

October 2018

The Month Ahead At Innova

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 3 and
Grade 4

Grade 4
Mrs. Maja Younan
myounan@innovaacademy.ca

Grade 4 students are actively engaged in building foundational knowledge and skills in all subject areas. Our classroom is filled with reading, discussion, singing, 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: This month, students are encouraged to develop their love for studying the Bible through reading excerpts from various genres, beginning with a study of several Psalms and Proverbs. They will also learn about John Calvin and Martin Luther and how their study of the Bible transformed history. Students will:

- Discuss the meaning and application of Psalm 19
- Memorize Psalm 19
- Identify practical applications of select Proverbs
- Write out verses from their Bible reading and use them for the basis of prayers

Literature: This month, students will finish their novel study of *Stone Fox*. They will begin to read a variety of poems and short stories that relate to their study of the Middle Ages in history class as well as their study of the Bible. Students will:

- Read short stories from Medieval India and Medieval China
- Read select Psalms and Proverbs as poetry and wisdom literature, and identify the use of poetic devices such as similes and metaphors

Writing: Grade 4 students will continue to develop writing skills and learn how to properly apply grammar and spelling to various types of sentences. Students will:

- Practice daily writing exercises, focusing on proper punctuation, spelling, and grammar
- Learn to format work correctly
- Use excerpts from history, literature, science and Bible as the basis for copying examples of properly formatted writing
- Listen to short narrations and learn to respond to questions using complete sentences

Spelling and Grammar: As students study spelling and grammar, they develop greater awareness of how the English language is structured and apply their skills to writing across the curriculum. This month, students will:

- Learn 20 spelling words per week
- Write weekly sentences using list words,
- Diagram sentences to identify nouns, subjects, and predicates
- Memorize the eight parts of speech and identify their uses in various sentences
- Continue to learn about subjects and predicates
- Continue to learn about different types of sentences
- Begin a study of nouns

Latin: In Latin this month, students are using new vocabulary words to practice simple conversational sentences. Topics covered include:

- Months of the year
- Numbers
- Review of past vocabulary phrases and words

French: In French this month, students will continue to learn new gestured vocabulary and practice songs in French. Students will:

- Practice songs for entering and exiting the class
- Continue to learn the script for the play *Le chat et la lune*
- Complete comprehension activities to better understand the play
- Begin practicing and memorizing the play
- Work towards speaking exclusively in French with teacher prompts

Grade 4 – 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, Grade 4 students will explore the Middle Ages with a focus on Eastern Empires and the Americas. Topics covered this month include:

- Medieval China
- The Mongols
- Marco Polo
- Names of continents and oceans
- Names of countries in Asia and South Asia

Mathematics: Grade 4 students will continue their study of estimation and number theory. They will begin learning about whole number multiplication and division. Topics covered include:

- Factors
- Estimation
- Multiplying by a 1-digit number
- Multiplying by a 2-digit number
- Dividing by a 1-digit number
- Real world problems

Science: In science, students will continue to learn about the scientific method and how to conduct scientific investigations. This month, they will focus on:

- Learning about the role of the circulatory and respiratory systems
- Memorizing and diagramming parts of the circulatory and respiratory systems
- Learning about scientific inventions that have been created to help people with respiratory problems
- Creating a basic model to display the function of the circulatory or respiratory system

Visual Arts: This month, students will learn about Chinese and Japanese art during the Middle Ages. Students will examine Chinese culture and visual motifs in their artwork. Students will:

- Complete their chalk landscape drawings
- Learn watercolour techniques
- Investigate the use of value in Chinese and Japanese artwork
- Learn about using value to communicate depth and tone

Music: In music, the Grade 4 class will take the next steps in their knowledge and learning of part singing, note reading, and Orff technique. Topics include:

- Singing in canon
- Mallet technique
- Musical staff: meter, bar lines, repeat sign
- Recognize and sing short melodies on the treble clef staff
- Steps and skips on the treble clef staff using solfege
- Orchestra: review of string family and percussion
- Listening: Borodin String *Quartet no. 2, Scherzo*

Physical Education: This month, students will learn to play handball. They will also spend time practicing for the cross-country meet. Students will:

- Develop passing skills
- Work on shooting accuracy
- Learn positions and rules for handball
- Develop stamina and endurance

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.