

September 2017

The Month Ahead

At Innova

Grade 6

Mr. Adam Ogborne

aogborne@innovaacademy.ca



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

We would like to extend a warm welcome to both new and returning families! Innova is truly blessed and awed by God's grace and goodness as we enter our fourth year. Thank you for the opportunity to partner with your family in educating your child for the glory of God.

Grade 6 students have opportunities to show marked maturity academically and spiritually as they learn to make meaningful connections and critically analyze ideas. Teachers continue to foster the love of learning, and lead students to deepen their understanding of God's purpose for His creation and their role in His redemptive plan.

Christian Education: Students will begin the year focusing on Old Testament covenants. Students will:

- Understand the Old Testament demonstrates that God did not abandon His people during their exile from the Promised Land
- Connect the Old Testament promises to their New Testament fulfillment
- Think of ways that God is preparing them for work in His kingdom

Literature and Writing: Students will begin their study of literature reading and discussing First Nations myths and folktales. Students will explore the role and craft of First Nations storytelling and complete the unit by writing their own myth or folktale in the style of the stories studied. Students will:

- Read First Nations myths and folktales
- Discuss the role and importance of storytelling in First Nations culture
- Discuss the characteristics of myths, trickster tales, and tales used to teach lessons
- Review paragraph construction
- Learn to construct a two-level story outline
- Write well-constructed paragraphs related to their study of Canadian history
- Practise orally retelling a story from an outline with expression and engagement
- Apply the elements of First Nations folktales and myths to write an original story

Spelling: Using the *Spell to Write and Read* program, students develop spelling skills through word analysis and understanding and applying spelling rules to daily writing across the curriculum. This month, students will:

- Analyze weekly spelling words from both the class list and their writing
- Learn and practise the one-one-one rule.

Grammar: Grammar study develops students' awareness and understanding of how the English language is structured. As students work through the grammar program, they apply their knowledge to writing across the curriculum. This month's grammar study focuses on:

- Identifying and diagramming subjects and verbs
- Identifying and diagramming verb phrases (main verb and helping verbs)
- Identifying and diagramming subject and verb phrases in interrogative sentences
- Review of capitalization rules

Latin and Greek Vocabulary: Students will strengthen their vocabulary and analytical skills through the study of Latin and Greek vocabulary. As we analyze English derivatives, they will understand how English is constructed, and develop the ability to deconstruct unfamiliar English words. Students will:

- Learn Greek and Latin words
- Learn Greek and Latin prefixes and suffixes
- Learn English derivatives and deconstruct English words
- Begin to learn the Doxology in Latin

French: In French this month, students will begin with a review of vocabulary and gestures and grammar. Students will

- Review numbers, colours, dates, body parts, classroom vocabulary and important verbs
- Respond to yes/no questions using correct grammar
- Understand the placement of adjectives and nouns in sentences
- Begin to learn the vocabulary and gestures from the new play that students will perform this year
- Write a prayer together that we can say at the beginning of each class

History/Geography: This year, students will delve into Canadian history from 1400 to 1800. Students will begin the year exploring what it means to them to be Canadian and sharing their own family heritage. They will also review Canada's political and physical map. Students will then take a tour across our nation exploring the characteristics of the six First Nation regions. For each region, students will survey:

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.

- Geographic features
- Homes
- Food
- Travel
- Societal structure and customs
- Religion

Mathematics: Students in Grade 6 will begin the school year by studying numbers in following ways:

- Common factors and multiples
- Prime factorization
- Squares, cubes, and their roots

Science: Science provides us with unique ways of seeing God's creative presence in the world. Students will learn how to effectively engage issues and how to perceive God's fingerprints in creation. This year, Grade 6 students will begin their study of science by examining the immune system. They will examine the structure and function in the following areas:

- Important organs
- Lymph system
- Specialized cells
- Immune responses

Visual Arts: In visual arts, students will begin the year by creating their own art portfolios to collect and display their artwork. This month, students will learn about the history of Aboriginal Canadian artwork from early Canadian history to present day. Students will:

- Examine the themes present in different types of artwork made by Aboriginal Canadians
- Observe the elements of design used by artists to communicate legends
- Learn about the elements of design (line and colour)
- Discuss the beauty of functional objects such as baskets, clothing, and pottery by looking at artifacts from Native Canadian cultures
- Compare functional objects to purely decorative pieces of art
- Learn weaving techniques to create a functional object that students will paint to communicate important themes

Music: In the Grade 6 music class, students will learn how to play the ukulele! Why ukulele? This versatile instrument has a mellow tone, it can play both melody and harmony, it is easy to learn, you can sing and play at the same time, and kids love it! We will use the ukulele to teach music literacy and ensemble playing as well as ear training. This month will consist mostly of review and preparation for more complex musical techniques and theories in the coming months. Students will:

- Review solfege scale in major and minor; stick notation of whole, half, quarter, eighth notes, sixteenth notes and rests; sharps, flats, and key signatures up to two sharps/flats; time signatures (2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8); musical staff: treble clef and notes from C4 to G5
- Practise unison and part singing in solfege; canons
- Echo short rhythms and solfege patterns
- Define terms: forte, piano, crescendo, decrescendo, ritardando, accelerando
- Review the sections of the orchestra
- Learn about Ludwig van Beethoven and listen to *Symphony No. 5, Movement 1*
- Develop ukulele skills

Physical Education: For the month of September, students will practise and train for the cross-country meet in the following areas:

- Pacing & breathing
- Developing endurance
- Working toward and monitoring progress
- Hills technique

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

Upcoming Events

September 5th - First Day of Classes

September 9th - Back to School Social at the Makarenko's – 12-2 p.m.

September 25th – Picture Day – Lifetouch

September 25th – Immunization for Grade 7 students (voluntary) – York Region Public Health

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