

June 2018

# The Month Ahead

## At Innova

Melissa Vecchiarelli completed an Honours Bachelor's degree in Sociology, and a Bachelor of Education from Queens' University. Melissa has a love and passion for overseas missions and education. She has had the opportunity to travel to many places all over the world, and was privileged to teach English in Thailand, and English in Zambia through Village of Hope, Africa. What Melissa finds fascinating about classical Christian education, is that children are encouraged to think critically, while being taught with a biblical view of the world. In her free time, she enjoys spending time together with her husband, serving at her church, being outside, hiking, bike riding, travelling and anything to do with art.



Melissa Vecchiarelli  
Teacher

Grade 1



Grade 1  
Mrs. Melissa Vecchiarelli  
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*Grade 1 students are actively engaged in learning foundational knowledge and skills in all subject areas. Our classroom is filled with singing, chanting, movement, and engaging hands-on activities. We seek to provide a safe and nurturing classroom environment where students can deepen their awareness of God's love and relationship with Him, as well as meet their potential for academic success.*

**Bible and History:** This year, Bible and history are integrated into a seamless narrative. The study of Ancient civilizations, with a focus on Egypt, is integrated with Old Testament biblical events. Students will begin to understand history as God's unfolding plan of redemption and appreciate that they are a part of this story. In the month of June, Grade 1 students will:

- Memorize Ephesians 6:13-20 (The full armour of God)
- Complete their study of Ancient Egypt, focusing on their final unit titled "Egypt Falls to Rome"
- Learn the geography songs of Western Europe and Southeast Asia

**Literature and Vocabulary:** In the month of June, students will complete a novel study of *The Trumpet of the Swan* by E.B. White. Students will:

- Complete a chapter by chapter review
- Review story structure elements (setting, characters, and plot)
- Identify story events that explain characters' actions and feelings
- Explore characters' problems and how they solve them
- Learn new vocabulary

**Spelling, Phonics, and Penmanship:** Spelling, phonics, and penmanship will be learned together using *Spell to Write and Read* and *Cursive First*. Using a variety of activities and games, students will:

- Continue learning twenty spelling list words each week
- Creatively write a minimum of ten sentences using their weekly spelling list words
- Review multi-letter phonograms *ai, ay, ar, ea, ear, ee, ei, eigh, er, ey, igh, ir, ng, ou, qu, th*
- Practice matching multi-letter phonograms to a word that contains them
- Alphabetize their spelling words
- Identify homophones

**Writing and Grammar:** In the month of June, Grade 1 students will begin a new unit titled "Word Study". Students will:

- Demonstrate an understanding of a synonym
- Identify synonyms
- Identify antonyms
- Sort words into categories
- Demonstrate understanding of word categories
- Use context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase
- Form words using the prefixes -un, -re, -pre
- Form words using the suffixes -er, -ful, -less
- Identify common homophones

**Latin:** Grade 1 students will review words about classroom commands. They will learn an interactive song and game and begin a new unit titled "More Classroom Commands". Words learned include:

- Audi (listen)
- Audite (listen – to more than one person)
- Tace (be quiet)
- Tacete (be quiet – to more than one person)
- Aperi librum (open the book)

## 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.

- Aperite libros (open the book – to more than one person)
- Attole manum (raise your hand)
- Attolite manus (raise your hand – to more than one person)

**Mathematics:** Grade 1 students will begin each mathematics period practicing math facts with the Calculadder math drill program. Students progress through this program on an individual basis. This month, students will begin a unit titled "Numbers to 40". Students will:

- Count on from 21 to 40
- Read and write 21 to 40 in numbers and words
- Use a place-value chart to show numbers to 40
- Show objects to 40 as tens and ones
- Use strategies to compare numbers to 40
- Compare and order numbers to 40
- Find the missing number in a number pattern

**Science:** This month in science, students will explore God's creation through investigating animals. Through hands-on experiences, students will investigate the following questions:

- What are animals' lifecycles like?
- Where do animals live?
- How do animals change their habitats?
- What do animals eat?
- How do animals behave?

**Visual arts:** This month in visual arts, students will complete their self-portraits in the style of the ancient Egyptians. Students will continue to learn about proportions and shading techniques as they colour their portraits. Students will:

- Complete their self-portrait
- Continue to examine portraiture techniques found in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome
- Learn oil pastel techniques
- Create a desert landscape drawing as their final project of the year

**Music:** June is primarily a review month for Grade 1 students. Students will engage in all the areas of music they learned throughout the year in the form of games and musical activities. They will also explore music history and critical listening. Topics will include:

- Mallet technique and Orff arrangements
- Solfege singing
- Rhythm syllables and notation
- Critical listening
- Treble clef notes

**Physical Education:** During the month of June, Grade 1 students will have an opportunity to play their favourite games. With the warmer weather, we will also take advantage of games we can play outdoors. Activities will include:

- Soccer, basketball, dodgeball, relays, and octopus
- Balloon toss and potato sack races
- Review what was learned during health and nutrition lessons

*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 and 14 – Pizza Lunch

June 5-12 – Dominican Republic Mission Trip

June 8 – Battle of the Books (at Innova) AND Pasta Lunch

June 16 – Family Picnic – At the Makarenkos'

June 18 – Nobility Day

June 19 – Last Day of Class – Noon Dismissal – Term 3 Reports Go Home **AND**  
Grade 8 Graduation

June 20-22 – PA Days - ACCS Conference for Administration

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