

Matthew 6:33

“Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

As adventurers in first grade we explore the amazing world that God has made and the wonderful things in it. We also explore the leadership and character traits set forth in His Word and begin to learn how to apply them to our lives.



Kelsey Noll

Mrs. Noll has been a CLA teacher since 2012. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from FSU. She loves teaching at CLA because the focus is not just on academic excellence, but also the heart of each child. She loves the partnership with each parent in all aspects of their child's education. Mrs. Noll has 3 children and loves that she has the opportunity as a parent to raise them within the CLA community.



Jessica McPherson

Mrs. McPherson joined CLA in 2021 as a 1st Grade teacher. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies with Behavior and Education from Liberty University and will complete her Master of Arts in Elementary Education in May 2022. She feels blessed to be a part of a school that educates students in biblical values. She loves working with a wonderful community of teachers who strengthen and support each other. She also feels blessed to have an amazing community of supportive and prayerful families to serve. Mrs. McPherson and her husband met on a mission trip to Trinidad in 2016. They moved to Tallahassee in March 2020 and have two fur babies, Charlie (Boxer Mix) and Pheobe (Goldendoodle). She and her husband attend Red Hills Church in Bradfordville.

BIBLE & LEADERSHIP

In first grade, we focus on understanding the greatest storyline of all time: the story of a creator God, his love for us, and the sacrifice of His Son to bring us back to Him. Each month, one of CLA's ten leadership traits is highlighted as the focus of study, discussion, and practice.

READING

First grade focuses on taking the building blocks of reading: phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension and mixes in confidence to create readers! At CLA, these goals are accomplished through our assigned level readers as well as independent books and read aloud.

MATH

Students focus on mastering addition and subtraction facts and using these to learn to add and subtract larger numbers. Students also explore concepts such as shape, length, weight, graphs, time, and money.

GRAMMAR

Students are introduced to the foundational parts of speech; learning to recognize each in a sentence and utilize these parts of speech in their own writing. Students also gain a firm grasp of a complete sentence, capitalization, and punctuation.

SPELLING

Students learn to spell words focusing on one to two patterns from our phonics curriculum each week. Students also focus on mastering the spelling of common sight words.

WRITING

First grade adventurers are introduced to and practice many types of writing: journaling, friendly letters, personal narratives, how-to writing, informative pieces, and even poetry. Students practice building complete and interesting sentences and writing a strong paragraph.

SOCIAL STUDIES & SCIENCE

First grade social studies begins the year with a study of basic geography and then moves on to introduce each of the 50 states in the United States of America. In addition, we also study pilgrims and Native Americans in detail and visit Mission San Luis to see history first hand! Science in first grade is all about investigating all kinds of animals and their habitats and includes a visit to St. Marks Wildlife Refuge.