



ALLEN SCHOOL'S E-NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2009



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VOLUME 5, NUMBER 5

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Report Cards
Jan. 30th

Contact Information:

Mrs. Jane Hower
Principal

Mrs. Susan Troy
Secretary

Mrs. Kathy Gigantiello
Nurse

Mrs. Valerie Meslin
Guidance

School Phone:
609-654-4203

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

Emergency Closing Number:
668

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

Principal's Message

The New Year is sure to continue to bring many wonderful things to Allen School. As I take this opportunity to reflect upon the past year I am filled with gratitude. Gratitude for the joy the Allen School children bring each and every day and gratitude to all who have made me feel so at home here. 2008 has been an incredible year for me, and I know 2009 is going to be even better!

The generosity of the entire Allen School community has been overwhelming. The Food Drive to assist Family Services of Burlington County and the annual [Toy Drive](#) were extremely well supported and reminded our students how important it is to think of others. We thank our fifth graders for their leadership on these projects.

If you have the opportunity, please stop by to see the Allen School [Peace Quilt](#) hanging across from our Main Office. Under the direction of our School Counselor, Valerie Meslin, each classroom prepared a unique square. It is sure to bring a smile to your face!

Our Media Center "face lift" will be completed soon. Mrs. King and Mrs. Schoenberger have been meeting monthly with each grade level to collaborate and integrate both technology and the Media Center into each grade level's instruction and activities. It is an exciting process, generating so many wonderful ideas and a lot of enthusiasm with our staff, translating into great things for our students! We hope you have the opportunity to regularly check the Allen School website; Mrs. Schoenberger does a fantastic job posting pictures from our student activities and keeping everyone updated on all that is happening at Allen School!

We hope your family was able to enjoy our first monthly "Homework Free Family Night", we have set January 13th as our second evening. We are all sensitive to the hectic schedules and many activities we are all trying to juggle. As a staff we have agreed to set one day each month when homework will not be assigned. Our hope is that families will be able to spend some quality time together; reading, playing a game, or watching a movie and talking about it. Many students shared their family activity and expressed how much they enjoyed this special time in their journal entries, so we will continue, setting one day each month.

We do not want to confuse these "homework free" evenings with our annual Family **Fun** Night on January 23rd. We are all looking forward to that evening, it is sure to be a great time under the direction of Mr. Bruchansky. We hope to see all the Allen School families there!

I would also like to remind everyone again of the two hour delayed opening on January 14th. This is a new concept the district is implementing for teacher in-service training. This gives our staff two hours of in-service training which will directly benefit our students.

We will try to go outside for recess whenever possible so please make sure your children dress warmly; long pants, hats and gloves. Please label all of your child's belongings, we do make an effort to return all items to students but our lost and found is filled with unmarked



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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clothing.

January is sure to be another busy month, so please note the events and dates below. If at any time you have concerns, questions, or ideas for Allen School, please feel free to contact me either by phone or e-mail. On behalf of the Allen School staff we wish you a year filled with happiness, good health, and prosperity!

Mrs. Jane Hower
Principal

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January Events

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

- **Jan. 13th: NO HOMEWORK NIGHT! Family Fun Night**
- **Jan. 13th: HSA Meeting at Allen School**
- **Jan. 14th : [2 hr. Delayed opening](#) (click for more info.)**
- **Jan 14th: 5th Grade Parent Meeting**
- **Jan 19th: No School**
- **Jan 23rd: Beach Day**
- **Jan 23rd: Family Fun Night Beach Party at 6:30**
- **Jan 28th: 2nd Grade Winter Festival**
- **Jan. 30th: Report Cards**

Upcoming February Events

Mark your calendars for these upcoming exciting events!

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

- **Feb. 6th: Favorite Sports Day**
- **Feb. 12th: Sweetheart Breakfast**
- **Feb. 13th: No School: Conferences**
- **Feb. 16th: No School: President's Day**
- **Feb. 19th: 5th Grade Science Fair and Ice Cream Social**

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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 Sock Day Video!](#) Check out the video of pictures**

- [January's Lunch Menu](#) has been posted!
- [Principal Page](#): new message from Mrs. Hower
- [Guidance Page](#): January's Character Education theme is Helpful and pictures of the Allen School Peace Quilt
- [Media Center](#): NEW PODCAST!
- [Art Room](#): January's Artist of the Month and link to Art Goes to School website for art activities
- [1st Grade](#): Happy New Year
- [2nd Grade](#): Holiday Book Reports
- [5th Grade](#): Winter Songs and Toy Drive Smilebox

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Learning Links for Kids:

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

- [Kevin Henkes Author Website](#) (Grade 2) *Second grade is completing an author study of Kevin Henkes. They will even be writing a letter to him! This site is part of the Kevin Henkes website where you can print some fun games that are evolved around some of his favorite characters.*
- [Shapes in Shapeville](#) (Kindergarten) *This month Kindergarten students will be working on identifying shapes. On this site, you can choose from three games to find various shapes in pictures.*
- [Spanish](#) (K-5) *This is a great website for learning Spanish. Students will have pictures with words in English and Spanish. Just click on the picture and a person will say the word in Spanish. Try out some of the games to really test your Spanish knowledge!*
- [Tutpup](#) (K-5) *"This is a free education website geared for ages 5 to 14 with simple, fun, and competitive games that help students learn and gain confidence in Math and English. Students can compete in fun, education games against other kids from all over the World!" Students need to log in so parental assistance is needed.*

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

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