

June 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, and study classic stories and fables. Grade 1 students will build spelling skills through weekly lists and exercises and practise writing paragraphs and stories. Language arts topics include:

Phonics

- Sounds: aw, au, ow, ou
- Sight words: *children, number, right*

Vocabulary

- Geography terms
- Homophones
- Synonyms

Literature

- Aesop's Fables

**Christian Education:** Grade 1 students will conclude their journey through the Old Testament this month by studying a unit titled *The Divided Kingdom*. Students will explore:

- The division of Israel and Judah
- The King who led the country into sin
- The life of the prophet Elijah
- Elijah and the prophets of Baal
- Elijah and the fiery chariot

**History / Geography:** Students in Grade 1 will focus on concepts related to geography for the remainder of this school year. Students will continue to learn about the four cardinal directions and how to apply the four directions to mapping skills. Students will:

- Learn how to use a map legend
- Describe location in relation to north, south, east and west
- Review the seven continents

**Mathematics:** In mathematics, Grade 1 students conclude the school year by studying money. Students will learn the value of various coins, how to count money, and how to add and subtract simple amounts of money. Students will apply these practical skills during our new and exciting Market Day on June 19<sup>th</sup>! Please come and support our students as they seek to put their classroom learning into practice! Specifically, students will learn about:

- Pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters
- Counting money
- Adding and subtracting money

**Science:** During the month of June, Grade 1 students will complete a unit titled *Investigating Things That Make Sound*. Students will observe, explore, and then apply their skills by building an instrument to create sound. Students will study the following questions:

## 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.

- How do different systems make sound?
- How do sounds change?
- How can I design a sound system?
- How can I build a sound system?

**Latin 1:** Students in Grade 1 have now completed all the required lessons for this school year. For the month of June, students will review vocabulary from the entire school year. Please continue to review Latin vocabulary at home as well.

**Visual Arts:** This month, students will explore the art of still life painting and create a flower vase using different line patterns. Topics include:

- Backgrounds behind still life paintings
- Creating a background for the still life painting
- Examining different flowers and how we can paint them
- End of year review of all artist and elements of design studied

**Dramatic Arts:** Drama this month will focus on storytelling. Students will create a spring story as a class and present it using dramatic elements. Topics include:

- Elements of a story
- Creating a story plot line
- How to add actions and sound effects in a story

**Music:** In music class, June is primarily a review month. Students will cover all the areas of music learned throughout the year in the form of games and musical activities. They will also be introduced to music history and critical listening. Topics include:

- Mallet technique and Orff arrangements
- Solfege singing
- Rhythm syllables and notation
- *Peter and the Wolf* by Sergei Prokofiev

**Physical Education:** In gym class, students will practise some basic skills in order to prepare for track and field events in later years. Students will practise the following skills:

- Long distance running
- Short distance running
- Relay races
- Ball throw

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

## Upcoming Events

- June 1 – Track and Field – Grade 7/8 - Centennial Stadium
- June 2 – Pasta Lunch
- June 7 – Graduation Event – Gr. 7/8
- June 9 – Pizza Lunch
- June 12 – Science Centre Field Trip
- June 17 – Innova Family Picnic – Bradford, West Gwillimbury
- June 19 – Market Day & Pizza Lunch
- June 20 – Last Day of School – Lunch Dismissal & Reports Sent Home
- June 21-23 – PA Days for Staff - ACCS Conference

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