



Welcome back to another school year! I have a feeling that this is going to be an amazing year with an amazing class! I cannot wait to have your child in my class! I have watched them grow up the last few years. I was lucky enough to be next door to them as they were Kindergarteners, then saw them in the halls as first graders, and now they are second graders and I get the joy of seeing them every single day in my classroom.

Many of you I have met through different functions, but there are a few of you that I have yet to meet. I would like to introduce myself and let you know a little bit about myself. This is my 10<sup>th</sup> year of teaching. This is also my 7<sup>th</sup> year in second grade!

I have been married, for almost three years, to a wonderful man named Brian. We have three children. Our daughter Ava turned 2 in August, our son Isaac will turn 1 in November, and our newest addition will join the family in January. We also have a Maltese dog named Lexi. I love to share stories about Lexi with my class, because she tends to do silly things. I grew up in the Rockford area and attended and graduated from St. Bernadette School and Boylan High School. I continued my education at Rock Valley Community College and Northern Illinois University where I earned my Associate and Bachelor degrees. I recently completed my Masters degree through Olivet Nazarene University and graduated in the spring of 2014. I absolutely love reading and I can't wait to share that love with your child.

I have a lot of fun things planned for this class. We will be using the Daily 5 literacy program. We will be incorporating our Journeys text and other chapter books in our small group literacy sessions. Each week the students will be reading stories out of the textbook or chapter books. They will be doing different writing, reading, and vocabulary activities to go with each story. Sometimes we will meet as a whole class, and at other times we will be meeting in small groups.

I will be putting all of the newsletters and classroom information on our School Speak webpage. I update it almost daily and I will post the weekly newsletter on the page. Please look for updates on here. While I am on maternity leave, I will be putting up only one newsletter. This newsletter will be giving you an overview of what will be going on in the classroom while I am away.

The second graders will be using technology in the classroom every single day. I have numerous lessons on the Smart Board and the students will be using it in all content areas. This is a fun and engaging way for students to learn. All students will be able to use the Smart Board for an interactive learning experience.

The students will be doing a lot of writing this year. They will be writing in all content areas as well as having Writer's Workshop. Students will be learning how to write detailed sentences, paragraphs, and stories. They will be focusing on good writing techniques as well.

I am so excited for this school year! I hope you are too! If you ever need to get a hold of me, my email address is [Clee@stjamesrockford.org](mailto:Clee@stjamesrockford.org). I try to respond as soon as possible. Welcome to **SECOND GRADE!!!!**

Mrs. Lee