

August 24, 2015



Dear Parents and Families:

I trust that you had a wonderful summer and enjoyed your time with each other. My summer was spectacular! As the beginning of school draws nearer, I just want to extend to you and your child my warmest welcome into our classroom. My name is Mrs. Alta Allen and I will be your child's homeroom teacher this year. This will be my eighth year working at Hertford Grammar School, but I have thirty-seven years of experience as an Elementary Educator. I graduated from East Carolina University with an undergraduate degree and also a master's degree in Elementary Education. I continued my education at ECU where I received a Masters in School Administration. I was extremely excited to acquire my National Board Certification in 2009. Over my numerous years in education I have taught Kindergarten to ninth grade as well as served as the director of instructional technology in a neighboring school system.

Personally I enjoy spending time reading, knitting, and learning new exciting ways to use technology to enhance education. I love spending time with my family: Dustin - 32, Will - 26, my husband Butch and my mom. I am also excited to be a Mimi and love to play with my 1-yr. old granddaughter who is named Altalee. I feel so honored that she is named after me. Some people find it amazing that I ride my very own Harley Davidson.

My philosophy for learning is that each child is unique, and each child learns in a different way. One of my jobs as a teacher is to help your child discover his or her individuality and work alongside with them to maximize it. I believe in hands-on experiences, learning creatively and, as their Language Arts teacher, immersing your child in books. We will do a great deal of reading this year during school and your child will be expected to read at home nightly. Your help in listening to them, reading with them, and encouraging them will be greatly appreciated. My goal is to help them become lifelong readers who truly love and enjoy books.

I believe that continuous communication is crucial. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns throughout the year. My email is altaallen@pcs.k12.nc.us and my school phone 252-426-7166; extension 281. You can access information about our classroom events, classroom/school calendar, and other important information at my HGS website: <http://hertfordgrammar.org/HGS/Welcome.html> (go to classes). We will also communicate using our i-pads and a behavioral calendar log. We will use the behavioral calendar log to record nightly homework assignments and record each day's behavioral level. This is also where I write notes to you as needed. Please remember to review and sign this log **each** evening.

I am really looking forward to another fun-filled and educational year!

Yours for education,
Mrs. Alta Allen