



Season's Greetings

# ALLEN SCHOOL'S E-NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2008



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**Crazy Sock Day**  
**Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Contact Information:**

**Mrs. Jane Hower**  
*Principal*

**Mrs. Susan Troy**  
*Secretary*

**Mrs. Kathy Gigantiello**  
*Nurse*

**Mrs. Valerie Meslin**  
*Guidance*

**School Phone:**  
**609-654-4203**

**If you know your party's ext.**

**Press 1**

**Office**

**Press 2**

**Nurse**

**Press 3**

**Guidance**

**Press 4**

**Media Ctr.**

**Press 5**

**Absence Line**

**Press 6**

**Allen Info.**

**Press 7**

**District Office**

**609-654-6416**

**Emergency Closing Number:**  
**668**

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

## Principal's Message

What an exciting month November was at the Milton H. Allen School, each day was truly filled with the excitement of student learning! Crazy Hair Day, our Family Skate Night, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Art Night, and many wonderful Thanksgiving activities all combined together to make another wonderful month at Allen School!

Our thanks to all families who contributed to our food drive and to Mrs. Demski's class for taking leadership coordinating our school's efforts. Family Services Food Pantry of Burlington County expressed to Mrs. Demski's class their dire need of our help and their deep appreciation of Allen School's efforts; we were all touched by the generosity of the Allen School Families. [Take a look at some photos here!](#)

In December we would like to continue our efforts to help others with our annual **B101 Holiday Stocking Toy Drive**. Mrs. Scanlon's class will be taking leadership over this project which works together with the Salvation Army for the children of the Delaware Valley.

The holiday season is upon us, adding to the already hectic pace of our lives. Many families are making efforts to gather at the dinner table more and the Allen School Staff would like to help our families create more quality time together as family. An article in the New York Times (April 2007) reported that a number of studies show that children who eat dinner with their families regularly are less likely to get involved with drugs and alcohol than those who do not. "They also tend to get better grades, exhibit less stress and eat better."

We will be starting a new Allen School tradition by selecting one night each month school-wide which will be free of homework. On these evenings, designated as "**Family Fun Night**" we will be encouraging families to enjoy time together as a family by playing a board game together, doing an arts and crafts activity, reading stories together, etc. Our first evening is on the calendar for **December 11<sup>th</sup>**!

On behalf of our Allen School Family I would like to publicly thank the Medford Education Foundation (MEF) for the generous gift we recently received which will be put towards technology equipment for our students.

I am looking forward to the month of December with your children and all the joy and excitement they will share! The entire staff of Allen School extends our best wishes for a happy holiday season and all the best in the New Year!

*Mrs. Jane Hower*



### **J** is for Jobs

Giving jobs at home teaches responsibility and other valuable lessons.

-Young children follow directions as they sort socks or set a table. Older children take on bigger tasks.

-Don't expect a job to be done right unless you take the time to teach the child to do it right.

-Don't take away from a child's sense of accomplishment by redoing a job. With practice and encouragement, jobs help develop responsibility and a strong work ethic as they set the stage for success in life.

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## 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. 5<sup>th</sup> : Funny Sock Day**
- **Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>: 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Gingerbread Houses**
- **Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>: Kindergarten Gingerbread Houses**
- **Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>: Early Dismissal**
- **Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> to January 4<sup>th</sup>: Winter Break: School reopens on January 5<sup>th</sup>**

## Upcoming January Events

**Mark your calendars for these upcoming exciting events!**

- **Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> : [2 hr. Delayed opening](#) (click for more info.)**
- **Jan 19<sup>th</sup>: No School**
- **Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>: Beach Day**
- **Jan 28<sup>th</sup>: 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Winter Festival**
- **Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>: Report Cards**

**[For more information and a complete list of ALL the 2008-2009 school year's events check out the online Allen School Calendar!](#)**

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## What's New on Allen's Website?

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

[Disclaimer](#)

- **[Crazy Hair/Hat Day!](#) Check out the video of pictures**
- **[December's Lunch Menu](#) has been posted!**
- **[Principal Page:](#) new message from Mrs. Hower and photos from November's Principal Lunch honoring Allen School leaders**
- **[Guidance Page:](#) December's Character Education theme is Compassion and Caring and pictures of the Allen School Peace Quilt**
- **[Media Center:](#) NEW PODCAST!**
- **[Art Room:](#) December's Artist of the Month**
- **[3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:](#) : Wild Animal Movies**

- [4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Online Mystery Stories](#)
- [5<sup>th</sup>: Grade: Food Drive Photos](#)

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## Learning Links for Kids:

Check out some of Mrs. Schoenberger's favorite new sites. Click on the links below! [Disclaimer](#)

- [Video Reading of Gingerbread Baby](#) (All Grades) *Gingerbread Baby by Jan Brett Is a favorite holiday story read by numerous classes. The students will love watching and listening to the author read her story and draw the Gingerbread Baby.*
- [Free Rice](#) (Grades 5 and parents) *"FreeRice is a sister site of Poverty.com. Our partners are the Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University and the United Nations World Food Program" For every answer you get right, the website will donate 20 grains of rice through the UN World Food Program to help end hunger.*
- [Childtopia](#) (K-5) *This is a great website with over 1400 educational games and over 500 educational websites for all ages. You can play and learn in a safe internet site.*
- [Create Your Own Gingerbread House](#) (K-5) *At this site you can create your own virtual Gingerbread house and you won't have to clean up! Choose from various candies and food to decorate your house. Don't forget to add the icing! When your masterpiece is complete, you can print it out!*

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

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