



ALLEN SCHOOL'S E-NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2006



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Report Cards
November 17th

Contact Information:

Mrs. Christine Pukenas
Principal

Mrs. Susan Troy
Secretary

Mrs. Mary Kondracki
Nurse

Dr. Deborah Haggett
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>	609-654-6416

Emergency Closing Number:
668

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

Principal's Message

The arrival of November's chilly days is accompanied by many special events at Allen School. Parents/guardians will be invited to join us in celebrating American Education Week by visiting our school on November 15th and November 16th. More information will be coming about Visitation Day at a later date. School will not be in session on Election Day, Teachers' Convention, and the Thanksgiving Holiday.

In conjunction with developing healthy choices in nutrition, exercise, and life style activities and in preparation for implementing the New Jersey School Nutrition Policy, we will be changing some of our lunch/recess procedures. Students currently have the option of participating in the Recess Runners (Walking) program, two days per week. This outstanding fitness activity has children enthusiastically logging mile after mile and earning tokens along the way! Based on research, it is healthier to exercise before eating. With this in mind, the scheduled lunch period times will remain the same, but beginning November 6th, children at Allen School will have their recess first and then eat lunch. To insure cleanliness, hand sanitizers will be available for use prior to touching any food. If your child is unable to use a hand sanitizer, please contact Ms. Kondracki. If your child brings loose change to school, it should be securely stored in a pocket or container to minimize any loss while on the playground. As a reminder, money can be deposited in your child's cafeteria account, at any time. The rationale for having recess before eating lunch is currently being explained to the children before the change is implemented. Teaching our children the importance of developing a healthy lifestyle continues to be a goal for Allen School!

Children will go outside for recess during cold weather days unless there is snow on the ground or a wind chill factor that makes it unsafe. Students should come to school with appropriate warm clothing; winter jackets, head covers, and gloves or mittens.

Congratulations to our book fair volunteers for the overwhelming success of the event. Allen School sold over \$15,000 worth of materials. The profit from the sales will certainly benefit all the children. We extend our heartfelt thanks for all your hard work!

Allen School would also like to thank the Home and School Association for their generosity. Due to the efforts of this dedicated group of volunteers, we are purchasing new technology equipment in the form of "thin clients" and flat



B is for Bedtime
 Awwwww, Mom! Already?
 Sound familiar? On average, children need 8 to 10 hours of sleep each night. Sleep is important for many reasons. Lack of sleep can cause kids to be hypersensitive, impatient, or cranky. It is more difficult for children to concentrate and learn when they are tired. (Some doctors even believe that during sleep the brain "files away" what is learned during the day.) Encouraging quiet activities such as reading-just prior to bedtime offers a transition that helps children relax. Sweet dreams!

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screen monitors that will be utilized in the Media Center and classrooms. These additional computers will benefit all children. We are truly grateful for the generous donations and dedication to "our kids".

Look for Allen informational news updates or flyers to arrive electronically on Thursdays. We will make every effort, whenever possible, to send a "Thursday Packet" to minimize inundating you with e-mail or paper.

On behalf of our staff, I encourage you to enjoy the beauty of this fall season. In anticipation of Thanksgiving and the holidays, we share our gratitude with you and continue our hope for world peace and tolerance.

Christine G. Pukenas
Principal

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November Events

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

- **November 7th, 9th, and 10th : No School**
- **Nov. 13-17th: [Toy Drive](#)**
- **Nov. 15th and 16th: School Visitation**
- **Nov. 16: 4th Grade Art Night and [Author Visit](#)**
- **Nov. 17th: Author Visit, Report Cards, and Favorite Team/Sports Day**
- **Nov. 20th, 21st, 22nd : Parent/Teacher Conferences (No school on the 22nd)**
- **November 23rd and 24th: Thanksgiving Break, No School**

[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 October! [Disclaimer](#)

Kindergarten	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "TH" is for Thankful! Mrs. Hamilton and Mrs. Brownlee are thankful for their good listeners • New Math Skills to Master and Nursery Rhymes to learn • Parents: continue reviewing the letters and their sounds
1st Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math: Introducing Dimes and Time to the ½ hour • Spanish: Learning the Spanish names for family members: Madre, Padre

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science: Examining different habitats and see how animals and plants need them.
2nd Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature Theme in Reading: identifying animal tracks and making animal fact posters. • Math: addition and subtraction strategies: doubles, turnaround facts and fact families. Cool math games to practice math strategies. • Small moment personal narratives in writer's workshop
3rd Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat Stanley Letters are coming in! Check the map outside of the 3rd grade rooms! • 1st DARE lesson coming soon! • Science: studying animals and will be displaying seed projects.
4th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4th Grade Art Night: Nov. 16th • Continuing Practicing Multiplication Facts • Reading Unit 2: Earth Patrol: Preserve and Protect
5th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D.A.R.E. program with Officer Haggerty has begun • All reading novels and learning about Voyager I and II • Math: "American Tour" Learning about the Census and using Excel to graph results of Classroom Census

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What's New on Allen's Website?

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

[Disclaimer](#)

- [***Clash Day/Backwards Day Pictures!***](#)
- [***November's Lunch Menu has been posted!***](#)
- [***Nurse's Page: Why does Thanksgiving Dinner make us so sleepy? Tips to avoid a drowsy Thanksgiving; Recipes for healthy Thanksgiving meals; Recipes to make with the kids.***](#)
- [***Guidance Page: Violence and Vandalism Week; KC3 update; kids giving thanks and family fun thanksgiving activities.***](#)
- [***Media Center: Information about November's visiting author Vicki Cobb and a link to her website.***](#)
- [***Art Room: Student Artist of the Month: Caroline W.***](#)

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Learning Links for Kids

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

[Disclaimer](#)

- **[Thank You Certificates](#) (Grades K-5) *Thanksgiving is the one holiday set aside to give thanks and be grateful for all that you have. These printable Thanksgiving certificates are perfect for kids to express their gratitude.***
- **[You Are the Historian: Investigating the First Thanksgiving](#) (Grades 3-5) *This is a WONDERFUL interactive site to teach kids about the history of Thanksgiving day. Learn about the myths surrounding the holiday, see how the colonists and Indians celebrated Thanksgiving, read and interpret primary sources, and so much more!***
- **[Silly Turkey Interactive Story](#) (Grade K-1) *Another great interactive story from Starfall. Students can choose to decorate a turkey in various ways and then choose a book for the turkey. Print out the extension activity that asks kids to write about their favorite book. A fun activity for beginning readers. Also, try the ["Turkey and Turkey"](#) online story!***
- **[The First Thanksgiving](#) (Grades 3-5) *Scholastic has another wonderful interactive site where kids can learn how the Pilgrims reached America and lived to celebrate the First Thanksgiving. Tour the Mayflower, compare and contrast the Indian life from the life of the colonists, and watch a slideshow explaining the First Thanksgiving.***

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

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