

November 2018

The Month Ahead At Innova

Grade 2

Miss Johanna Hatt

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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 the month of November, Grade 2 students will memorize Psalm 1. Students will continue a unit titled "A Saviour is Born" focusing on the promise of the coming Messiah. They will also begin a unit titled "Jesus Begins His Ministry". Topics include:

- John the Baptist and our need for repentance
- Jesus' baptism
- Jesus' temptation
- Jesus calls His disciples

Literature and Vocabulary: Each month, students will memorize a poem and complete a novel study. The poem and novel study for the month of November are listed respectively:

- "In Flander's Field" by John McCrae
- *The Sword and the Tree* by Clyde Robert Bulla

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

- Identify who is telling a story and provide information on a text
- Retell a story in proper sequence using narrative language to describe characters, setting, and the plot
- Distinguish the following genres of literature: poetry, nonfiction, fiction
- Identify temporal words that link and sequence events, i.e., first, next, then, etc.

Spelling and Penmanship: Spelling and penmanship will be 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 weekly spelling lists. Students will be introduced to the following phonograms this month:

- *ti, ci, si, tch*
- *igh, ei, ey*
- *ar, wh, aw, au*
- *ough*

Grammar: During the month of November, Grade 2 students will study the proper usage of verbs and adverbs and then apply what they learn to their everyday writing assignments. Specific lessons include:

- Action verbs
- Verbs in the present, past, and future tense
- Helping verbs
- Using Vivid Verbs
- Troublesome verbs
- Adverbs

Writing: This month, Grade 2 students will use the writing process to compose friendly letters. Lessons will include:

- What is a friendly letter?
- Parts of a friendly letter
- Prewriting, drafting, and editing
- Proofreading and publishing
- Addressing an envelope

Latin: Students will continue their Latin studies with units titled "The Seasons" and "The Sky." Students are introduced 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:

- Winter, spring, summer, autumn
- Sky, moon, stars, sun

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 are studying Canada, focusing on Canada's geography, symbols, early settlers, and communities. This month, students will explore the properties of maps while focusing on each province and territory in detail. Areas of study include:

- Canada's physical map
- Appalachians and lowlands
- The Canadian Shield and Arctic
- The plains and mountains

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 start an extended period focusing on multiplication and division. During the month of November, students will learn:

- How to multiply
- Two, five, and ten multiplication tables
- How to divide
- Skip counting songs
- How to use dot paper

Science: In the month of November, students will continue a unit titled "Investigating the Senses". Students will explore the following questions:

- How do you hear? And, what happens when people can't hear?
- How do you smell?
- How do you taste?
- How do you feel (touch)?
- How do you use all your senses?

Visual Arts: This month, students will learn about printmaking and painting techniques. They will continue to explore the difference between positive and negative space. Students will:

- Learn about the history of printmaking and printmaking techniques
- Summarize their study of colour theory
- Continue memorizing the periods of art history

Music: In music class, the Grade 2 students will build on their knowledge of Orff technique and singing. They will also review music notation, form, and conducting. Lessons will include:

- Mallet technique
- Simple borduns on Orff instruments
- Vocal ostinatos
- Christmas repertoire
- Music notation: review rhythm and C4-G5
- Orchestra: review sections and conducting
- Genre: Ballet - The Nutcracker

Physical Education: During physical education time, students will 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's topics include:

- Throwing and catching to a partner using medium sized balls and beanbags
- Using beanbags and throwing at a target
- Throwing and catching on the move

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

Upcoming Events

November 1 – Walk Through History Day – Parents Welcome at 8:30 a.m.
November 7 – Remembrance Day Chapel – Parents Welcome
November 9 – Pizza Lunch AND Interim Reports Go Home
November 15 – Interim Parent/Teacher Check In
November 20 – Prayer Meeting – Parents Welcome in Room A at 8:30 a.m.
November 23 – Pizza Lunch
November 30 – Exordium – Parents Welcome

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