

June 2018

The Month Ahead At Innova



Grade 2

Mrs. Maja Younan

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Maja graduated from the University of Toronto with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and English and completed teacher's college at OISE. Her specialty was in secondary education, but she has also worked with elementary students. She has taught in the public school board as well as in a private Christian school and continues to enjoy serving in her church's children's ministry. Maja came to love the classical model after reading the book *Wisdom and Eloquence* as a new teacher. She has enjoyed learning and implementing classical Christian principles in her teaching and with her own family and wants to see other families experience its fruits! Maja loves sports, reading, and having fun with her children, husband, and dogs.



Maja Younan
Teacher

Grade 2

Grade 2 students are actively engaged in building 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
- Enjoy stories from the *Story Bible* by Catherine Vos

Literature, Vocabulary, and Reading Fluency: In the month of June, students will listen to read-aloud stories from *Nate the Great* and *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Students will also read two stories by Vera Williams, *A Chair for my Mother*, and *Cherries and Cherry Pits*. They will learn about themes in literature, such as hard work and goal setting. They will also complete a study of pet poems to continue learning about poetic devices and understanding rhythm and rhyme. Emphasis will be on the following:

- Reading comprehension
- Identify themes and extend learning through art activities and a take-home project
- Write journal entries to respond to questions related to their reading

Spelling and Penmanship: Spelling, 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 to work on spelling 20 list words each week
- Develop vocabulary by writing creative sentences using spelling words
- Review phonograms
- Practice cursive writing through various exercises

Grammar: For the month of June, Grade 2 students will continue to learn about and apply various study skills. Specific lessons will include:

- Arranging words in alphabetical order
- Developing dictionary skills
- Identifying the parts of a book
- Distinguishing between fiction and non-fiction
- Using the internet

Writing: Grade 2 students have learned many writing skills this year! During the month of June, students will have the opportunity to apply all they have learned, in grammar and writing, to various creative writing assignments. Some of the skills to be reviewed are:

- The writing process: prewriting, drafting, editing, publishing
- Writing traits: ideas, voice, organization, sentence fluency, word choice, conventions

Grade 2 – 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.

Latin: Students have learned over 100 Latin words this year! The Grade 2 class will spend the month of June reviewing by:

- Singing and enjoying Latin songs
- Completing a project using special flash cards students have created throughout the year
- Playing review games

Mathematics: Grade 2 students 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:

- Learn the multiplication tables of 3 and 4
- Solve real-world problems using division
- Learn to read picture graphs

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. They 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 our final project of the year

Music: June is primarily a review month for Grade 2 students. Students will engage in all of 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 2 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.