

September 2017

The Month Ahead

At Innova



Senior Kindergarten
Mrs. Jessica Cap
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Jessica has earned her Bachelor of Arts Honours in Contemporary studies with a Minor in Geography and Religion at Wilfrid Laurier University and has successfully completed the Nipissing Concurrent Education program. While completing her education, Jessica has had many classroom experiences that include teaching in Ecuador in the Amazon Rainforest. Jessica had never heard of classical Christian education until she heard about Innova Academy. As a new teacher graduate, she was very curious about classical Christian education and did some research. Jessica found an instant fascination with the rigours in the classical styles of teaching. Jessica continues to enjoy her teaching time at Innova Academy and is excited to influence the hearts and minds of her students. Jessica is married to Tim, loves to travel, and has a passion for music, art, and drama.



Jessica Cap
Teacher

Senior
Kindergarten

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.

Senior Kindergarten is a time of magical growth where children learn foundational knowledge and skills to develop a life-long love of learning. Students will listen to wonderful selections of classic children's literature and respond through engaging hands-on activities. We are committed to developing the whole child by providing a pleasant environment for children to take chances and explore. Above all, we strive to lead children to taste the joys of being a child of God and grow in their understanding of serving Him.

Christian Education: Students will be introduced to the Bible and creation. This month, topics include:

- God shows His love through creation
- Review of creation days 1 – 7
- The Bible is the inspired Word of God
- God created a good world
- We can praise and thank God for His creation with our songs, prayers, and artwork
- We want to care for God's world
- Memory verse: Genesis 1:1, 31a: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.... God saw all that he had made, and it was very good" (ESV)

Language Arts: This month's themes are: *Welcome to Kindergarten*, *Apples*, and the start of a new *Farm* unit. Students will review and practise different letters and their sounds. Using various tactile means as well as songs and chants, students will practise proper letter formation and pronunciation. This month, we will cover the following:

Literature: As stories are explored, students will learn the story elements of character and setting and make predictions before and during reading. Selections include:

- *Jack and the Bean Stock* by James Baldwin
- *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson
- *Johnny Appleseed* by Steven Kellogg

Phonics:

- Explore what alike and different mean
- Learn about basic adjectives that describe people, places and things
- Identify rhyme and rhythm in poems

Vocabulary:

- Kindergarten class words
- Fruit words
- Animals words

Latin: Students will learn Latin vocabulary put to song and chants to help with pronunciation and memorization. This month, we will focus on the following vocabulary:

- Hello
- Goodbye
- Teacher
- Student
- Tell me what your name is
- My name is...

History / Geography: Kindergarten students will embark upon an exciting trip around the world learning about all the continents while highlighting certain cities, animals, and traditions. This month, students will:

- Recognize that the Earth is the name of our world and the globe as a model of the Earth
- Identify all the continents of the world

SK – 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.

- Find North America on the globe and map
- Locate Canada on the map of the world
- Recognize the provinces of Canada and learn the Canada song

Mathematics This month in mathematics, students will begin exploring numbers using various hands-on manipulatives, songs and chants. Topics this month will include:

- Learning numbers up to 10
- Matching objects
- Looking for similarities and how to describe small differences between objects

Science: This month in science, students will explore what science is and how we can see science in nature around us. Topics this month will include:

- What is science?
- Who is a scientist?
- Making an observation with plants
- Knowing the difference between dead and alive plants
- Discussing similarities and differences between apples
- Making a hypothesis: What will happen if we cut an apple in half and put lemon juice on one half?

Visual Arts: This month, students will explore colour through God's creations. Students will:

- Explore the colour wheel
- Create a flower garden colour wheel
- Learn about mixing colours
- Create a painting using apple stamps

Music: Music class is a time when children learn to express themselves through the art of music and explore the many forms of musical expression. This year, students will sing, chant, clap, play singing games, dance, play unpitched Orff instruments, and listen to great musical works. I am so excited to begin this journey with the Kindergarten class! In September, we will begin learning the basics of music such as:

- Singing versus speaking voice
- Vocal qualities
- Pulse
- High/low
- Listening: *Morning* from *The Pier Gynt Suite* by Grieg
- Instruments: the flute

Physical Education: Students will focus on having fun while learning skill-building activities. This month, topics are:

- Throwing bean bags and balls at a target
- Catching bean bags and balls with a partner
- Rolling balls to a partner
- Bouncing balls against a wall and catching them

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.