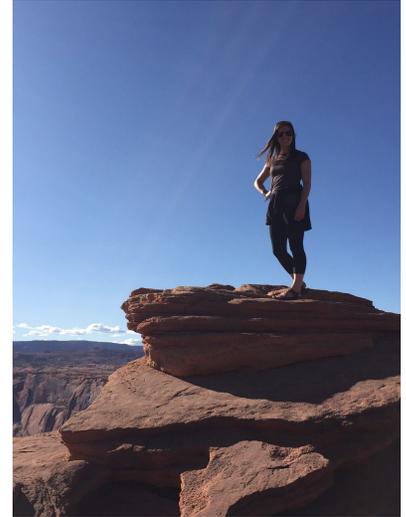


Dear First Grade Families,

Welcome to your first grade year at La Tierra Community School! My name is Miss Klaiber; this year will be my fourth year of teaching first grade at La Tierra Community School. I am so excited to be your crew leader this school year! I am looking forward to a wonderful summer full of fun adventures. I will start my summer break by spending a month volunteering at a camp in southern California. In July I will spend time traveling to visit my family, making stops in Grand Junction, Colorado, Omaha, Nebraska, and Columbia, South Carolina. I will also take a trip to the upper peninsula of Michigan with my parents and little brother (who is actually not smaller than me anymore!)



Here is a picture of me visiting Horseshoe Bend near Page, Arizona. It is fun to go on adventures around our state!

First grade is an exciting year of academic, social and emotional growth for kids and I am so excited to be a part of this incredible experience. Students will learn how to work together to solve problems and challenge their thinking. Our class will have a strong focus on character development; the first graders will learn what it means to be creative, responsible, respectful, compassionate, and courageous as well as to have integrity. All first grade students will be challenged and encouraged in their learning, actions, and habits.

La Tierra first graders will experience two learning expeditions throughout the 2016-2017 school year. During the fall semester students be introduced to a brand new expedition. At this point this new expedition is still in the works. I am exploring some new ideas and will solidify the new expedition throughout the summer at at our fall teacher work week. I am very excited to try something new that will connect well with our brand new English Language Arts curriculum.

In the spring semester we will begin The Search for Buried Treasure. Through this expedition students will experience our geological world. We will investigate the layers of the Earth, the rock cycle and gain an understanding of the three different types of rock. Students will learn about how rocks are used by people both in modern times and ancient times. We will build the layers of the Grand Canyon, extract copper from copper ore and make our own petroglyphs! The first graders will cap off this expedition with an overnight trip at the end of April to experience ancient dwellings and geology in our area.

I am so excited to be continuing my teaching career at La Tierra Community School. Seeing your students grow and change throughout the year is such a privilege and a joy. I hope to instill and foster a love of learning, reading and exploring life in each child in my classroom. I am looking forward to collaborating with you and building a community within our class in order to give each student the best first grade year possible.

See you in August!

Love,
Miss Klaiber