you can learn how to say, "Happy New*

Years" in many different languages! So, Yeni Yiliniz Kutlu Olsun!

[For more fun links and resources click here!](#)

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