

February 2017

# 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:** This month, students will finish reading and discussing the historical novel *I, Juan de Pareja*, which tells the story of an African slave born in Spain in the early seventeenth century. In writing, students will primarily focus on writing an original speech or creatively retelling a Bible story in preparation for the ACSI Public Speaking Festival. Students will:

- understand the difference between an essay and a speech
- choose and narrow an appropriate topic
- research their topic
- take notes
- construct an outline
- write a well-structured speech
- effectively use elocution skills including clarity, volume, pacing, expression, and gestures

**Grammar and Spelling:** Students will review the spelling rules learned to date, and continue working with their weekly spelling lists. Grammar study, this month, will focus on the correct use of the following punctuation:

- comma
- colon
- semi-colon
- apostrophe

**Bible:** This month, students will embark on an in-depth study of the person of Jesus Christ in the following areas:

- The promise of salvation through Christ
- His role as priest, prophet, and king
- His future reign

**History/Geography:** In February, students will turn their attention to British and French settlements in North America, before exploring seventeenth century Japan. Topics include:

- King James and his enemies
- The Jamestown colony
- Strangers and saints in Plymouth
- The Dutch in the New World
- The French in the New World
- Henry Hudson's quest
- The spread of slavery
- Hideyoshi, Japan's great leader
- The first Tokugawa ruler

**Mathematics:** This month, students are continuing to develop core algebra skills by focusing on:

- Solving equalities and inequalities
- Writing linear equations
- Interpreting and solving real world problems involving equalities and inequalities

**Science:** In preparation for the science fair in the spring, students will continue to examine the scientific method by:

- learning the process

## 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.

- applying the process in experiments
- They will then proceed to focus on forestry and agriculture, examining the following:
- Characteristics of plants
  - The importance of plants
  - How plants grow

**Latin 3:** Students will master the second declension of nouns. They will also continue to build their Latin vocabulary, and find English derivatives, which are put to chant to assist with memorization and pronunciation. Topics include:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> declension neuter noun endings –um, -ī, -ō, um, -ō
- Nominative case subjects and predicate nominatives
- Review of Chapters 6-9 – second declension of masculine, feminine and neuter nouns and linking verbs (sum, esse)

**French 2:** In February, the Level 2 French class will continue with the AIM (Accelerative Integrated Methodology), with students practising the play and gestures at home using the online portal or DVD. Students will:

- Continue rehearsing, memorizing, and acting out the play *Boucles violettes*
- Work with a new list of vocabulary words in preparation for a spelling test
- Learn how to answer open-ended questions in French using familiar vocabulary
- Learn when and how to use verbs in the infinitive form rather than a conjugated form

**Visual Arts:** Students will continue to explore the characteristics of Renaissance art and explore Spanish Renaissance art. Topics include:

- Renaissance book bindings
- The art of Diego Velázquez
- *Infanta Margarita* Diego Velázquez portrait project

**Music:** In the second half of the school year, the Grades 5-8 students will focus more heavily on developing choral skills. They will also begin to learn more complex ukulele music and refine their score reading abilities. Specific skills include:

- Sight-singing from a score with solfege
- Intervals
- Harmonizing a melody
- Triplet rhythms
- Key signatures

**Physical Education:** In February, students will continue playing basketball, focusing on:

- Skill development (dribbling, passing, shooting)
- Team strategy

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

## Upcoming Events

February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> – Pizza Lunch

February 20<sup>th</sup> – Family Day – no school

February 23<sup>rd</sup> – In-School Speech Meet

February 28<sup>th</sup> – ACSI Girls Basketball Tournament – Whitfield Christian School

March 2<sup>nd</sup> - 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.