

March 2017

# The Month Ahead

## At Innova

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

Grade 2  
Mrs. Heidi Di Marco

**Language Arts:** Grade 2 students will continue to develop the necessary skills required to become independent and fluent readers as well as proficient writers. Specific topics include:

#### Literature

- *Androcles and the Lion*
- *Pliny Saw it All*
- *Volcanoes!*

#### Writing

- How to polish and publish a paragraph
- dictionary skills
- using a thesaurus
- completing a checklist

#### Vocabulary

- Classify and sort common words into categories
- Homophones
- Homographs

**Christian Education:** Students will continue their journey through the Old Testament. This month, they will begin a new unit titled *Settling the Land*. Students will explore the following stories:

- The Spies and Rahab
- Crossing the Jordan
- The Fall of Jericho
- The Promised Land

**History / Geography:** Students, in Grade 2, are excited to travel back through history and learn about what life was like in another time and place! In March, students will continue studying the ancient civilization of Rome. Students will continue to explore:

- The daily life of a Roman
- The rise and fall of Roman leaders

**Mathematics:** During the month of March, Grade 2 students will use their computing and problem-solving skills while completing a unit on money. More specifically, by the end of the unit, students will be able to:

- Recognize Canadian bills (up to \$20) and all coins
- Write money amounts as both dollars and cents (\$2.40 as 240 cents and vice versa)
- Compare amounts of money with the aid of tables
- Use bar models to solve real-world problems involving the addition and subtraction of money

**Science:** In March, Grade 2 students will continue a study of *Investigating Materials and Objects* in science class. Throughout this month, students will investigate how material's

## Grade 2 – 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.

uses and properties can be changed through:

- Mixing with water
- Manipulation
- Heating or cooling

**Latin 1:** Grade 2 students love to practise Latin vocabulary. Please encourage your student to teach your family what they are learning this month! Topics include words that pertain to:

- The weather
- Seasons

**Visual Arts:** This month, students will continue to explore printmaking and will begin their art unit on Claude Monet. Topics will include:

- Printing patterns
- Roman art printmaking
- History of Claude Monet
- Acrylic painting of the Lilly Pond

**Dramatic Arts:** Students, this month, will begin to explore Aesop Fables. Topics include:

- Readers' theatre
- *The Turtle and the Hare* skit

**Music:** This month, the Grade 2 class will continue refining their technique on the Orff instruments as well as continue to learn more about reading and writing music on the musical staff. Topics include:

- Syncopated rhythmic notation
- Understanding phrases
- Suspended pitch
- Composition on the musical staff
- Spring concert repertoire

**Physical Education:** In gym class, students will begin learning a new sport! They will be introduced to many new skills and then apply these skills in a game of basketball. Students will learn to:

- Dribble a basketball
- Pass a basketball
- Shoot a basketball

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

## Upcoming Events

March 2<sup>nd</sup> – ASCI Public Speaking Festival – Mississauga  
Christian Academy

March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Pizza Lunch; Term 2 Ends – Reports Sent Home

March 9<sup>th</sup> - Parent/Teacher Interviews – Term 2

March 10<sup>th</sup> – Maple Syrup Festival – Bruce's Mill

March 13<sup>th</sup> – March Break Begins

March 27<sup>th</sup> – Classes Resume

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