



ALLEN SCHOOL'S E-NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2008



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SUMMER EDITION

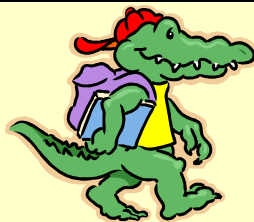
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**First Day of
School
September 4th**

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

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

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to you, our parents and dedicated volunteers, for all of your support throughout the year. Allen School would never be able to do the types of things that we do without your commitment and dedication on behalf of the children. The camaraderie of our Allen School family is what makes our school so special and we truly appreciate each and every one of you.

As our fifth graders move to Haines, we extend our congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for happiness and success in Middle School. To our returning "Gators", have a happy and safe summer. Look for great things in 2008-2009!

Christine G. Pukenas
Principal

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Beware of the Summer Slide!

<http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140--69358--,00.html>

Summer is right around the corner and kids (parents and teachers, too!) can't wait for a summer of fun and play. Unfortunately, summer is also when students forget many of their important math and reading skills that they learned throughout the year. This "summer slide" causes teachers to spend valuable time re-teaching students those lost skills and it reduces the amount of time available to master new subjects and skills. As parents, you can help stop the summer slide by engaging in daily learning (and fun!) activities that help keep your child learning all summer long.

Make It A Smarter Summer!

- ✓ **Learn through travel.** Research the destination WITH your child. Create a PowerPoint that can be shown to friends about where you will be visiting. Have your child keep a journal during the trip or write postcards from your journeys.
- ✓ **Learn through science.** Conduct wacky science experiments (Janice Cleave's '200 Goey, Slippery, Slimy, Weird and Fun Experiments). Explore your backyard, use plant and animal guidebooks and keep a record of the nature in notebook. Draw a map of your yard and create a key to the critters and plants that



Z is for ZOOMED.

The school year has *zoomed* by! It has been a great year full of learning and fun. Thank you, parents, for supporting our school and encouraging your child all year long. Thank you, teachers and assistants, for coming up with interesting ways to learn. And thanks to our custodians, secretaries, bus drivers, and cooks, who keep us all safe, informed, on time, and well fed. Finally, thank you students! You gave your best efforts. You grew in so many ways. Have a great summer, and we look forward to seeing you next school year.

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- ✓ inhabit your backyard or park.
- ✓ **Learn through math.** Collect shells and sort them. Count how many you have and create math problems using the shells. Throw money in the pool and have your child collect and count them. Use the computer to practice math with the tons of fun online games. Set up a Lemonade stand to practice money skills.
- ✓ **Learn through reading.** Organize a summer reading group and develop interactive games for each part of the book such as acting out a part of the book, drawing a scene, write their own endings, make up quiz questions, and write/email the author. Participate in Book Adventure.

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Summer Activities and Resources

Summer is a great time to engage your child in fun and educational activities that will keep their mind active and will help stop the summer slide! [Disclaimer.](#)

[Sylvan Learning Activity Packets](#)

Sylvan offers several free printable activity packets to help students develop a love of learning. The 31 page math booklet has a month's worth of fun math trivia, puzzles, and writing opportunities (complete with answers) for grades 4-12. Personalize and print out a writing journal. The Family Fun booklet provides 7 days of family fun activities such as starting a memory book, making your own play dough, and having a book inspired feast!

Math Packet

[Sylvan's Math Activity Booklet pages 1 - 10](#) (1.44 MB)

[Sylvan's Math Activity Booklet pages 11 - 21](#) (1.75 MB)

[Sylvan's Math Activity Booklet pages 22 - 31](#) (1.74 MB)

[Sylvan's Math Activity Booklet Answers](#) (155 KB)

[Summer Fun Learning Guide](#)

[Seven Days of Activities for Families](#)

[Writing Journal](#)

[Family FUNdamentals Home Learning Activities \(Pre K-2\)](#)

Michigan State's Education Department is also offering free printable activity packets designed for preschoolers through second graders (soon to be third graders). There are a whopping 40 pages of literacy activities and TONS of resources to help reinforce reading skills with additional learning materials!

[Book Adventure \(K-8\)](#)

This is must see site! This is a FREE (but must register) reading motivational program by Sylvan Learning. Kids select books to read from over 6,000 recommended titles from the Book List, they take a multiple choice quiz after reading their book, and earn points and prizes for their knowledge. There is also a great parent section that will help you set up a book group, and it's packed with great resources.

[Have an A+ Summer from Scholastic](#)

This is a great site for families! Check out the calendar for ideas for everyday of the summer! The family fun section features fun activities and ideas for all members of the family. The learning vacations and summer reads also provide non-stop ideas to keep your mind and body active this summer!

[Summer Boredom Busters](#)

No more whining about nothing to do! This Family Education website has tons of ways to keep summer boredom at bay! [Check out their summer learning activities too!](#)

[66 Days of Summer Learning Activities](#)

Partnership for Learning has come up with 66 simple FUN activities that are also wonderful learning activities.

[For a complete listing of resources in All Areas, click here!](#)

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Supply Lists, Summer Reading, & Teacher Biographies

The school supply lists for each grade level are posted on their web pages. In addition the required summer book is listed along with some activities for the book and check out the teacher biographies!

Class	Summer Reading	Supply List	Teacher Biographies
Kindergarten	None	Supply List	Teachers
1st Grade	Summer Reading	Supply List	Teachers
2nd Grade	Summer Reading	Supply List	Teachers
3rd Grade	Summer Reading	Supply List	Teachers
4th Grade	Summer Reading	Supply List	Teachers
5th Grade	Summer Reading	Supply List	Teachers

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2008-2009 School Calendar

Start planning the next year! Check out next year's [school calendar of events!](#)

Disclaimer.

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