

December 2016

The Month Ahead

At Innova

Grade 6
Mr. Adam Ogborne

When Adam was introduced to the classical Christian method of teaching he was extremely happy to find that God and the Bible were not isolated into a single Bible class, but was central in all subjects. Adam has most recently taught Grades 11 and 12 biology and chemistry as well as computer technology, and has taught in other various aspects in school and church. Adam found that this has helped give him the foundation and longing to teach the classical Christian method and to teach students how to learn and grow in Godliness. He has many hobbies to occupy his time like travelling, reading, playing sports, hiking, photography, but most of all he loves God, theology, his wife and two children.



Adam Ogborne
Teacher

Grade 5 and
Grade 6



Literature and Writing: For the month of December, students will focus on classic literature with a Christmas theme. Students will:

- Examine the historical customs of Christmas around the world
- Conduct an interview and report findings regarding Christmas celebrations
- Enjoy, analyze, and critically respond to short stories, including O Henry's *The Gift of the Magi*, Anderson's *The Little Match Girl*, and Tolstoy's *Papa Panov's Special Christmas*
- Enjoy, analyze, and critically respond to Christmas poems, including Stevenson's *Winter Time*, Drummond's *The Angel's Song*, and Rosetti's *Christmas Eve*
- Write and deliver an original poem

Grammar and Spelling: As students study grammar and spelling, they develop their awareness of how the English language is structured and apply their skills to writing across the curriculum. This month, students will focus on:

- The /ie/ and /ei/ spelling rule
- Adjectives, liking verbs, and predicate adjectives

Bible: Students have learned a lot about the fall of man and how sin entered the world. This month we will celebrate the Christmas season by reading *Jotham's Journey* by Arnold Ytreeide. This exciting story brings a different viewpoint to the Christmas story. This book includes the following:

- A glimpse into the culture of Christ's time
- A devotional following each chapter

History/Geography: This month, students will continue their study of Tudor England followed by examining new ventures to the Americas. Topics include:

- Queen Mary
- Queen Elizabeth
- Walter Raleigh and the New World

Mathematics: Students have been studying percentages and how they apply to daily life. Once finished, they will begin an algebra unit. Students will learn how to do the following with algebraic expressions:

- Writing
- Simplifying
- Expanding and factoring

Science: Students have explored the basics of genetics, and will continue to study nutrition. Topics include:

- Healthy lifestyle
- Reading and interpreting food labels
- Understanding the basic building blocks of life

Grade 6 – The Logic Stage

The strong knowledge base established in the grammar school provides a solid foundation as students enter the logic school. As perspective widens, students start to make meaningful connections across the curriculum. Students show more independence in their learning and establish systems in self-regulation and personal study skills. Shaping students' habits of heart, mind, and soul is a key focus as students deepen their understanding of God's purpose for his creation and their role in his redemptive plan. Teachers continue to foster the love of learning, and students have opportunities to show marked maturity academically and spiritually as they learn to critically analyze ideas and speak to issues in light of God's purposes.

Latin 3: In Latin class this month, students will learn the second declension of nouns. They will also continue to build their Latin vocabulary, and find English derivatives which are put to chant or song to assist with memorization and pronunciation. Topics include:

- 2nd declension of the noun *lūdus*
- Masculine and feminine nouns
- 2nd declension noun endings *us, ī, ō, um, and ō*
- *Sum* (I am) chant
- Linking verbs (sum, esse)
- Sentence labeling and translation

French 2: This month, we will continue with the AIM (Accelerative Integrated Methodology) as well as prepare for the Christmas concert. Students will:

- Memorize 2 Timothy 3:16 in French
- Continue rehearsing, memorizing, and acting out the play *Boucles violettes* (Goldilocks and the Three Bears)
- Review how to answer "this or that" questions in French using familiar vocabulary
- Continue to practise the play and gestures at home using the online portal or DVD
- Rehearse the song that we will perform for the Christmas concert

Visual Arts: This month in visual arts, students will continue working on their self-portraits in the style of the Italian Renaissance. Students will also begin to examine art in the Middle Ages. Topics include:

- Italian Renaissance self-portraits
- Medieval art: book bindings

Dramatic Arts: This month, students will continue to practise the *Alice and Wonderland* play for the upcoming performances in December. Students will focus on:

- Character development
- Voice and body expression

Music: Students will continue to develop musical skills as they prepare for the Innova Christmas concert. Students will:

- Develop their skills performing as part of an ensemble
- Learn to follow a conductor
- Grow in their ability to focus and give attention to detail

Physical Education: Students will complete the unit on volleyball begun last month and will then begin playing basketball. Students will learn:

- Skills (dribbling, passing, shooting)
- Rules of the game
- How to play offence and defense

Please note that although students in different grades often study the same topic, curricular expectations are tailored to individual grade levels.

Upcoming Events

- December 1st – Parent Teacher Interviews
- December 2nd – Walk Through History Day
- December 6th – Christmas Performance for Cedarview's Seniors Group
- December 16th - Pizza Lunch
- December 19th – Christmas Performance for Amica Residents
- December 20th – Innova Christmas Concert
- December 22nd – Library and Skating Field Trip
- December 23rd – Classes Dismissed (at lunch) for Christmas break

Innova Academy aspires to graduate young men and women who will possess the virtues, wisdom, knowledge, and skills necessary for further academic study.