

April 2018

# The Month Ahead At Innova

When Samantha was introduced to Classical Christian Education, she immediately recognized the value in its methodology and curriculum. Samantha has predominantly taught in the primary division and this year teaches the JK and SK class at Innova Academy. Samantha attended Tyndale College and University and graduated with a Bachelor of Education. Her goal was to teach in a Bible believing Christian School and she is excited to be teaching at Innova Academy. Samantha has been married to her husband, Andre, for over 20 years and they have three children. In her spare time, she is involved in her church choir and worship team and volunteers in the nursery. Her favourite Bible verses are Colossians 1:15-17.



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Teacher

Junior and Senior  
Kindergarten

Junior Kindergarten  
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*Our Junior Kindergarten program is designed to introduce children to the joy of learning through theme-based units. 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:** Junior Kindergarten students will continue to learn how people showed their love for God when the Kingdom of Israel was divided and in exile. Later in the month, students will begin a unit on Jesus' ministry. Students will discuss the following people and events:

- Israel's exile
- Daniel's obedience and the return of the exiles to Jerusalem
- Esther becomes queen and Haman's plot
- Ezra
- Jesus' baptism and His disciples
- Jesus blesses the children
- Prayer
- Nicodemus and Zacchaeus
- The Samaritan Woman
- Mary and Martha

Memory work: Psalm 25:20 "Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me! Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you." and John 14:6: Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me". ESV

**Language Arts:** This month, Junior Kindergarten students will listen to, discuss, and complete activities associated with stories with the following themes: elephants, monkeys, giraffes, and bats. They will continue to develop their phonics skills as they practice hearing, reading, and saying letters and their respective sounds. With the use of various tactile means, students will develop their fine motor skills and practice proper letter formation. The focus this month is on the following:

Literature Selections include:

- *Elephants* by Karen Dudley
- *Little Elephants* by Laura F. Marsh
- *Elephants Cannot Dance* by Mo Willems
- *Monkeys* by Claire Throp
- *Curious George* by H. A. Rey
- *Spider Monkeys* by Vicky Franchino
- *Five Little Monkeys* by Natalie Marshall
- *Bats* by Adrienne Mason
- *Amazing Bats* by Seymour Simon
- *Giraffes* by Laura Marsh
- *5 Giraffes* by Anne Innis Dagg
- *A Tower of Giraffes* by Anna Wright
- *In Aunt Giraffe's Green Garden* by Jack Prelutsky

Phonics:

- Sounds for letters: *a, m, s, t, b, f, c, h, j, l, n, p,* and *r.*
- Review long and short vowel sounds

Penmanship:

- Review all upper and lower case letters
- Practice printing name
- Copy three and four lettered words

**Latin:** Students will continue to learn Latin vocabulary put to song and chants to help with pronunciation and memorization. This month, they will review the following vocabulary:

- Girl, boy, man, woman, table, chair, pencil, book house, door, window

## JK – 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.

**History / Geography:** Junior Kindergarten students are travelling around the world learning about all the continents while highlighting certain cities, animals, and traditions. This month, students will learn about:

- Ireland
- Germany
- Netherlands

**Mathematics:** Students will learn to recognize and say their numbers through songs and chants and use various tactile means to practice proper number formation. This month, they will cover the following:

- Drawing and recognizing shapes (circle, square, triangle, star, hexagon, rectangle, diamond, and oval)
- Skip counting to 100
- Counting by 2's
  - Recognize and use pairs for counting up to 20
- Counting by 5's
  - Keep count of numbers using tallies up to 20
- Counting by 10's

**Science:** Students will begin to explore animals and their habitats. Through the scientific process, students will explore elephants, monkeys, giraffes, and bats. Topics this month will include:

- Elephants and their habitat
- Elephant toothpaste experiment
- Monkey study
- Banana experiment
- Giraffe skins
- Echolocation
- Bat smells

**Visual Arts:** Students will begin to explore the art of sculpting. Through various tactile art projects, they will explore different types of sculptures such as totem poles and mobiles. Topics this month include:

- What is a sculpture?
- Different types of sculptures
- The artist Michelangelo
- Totem poles
- Mobiles
- Mobile creation using natural elements

**Music:** As we enter the final months of the school year, the Junior Kindergarten class will begin preparing repertoire for the spring concert. They will also review all they have learned through the year and continue to build their skills playing the Orff instruments. More specific goals include:

- Keeping a steady off-beat pulse on unpitched percussion
- Mallet technique
- Repetitive patterns on the Orff instruments
- Matching pitch
- Identifying rhythmic notation
- Identifying So-Mi

**Physical Education:** Students will continue to participate in skill-building activities focusing on travelling skills while developing good sportsmanship and having fun. Students will also discuss:

- Personal safety
- Injury prevention
- Healthy eating
- Body parts

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

## Upcoming Events

April 2 – Easter Monday – No School

April 6 & 20 – Pizza Lunch

April 17 – TSO Field Trip (JK-2) – Roy Thomson Hall

April 23 – Badminton Tournament (Gr. 7/8) - Stouffville

April 26 – Math Olympics (Gr. 4-8) - Mississauga

April 27 – Pasta Lunch

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