

May 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:** Students will continue to build phonetic awareness, expand their vocabulary, study classic stories and complete a novel study. Grade 1 students will continue formal spelling and practise writing in complete sentences. Language arts topics include:

#### Phonics

- Sounds: Review long vowel and double *o* sounds, *er, ir, ur, ear, oi, and oy*
- Sight words: *please, follow, saw, nothing, almost, and over*

#### Vocabulary

- Geography terms
- Glossary skills
- Space words
- Science words

#### Literature

- *Robin Hood* by Annie Ingle
- *The Warrior and the Baby*
- *The Hippopotamus and the Tortoise*
- *The Dog and His Shadow*

**Christian Education:** In May, students will continue their study of the nation of Israel throughout the Old Testament. Students will be introduced to the first king of Israel and examine the lives of the kings of Israel and the stories that surround their lives. This month, students will focus on:

- King Saul
- David at Saul's court
- Saul's final battle
- Jerusalem and the Ark
- David and Absalom
- Solomon's anointing
- Solomon's choice

**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 May, students will begin to explore the topic of Community. Students will study:

- The history of the town of Newmarket
- The geography of the land surrounding Newmarket
- The role of students as it pertains to community

**Mathematics:** In mathematics, Grade 1 students will conclude a chapter titled *Calendar and Time*. Students will then move on to a chapter in which they will work with numbers to 100. Specifically, students will:

- Use place value to represent numbers to 100
- Compare and order numbers to 100
- Make patterns with numbers to 100

## 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.

**Science:** May is an exciting time in Grade 1 science class because we have the privilege of enjoying God's creation in our classroom! Students are anxiously awaiting the hatching of 12 eggs in our classroom. This month, students will study:

- The life cycle of a chicken
- The development of a chick inside an egg
- The nutritional value of an egg
- How to take care of live chicks

**Latin 1:** Grade 1 students love to practise Latin vocabulary. Please encourage your child to teach your family what they are learning this month! Students will also be given time to review the words they have learned this year. Topics will include words that pertain to:

- Water
- Gardening

**Visual Arts:** This month, students will complete a unit on Monet and will begin exploring Van Gogh's landscape masterpieces. Topics include:

- Creating a Monet masterpiece: The Water Lily Pond
- Who is Vincent Van Gogh?
- Techniques in Van Gogh's paintings
- Van Gogh landscape collage

**Dramatic Arts:** This month in drama, students will complete a unit on Aesop's fables and begin a story telling unit. Topics include:

- The Turtle and Hare skit preparation
- The Turtle and Hare skit presentation
- Introduction to storytelling
- Elements of storytelling

**Music:** The Innova students are very busy preparing for the spring concert on May 25th. Students are:

- Playing Orff instruments in an ensemble
- Learning to read rhythmic notation
- Developing their ability to sing on pitch with a good tone
- Developing rhythmic awareness

**Physical Education:** In gym class, students will learn a new sport! They will learn many new skills and then apply them in a game of lacrosse. Students will explore how to:

- Run with a lacrosse stick
- Pass with a lacrosse stick
- Score in a lacrosse game

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

## Upcoming Events

May 1 – Christian School Expo – Gym  
May 4<sup>th</sup> – Shape Conference – Main Sanctuary  
May 5<sup>th</sup> – Pastors' Appreciation Breakfast – Fellowship Hall  
May 11<sup>th</sup> – InSchoolwear 50% Off Sale at Innova  
May 12<sup>th</sup> – Pizza Lunch & AMICA Visit  
May 22<sup>nd</sup> – Victoria Day – No School  
May 25<sup>th</sup> – Pizza Lunch & Spring Concert  
May 30<sup>th</sup> & June 1<sup>st</sup> – Track and Field – Gr. 7-8 & 3-6 - Centennial Stadium

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