

October 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 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: In October, Grade 2 students will focus on the book of James and a unit titled "Intertestamentary Times". Topics include:

- The promised Saviour
- The beginning of Greek rule
- Greek and Roman impact on the Israelites
- Pharisees and Sadducees
- Essenes and Zealots

Literature, and Vocabulary: This month, students will memorize the poem "Something Told the Wild Geese" by Rachel White and read, think about, and discuss the novel *Clara and the Bookwagon* by Nancy Smiler Levinson. Students will focus on the following:

- Recite a poem with clarity and expression
- Identify character traits
- Compare and contrast settings using a Venn diagram
- Retell the story sequentially
- Demonstrate comprehension
- Write a summary of the story

Reading Fluency: Grade 2 students will build and refine oral reading fluency and comprehension skills. This month, students will:

- Sequence four to six events correctly
- Identify the parts of a book (front and back covers, title page, table of contents)
- Describe the use of rhyme, rhythm, and sensory images in poetry

Spelling and Penmanship: Spelling and penmanship are learned together using the *Spell to Write and Read* and the *Cursive First* programs. Students will continue to practice reading and writing phonograms each day and analyze words from the class weekly spelling list. This month, students will be introduced to the following spelling rules:

- Q always needs a U
- C says /s/ before E, I, or Y
- G may say /j/ before E, I or Y
- A, E, O, U usually say /A, E, O, U/ at the end of a syllable

Grammar: During the month of October, Grade 2 students will study the proper usage of nouns. The skill they learn will then be applied to their everyday writing assignments. Specific lessons include:

- Conjunctions and Prepositions
- The days of the week and months of the year
- Writing dates using commas
- Abbreviations and initials
- Proper and common nouns
- Singular, plural, irregular, and collective nouns
- Singular and plural possessive nouns
- Compound words

Writing: During October, students will continue to use the writing process to complete their personal narratives. Specific objectives include:

- Understanding that a personal narrative is a true, personal story
- Understanding that a personal narrative is written in the first person and uses words such as *I, me, and my*
- Writing a personal narrative with a clear beginning, middle, and ending
- Identifying errors and revising work as necessary
- Publishing a final copy of a written work

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: This month, students will continue to expand their Latin vocabulary as they learn words related to food, drink, and dinner. Students are introduced to Latin words using songs and chants to help children learn Latin in an enjoyable and engaging way. Latin words for this month include:

- Dinner, water, food
- I eat, I drink

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
- Mapping skills
- Using street maps and the compass rose

Mathematics: Grade 2 students begin each mathematics period practicing math facts with the CalcuLadder math drill program. Student progress through this program on an individual basis. Students will conclude a chapter on addition up to 1 000 with and without regrouping. Students will then begin a chapter in which they will learn to subtract numbers up to 1 000. Specifically, students will practice the following skills:

- Addition without regrouping
- Addition with regrouping in tens and ones
- Subtraction without regrouping
- Subtraction with regrouping in hundreds, tens and ones
- Subtractions across 0's

Science: In October, Grade 2 students will begin a unit titled "Investigating the Senses" and explore the following questions through a variety of hands-on activities:

- What are your senses?
- How do you see?
- What happens when people can't see?
- How do you hear?
- What happens when people can't hear?

Visual Arts: This month, students will learn about different types of space. Students will examine the work of Norval Morrisseau, a Canadian artist, to discover the difference between positive and negative space. Students will create a positive and negative relief print of items from nature. Students will:

- Complete their study of colour theory
- Examine the difference between positive and negative space
- Learn about the history of printmaking and printmaking techniques
- Continue memorizing the periods of art history

Music: In music class, Grade 2 students will explore more of the foundations of music through singing, moving, listening, and playing Orff instruments. Topics include:

- Rhythmic and melodic ostinatos
- Major and minor tonalities
- Music notation: staff, quarter note, half note, quarter rest
- Note names: treble clef A5-G5
- The orchestra: conductor
- Opera

Physical Education: During physical education classes, students will develop agility, flexibility, endurance, and gross motor skills. This month, students will continue to develop ball-handling skills. Topics include:

- Throwing and catching at various distances
- Proper technique for underhand throwing
- Throwing at targets using beanbags

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

Upcoming Events

October 4 – Exordium AND Curriculum Night – At Innova

October 5 – PA Day – No School for Students

October 8 – Thanksgiving Day – No School

October 10 – Parent Volunteer Information Session – South Sanctuary at 9:15 a.m.

October 12 & 26 – Pizza Lunch

October 15 – Fair Glen Overnight Retreat (Gr. 5-9)

October 16 – Fair Glen Field Trip (Gr. 3-9)

October 18 – Cross Country Meet – Dagmar Ski Resort

October 31 – Walk Through History Day

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