



# Alpine Elementary School December Newsletter

December 2012

## Principal's Message

In an effort to help those families affected by the storm, Alpine Elementary School started three fundraisers: one for the local families that were displaced, one for the local county relief through a food drive and one for helping a Jersey shore school which was affected by the storm.

Kim Bambara, a 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade teacher worked with a retired Sparta teacher & a Lavallette resident to coordinate the effort. The Lavallette Elementary School was chosen and the "Kids Helping Kids" program was launched. AES collected \$860 in gift cards and cash for helping Lavallette Elementary teachers obtain needed supplies while being housed in temporary facilities.

The Sparta Alpine teachers, students and parents hope that this will provide some small measure of help during the difficult rebuilding period for the students and their families.

The food drive was a huge success again this year and collected food and other household items for local families.

In addition, the AES staff collected over \$500 that was matched by the Alpine PTO for Alpine School families.

Thank you for your very generous donations!

Mr. Leone. Principal

## Character Education

This month's character education trait is caring. We want our kids to place a high value on helping other people, which is what caring is all about. When we teach kids to care, not only do they learn how to care about themselves, but they also learn how to care for others and make the world a better place.

December 10th is Human Rights Day

Human Rights Day presents an opportunity, every year, to celebrate human rights and advocate for the full enjoyment of all human rights by everyone everywhere.

Mrs. Yanoff, Guidance Counselor

## Language Arts News

Welcome Common Core Standards! Alpine Elementary teachers and students have been engaged in the implementation of the new English Language Arts Common Core Standards beginning the first day of school. The new standards are the expectations that help teachers make sure their students have the skills and knowledge they need at each grade level.

### Parent Tips...How can I help my child?

- Talk to your child about what they are learning.
- As you read with your child, ask him/her in-depth how and why questions that encourage him/her to analyze and synthesize texts. For example, ask your child to compare and contrast different texts on the same topic as you read them.
- The National Parent Teacher Association (PTA) offers guides on the implementation of the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts. Please visit the website for additional information:

<http://pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2583>

Yours in ELA,  
Mrs. Leala Baxter

## Upcoming Events

### December

4 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Gr. Young Consumer Family Night
5 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Gr. Young Consumer Family Night
7 <sup>th</sup>	Report Cards Posted School Spirit Wear Day
10 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday Shoppe
10 <sup>th</sup>	BOE Meeting
14 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Gr. Field Trip Paper Mill Playhouse
21 <sup>st</sup>	Character Education - Wear Red for Caring
24 <sup>th</sup> -31 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday Recess Schools Closed

Alpine Elementary School  
151 Andover Road  
973-729-3107