

October 2018

The Month Ahead

At Innova

Melinda holds a Bachelor of Arts Honours degree in Psychology from the University of Windsor and a Bachelor of Education from Queen's University. She is passionate about instilling a love of learning into the hearts of children and encouraging and inspiring them to be confident leaders. Using music, art, drama, and many visual resources, Melinda loves teaching in creative ways to engage children. After reading the book, *Shaping Hearts and Minds* by Monica and Shawn Whatley, Melinda is excited to bring the classical model of teaching to her classroom. Melinda enjoys travelling, meeting new people, and eating a variety of international foods. She is active in her church and serves in various capacities on the worship and prayer team as well as in local outreach and evangelism.



Melinda Morris
Teacher

Junior
Kindergarten



Junior Kindergarten
Miss Melinda Morris
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Our Junior Kindergarten program is designed to introduce children to the joy of learning through theme-based units. Students will listen to wonderful selections of classic children's literature and respond through engaging hands-on activities. We are committed to developing the whole child by providing a pleasant environment for children to take chances and explore. Above all, we strive to lead children to taste the joys of being a child of God and grow in their understanding of serving Him.

Christian Education: Junior Kindergarten students will learn about God's family and that they are His precious children. This month, students will discuss the following people:

- Abraham
- Isaac
- Jacob
- Joseph

Memory verse: Genesis 28:15 "Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." (ESV)

Language Arts: This month, Junior Kindergarten students will listen to stories and complete activities associated with the themes of fall, apples, pumpkins, and Thanksgiving. Using songs, chants, and stories, students will develop phonics skills as they practice hearing, recognizing, and saying letters and their sounds. With the use of various tactile means, students will have opportunities to develop their fine motor skills and practice proper letter formation. This month, students will focus on the following:

- Phonics: letter sounds /j/, /k/, /l/, /m/, /n/, /o/, /p/, /q/, /r/, /s/, /t/, /u/, /v/, /w/, /x/, /y/, /z/
- Proper letter formation: J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z

World Cultures and Geography: Students will continue their exploration of God's world. This month, they will learn about the oceans, continents, what country they live in, and Canada's location on a map and globe. Students will then focus on the continent of Africa. Students will:

- Understand what continents and oceans are and identify them on a map and globe
- Identify Canada on a map and globe
- Locate Africa on a globe
- Know that a desert is a dry area, usually covered with sand
- Know that the Sahara is a large desert in Africa and locate it on the map
- Describe an oasis as a place in the desert where things can grow because there is water

Mathematics: Students will learn to recognize and say their numbers through songs and chants and use various tactile means to practice proper number formation. This month, students will learn about:

- Patterning: copy a pattern

JK – 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.

- Counting to 10
- Identifying and ordering numbers to 10
- Comparing numbers
- Positional words

Science: This month in science, students will investigate topics about autumn. Students will do a variety of activities and experiments including picking leaves and observing details in pumpkins. Questions explored include:

- Where do apples come from?
- In which season are apples ready to pick and eat?
- What are the different kinds of apples
- What happens to the leaves in the autumn?
- What are the parts of a leaf?

Visual Arts: This month, students will learn about primary and secondary colours and complete their 2D and 3D art pieces by adding colour. Students will:

- Mix primary colours to create secondary colours
- Create and paint 2D and 3D art projects with primary and secondary colours

Music: In music, the JK/SK class will continue to sing and play games that will expose them to different elements of music such as:

- Pulse - recognize stressed beats
- Loud/Soft
- Unpitched percussion
- Instruments: guitar
- Listening: *Anitra's Dance* by Grieg

Physical Education: During physical education time, students have opportunities to develop spatial awareness, balance, and coordination using their bodies and a variety of equipment. Throughout the year, students are led to develop good sportsmanship while playing games with their classmates. This month, activities include:

- Rolling large and small balls to develop aim and appropriate speed
- Rolling to a target
- Playing rolling games

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.