

**I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel. - Maya Angelou**

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**Get to know YOUR first grade teachers!**



**Mrs. York, Mrs. Serio, and Ms. West**

**Ms. Karen West:** I have been teaching at CSLA for 19 years. Most of my time here was in kindergarten, but I have been in first grade for 6 years now.

I have three grown children of my own. Becky-33, Emily-31 and Kyle-26, of whom I am very proud! I also have a 9-year-old granddaughter, Kynlee who is going into fourth grade here at CSLA and a 18<sup>th</sup> month old granddaughter. I graduated from UTC with my Master's in Teacher Leadership in 2013, and have also been part of the Leadership Fellows Program and STEM Fellows program with PEF. Five summers ago, I went to Kenya, as part of a grant I received from the Public Education Foundation. That was a life changing experience.

I LOVE teaching first grade. The students' excitement for learning is amazing! I can't wait to see that excitement on your children's faces.

**Mrs. Lauren Serio:** I am so excited to begin my sixth year teaching 1<sup>st</sup> grade! I love being a part of the CSLA family.

I am a native Chattanooga. I graduated from UTC in 2012 with a degree in Early Childhood Education and Special Ed. This year, I am a part of PEF's Leadership Fellows Cohort 20. Through this experience, I will learn the ins and outs of effective school leadership.

My husband, Dax, spent five years in the 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Battalion in Savannah, GA before becoming a mechanical engineer. We love to spend time outside and explore our beautiful city!

I cannot wait to get to know this group of first graders! We are going to have a GREAT year!

**Mrs. Corey York:** I am so excited to start another year in 1<sup>st</sup> grade at CSLA! This will be my fourth year teaching. I have been teaching 1<sup>st</sup> grade at CSLA since I graduated from Lee University in 2015 with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. My husband Anthony works at Lee as the Coordinator of Lights and Visual Production. We got married last June and are expecting a baby girl, Delanie, this July. I will be back at CSLA by the end of September! I can't wait to get to know your children next year. We will learn a lot as a first grade family and we'll have lots of fun too!

## Summer Projects

Every first grader is **REQUIRED** to complete **ALL** of the following:

- 1) **Have your first grader complete a time line** of his or her life with at least 4 (you can do more) significant life events that are labeled and illustrated. Additionally, we would like to have each student add what he or she envisions himself or herself doing in the future. You can use a strip of paper, a poster board, or another means to display the events. You may use self-drawn pictures or photographs.
  
- 2) **Record all books read.** These may include books your child reads alone or books read together. Please **DO NOT** include books you read **TO** your child. Please use the attached reading log.
  
- 3) **Community Service Project (Service Learning)** One of the components of our school is that students participate in a variety of service learning projects. Our goal in first grade is to show students that no matter how young or small we are...we **CAN** change the world. Find something that is important to your child or family...and make a difference! Again, please use the attached service learning sheet. This project is key to our curriculum in first grade.





