

February 2017

The Month Ahead At Innova

Grade 1
Mrs. Heidi Di Marco

Heidi completed an Honours Bachelor Degree in Arts/Science and a Bachelor Degree in Education at Lakehead University. Heidi spent her first year teaching on an Aboriginal Reservation in Quebec and then moved to Newmarket where she was introduced to classical Christian Education through Innova Academy. She was immediately impressed with the respect, self-discipline and perseverance that was displayed in the students of Innova Academy. Heidi is honoured to now work at Innova Academy as the Grades 1/2 teacher. Heidi loves history, sports and her Sunday School kids. Most of all, Heidi is grateful for the opportunity to share the love of God with her students every day.



Heidi Di Marco
Teacher

Grade 1 and
Grade 2



Language Arts: Grade 1 students will continue to build phonetic awareness, expand their vocabulary, and study classic stories. Students will begin formal spelling this month and practise writing well developed properly punctuated sentences. Language Arts topics include:

Phonics

- Word endings: *ing, est, ed, le*
- Sight words: *brother, sister, baby, many, animal, while*

Vocabulary

- Abbreviations and calendar words
- Inflectional endings and verb tenses
- Multiple meaning words

Language

- *The Bears on Hemlock Mountain* by Alice Dalgliesh
- *The Goose and the Golden Eggs*
- *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*
- *The Bremen Town Musicians*

Christian Education: Grade 1 students will continue their journey through the Old Testament. Students will delve into the following Bible stories:

- The Ten Commandments
- The building of the tabernacle
- The twelve spies in Canaan
- The forty years of wandering in the wilderness

History / Geography: Students in Grade 1 are always excited to travel back through history and learn about what life was like in another time and place! In February, students will continue studying the ancient civilization of Rome. Students will continue to explore:

- Roman architecture
- Roman clothing
- The structure of the Roman army
- The daily life of a Roman

Mathematics: In mathematics, students will begin the month by exploring graphs. Students will show data in picture graphs, bar graphs, and tally charts. Grade 1 students will then move on to a unit titled *Numbers to 40*. Throughout this unit, students will:

- Count, read, write and compare numbers from 21 to 40
- Use a place-value chart to show numbers 21 to 40

* Please continue to practise math facts at home.

Science: In February, Grade 1 students will conclude their study of *Investigating Changes* in science class by studying the changes that occur throughout the four seasons: spring, summer, fall and winter. Students will then begin a unit titled *Investigating Materials and*

Grade 1 – The Grammar Stage

Innova Academy's grammar school curriculum builds a solid academic foundation, emphasizing mastery of facts and fundamental skills. Grammar stage students have the natural ability to retain large amounts of information, so Innova intentionally builds knowledge across the curriculum immersing students in a holistic, unified, and rich learning experience. Students are actively engaged in learning while applying skills they have previously acquired to new, expansive content. Classrooms are filled with singing, chanting, movement, and engaging hands-on activities. Strong habits of heart, mind, and soul are reinforced, as students become more aware of their impact on others and build skills in self-governance and responsibility.

Objects. Throughout this unit, students will investigate the following questions:

- What are materials and objects like?
- How can we use numbers in observation?
- What are the properties of different materials?

Latin 1: Grade 1 students love to practise Latin vocabulary. Please encourage your student to teach your family what they are learning this month! Topics will include words that pertain to:

- The body
- The face
- Food

Visual Arts: Students will continue to explore Ancient Roman art with texture and will begin learning patterns in art. Topics include:

- Roman Coin making
- Patterns in art
- Who is Edward Hicks?
- Print making

Dramatic Arts: This month in drama, students will continue to learn about folklore drama and will begin a unit on Shakespeare. Topics include:

- West African skits
- Who is Shakespeare?
- "A Midsummers Night Dream" skit

Music: This month, students will focus on and develop a familiarity with the Orff instruments. They will also continue to practise singing with solfege, rhythm, and directional note reading. More specific goals include:

- Percussion patterns on the Orff instruments
- Do, Re, Mi, Fa, So, La on the musical staff
- Tone quality in singing
- Hand drum technique
- Dotted quarter and sixteenth note rhythms

Physical Education: In gym class, students will practise the following skills and then apply them in a game of kickball:

- Catching a soccer ball
- Passing a soccer ball
- Kicking a soccer ball

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

Upcoming Events

February 2nd and 10th – Pizza Lunch

February 20th – Family Day – no school

February 23rd – In-School Speech Meet

February 28th – ACSI Girls Basketball Tournament – Whitfield Christian School

March 2nd - ACSI Public Speaking Festival – Mississauga Christian Academy

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