Dear Families,

My name is Marie Nixon and I will be your child's First Grade teacher this year. I am so very excited to start my second year teaching here at Darby Creek!

Let me tell you a little about myself. I grew up in North Canton, Ohio and have a younger sister. My mom, sister and relatives live in North Canton. I received my Bachelor's Degree from The Ohio State University, where I met my husband of nine years. After college I spent the next six years managing several local family owned Hallmark stores. I returned to school in 2009 and in May of 2011 obtained my K-3 Teaching Certificate through Ashland University.

At home my husband Andy and I have two pets, Cleo our cat and Cinnamon our dog. If you frequent the Rails-to-Trails Park you may have already met Cinnamon, as she loves to meet new children. My Husband and I are both very active and love to bike, hike, kayak, bowl, ski, snowboard and play sand volleyball. We love to travel out west to see my husband's sister who lives in Tahoe, CA. We are also Volkswagen car fanatics and both show our cars in local and out of state shows. In our down time we love to spend time with our family and friends.

I love staying busy with my husband but my other passion is gardening. My mom often calls me "Mrs. Mother Nature". Every spring I plant a huge garden with over twelve tomato plants, corn, carrots, green beans, sugar snap peas, garlic, onions, cucumbers and herbs. In the fall I can whole tomatoes, tomato juice, salsa, hot peppers, and pickles. I also have a large flower garden where I plant at least two new types of flowers each year. I can't wait to find out what your family likes to do for fun!

I look forward to meeting you and hope to see you at our Darby Creek Open House from 4:30-5:30 on Monday, August 19.

<u>Please bring a couple of items with you:</u>

· **Your favorite picture book from home (put your name in the front). We will be using them for something special on the first day of school.**

· **A 3x5 or 4x6 photograph of you with your family in a small frame.**

· **Your school supplies (if you bought them over the summer.) If you ordered them last spring, they are already in our classroom.**

I am ecstatic to be at Darby Creek teaching First Grade and can't wait to meet your child and family!

Mrs. Marie Nixon
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