

## **Captain's Log** **By Principal Mohler**

“Be careful to leave your sons well instructed rather than rich,  
for the hopes of the instructed are better than the wealth of the ignorant.”

**Epictetus**

*We Have Been Awarded Another Award* – Amana has been awarded one of 10 Weyerhaeuser Recycling Awards. This is a \$1500 grant that will be put to use in our recycling program. Thank you to the Environmental Crew (Lemiya Jaleel in particular) for writing and submitting the grant. Amana will be showcased at a special luncheon on January 29<sup>th</sup>.

*After School Program* – Please remember that our after school program is a structured program in which students are expected to participate in scheduled activities. It is not a babysitting program and should not be used as one. There is a waiting list for this program so if it is not something that you feel is beneficial to your child, please allow for another child to participate that could really benefit from these activities. Students are expected to follow the Responsibility Agreements just as they would during school hours. Students who do not follow the agreements will be asked to leave the program. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

*School Directories* – Amana's first Family Directory should have made it to your home by now. If you did not receive this beautiful publication, please ask Ms. Mary in the office for one. Thank you to the PIE Crew that made this possible.

*New Staff Members* – Due to the increase in ESOL students this year, we have had to hire another fulltime ESOL teacher. We are so lucky to have found Karen Helz who comes to us from Pennsylvania. She has over 20 years experience as an ESOL teacher and sought Amana out specifically. She will start on January 8<sup>th</sup>. We also have hired a new Kindergarten TA for Ms. Deb's class because Mr. John will start school across the country in January. The new TA is Djaouida Bensaadoun and comes to us with years of experience in early childhood education. She is also currently pursuing her education degree at Georgia Perimeter College. Although we will miss John terribly, we are very excited about Djaouida joining the Amana family.

*Enrollment* – Beginning in January Amana will start the reenrollment process for our returning students and priority registration for siblings. Please watch your child's take home folder and the website for this very important information. All families will be required to return forms in order to secure a spot for next year. Open enrollment for new families will begin in late February and early March.

*Paperless Communication* – Amana will begin ONLY paperless communications in January 2007. In the meantime, the Middle School Crew will begin piloting this effort starting this week. Please make sure that you have given your email address to your child's teacher(s) and that you can regularly access the Amana website for updates and important information.

*Showcase Night* – December 19<sup>th</sup> Amana will be hosting its first Showcase Night of the 2006-2007 school year. This is a night in which students will be showing you what they have learned and what is still to come for the rest of the year. It will be a fun night that your student is very excited about sharing with you. Please look for more information to come home from your child's class about their particular showcase.

*Narrative Report Cards* – For those of you new to Amana, Narrative Report Cards are a very valuable document about your child. It gives information about what has been covered in each subject area at your child's grade level as well as specific information about what your child is doing in each subject. It also gives suggestions and ideas for you to help at home to help your child succeed. These report cards will be

coming home with the standard Fulton County Report Cards the first week we get back to school in January. Please look for it in your child's Communication Folder.

**Put these dates on your calendar:**

- December 15<sup>th</sup> – Family Fun Night – Sports-a-Rama – 6:00-9:00pm
- December 16<sup>th</sup> – Amana Board Meeting 9:30am
- December 19<sup>th</sup> – Showcase Night 6:00pm-8:00pm
- December 21<sup>st</sup> – Community Circle 2:00pm
- December 22<sup>nd</sup> – January 5<sup>th</sup> Winter Break

“We cannot hold a torch to light another's path without brightening our own.”

**Ben Sweetland**