

September 2018

The Month Ahead At Innova

Johanna Hatt holds a Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance and a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from Liberty University in Virginia. She is currently completing her Master of Arts in Music Education. Being homeschooled using classical Christian education as the foundation of her studies, Johanna saw first-hand the benefits of classical Christian education and the positive impact it has made on her life. Johanna has worked with various schools in York Region, while continuing to provide her leadership to the Opera York Children's Chorus. When she's not teaching, Johanna is actively involved in her local church's worship team, singing with various arts organizations in the city, or reading a good book.



Johanna Hatt
Teacher
Grade 2



Grade 2
Miss Johanna Hatt
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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.

Christian Education: Grade 2 students will begin the year studying a unit titled "The Christian Life" with a focus on the book of James followed by a unit on intertestamentary times. Topics include:

- Wisdom from Heaven
- Being quick and slow
- Hear, believe, and do
- Taming the tongue
- The power of prayer
- The promised Saviour
- The beginning of the Greek Rule
- Greek/Roman impact
- Pharisees and Sadducees
- Essenes and Zealots

Reading Fluency: At the beginning of the school year, Grade 2 students' reading fluency is assessed and reading instruction is individualized. As they progress, students will build and refine oral reading fluency and reading comprehension skills.

This month, students will focus on:

- Reading clearly
- Predicting outcomes
- Sequencing and retelling stories
- Identifying characters, settings, problems, and solutions
- Relating story events to personal experiences

Literature and Vocabulary: Students will begin the year focusing on a unit that explores returning to school after summer holidays.

Throughout the unit, students will:

- Engage in activities to build classroom unity
- Demonstrate comprehension of a text read aloud and use implicit information to make inferences about the motives and behaviours of characters
- Identify details from a passage read aloud and provide answers to "who", "what", "where", "when", "why" and "how"
- Use context clues to define unfamiliar vocabulary
- Identify rhyming words
- Explore symbolism
- Explore similarities and differences

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:

- Read all 26 single letter phonograms and say the correct sounds
- Spell all 26 single letter phonograms from hearing the sounds
- Begin weekly spelling lists
- Complete the vowel/consonants reference sections of their learning logs
- Learn and practice lower case letters: *a, c, j, d, g, o, qu, e, l, b, f, h, and k*
- Demonstrate proper letter formation using proper posture, paper position, pencil grip, and pressure

Grammar: In Grammar, students will begin the year reviewing the components of a sentence. Areas of focus will include:

- Defining a sentence
- Capitalization and correct ending punctuation
- Telling, commanding, asking, and exclaiming sentences
- The naming and action parts of a sentence
- Conjunctions
- Prepositions

Writing: The first unit of writing will begin with Grade 2 students utilizing the skills learned in grammar to produce a personal narrative with a beginning, middle, and ending. At the end of this unit, students will be able to understand and start implementing:

- The writing process: prewriting, drafting, editing, proofreading, and publishing
- The 6-traits of good writing: ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions

Latin: Students will begin this year with a unit titled "The Body." This unit will introduce students to Latin words using songs and chants to help children learn Latin in an enjoyable and engaging way. Students will learn the Latin words for:

- Hand, foot, head, body
- Face, eye, ear, nose, mouth

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.

History: This year, students will study Canada, focusing on Canada's geography, symbols, early settlers, and communities. This month, students will learn the following:

- The Canada geography song
- Canadian symbols
- Canada's national anthem
- Provinces and territories
- The Great Lakes
- The oceans
- Mapping skills

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. Students in Grade 2 will begin the school year by exploring numbers to 1000. Students will refresh their skills in counting, place value, and comparing and ordering numbers to 1000. They will use these skills to complete the following:

- Addition without regrouping
- Addition with regrouping in tens and ones
- Subtraction without regrouping
- Subtraction with regrouping in hundreds, tens, and ones

Science: Grade 2 students will begin the year with a unit titled "Scientific Investigations" followed by "Investigating the Senses" and explore the following questions:

- How do we do science?
- How do we measure length?
- How do we use a ruler?
- How do we measure temperature?
- How do we measure how much a container holds?
- What are your senses?
- How do you see?

Visual Arts: Students will explore the work of Canadian artists in visual arts this year. This month, they will begin learning about colour theory and they will create a colour wheel. Students will learn about mixing primary colours and the difference between cool and warm colours. Areas of study will include:

- The painting *Cosmos* by Molly Lamb Bobak
- Warm and cool colours
- Primary, secondary, and tertiary colours

Music: Music is perhaps the most widely used form of artistic expression in the world and it is such a joy to have the chance to teach the tools of musical expression to the Grade 2 class this year! In September, students will revisit some of the basics learned last year as well as introduce some new concepts that will be built on through the year. Areas of study will include:

- Pulse
- Melodic contour
- Review musical opposites
- Vocal technique
- Crescendo/decrescendo
- SLM - echo and composition
- Stick Notation - reading and composition
- Ritardando and accelerando
- Same and different phrases
- Composer: Chopin
- Listening: *Revolutionary Etude* by Chopin
- Orchestra: Introduction to the orchestra and sections

Physical Education: During physical education classes, students will develop agility, flexibility, endurance, and gross motor skills. They will be graded based on participation, respectful attitude, sportsmanship, and physical skills demonstrated in class. This month, students will develop ball-handling skills. Topics include:

- Bouncing with one hand while stationary
- Bouncing on the move
- Bouncing on the move in relays
- Bouncing on the move with obstacle courses
- Bouncing in a skill circuit

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

Upcoming Events

September 4 - First Day of Classes

September 8 - Back to School Social at the Makarenko's – 12-2 p.m.

September 24 – Picture Day – Lifetouch AND

Gr. 7 Immunization Clinic – York Region Public Health

September 25 - ACSI Coed Soccer - Stouffville

September 27 – Community Safety Village Field Trip (JK-2)

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