

December 2018

The Month Ahead At Innova

When Samantha was introduced to Classical Christian Education, she immediately recognized the value in its methodology and curriculum. Samantha has predominantly taught in the primary division and this year teaches the JK and SK class at Innova Academy. Samantha attended Tyndale College and University and graduated with a Bachelor of Education. Her goal was to teach in a Bible believing Christian School and she is excited to be teaching at Innova Academy. Samantha has been married to her husband, Andre, for over 20 years and they have three children. In her spare time, she is involved in her church choir and worship team and volunteers in the nursery. Her favourite Bible verses are Colossians 1:15-17.



Samantha Jung
Teacher

Senior
Kindergarten

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Senior Kindergarten is a time of magical growth where children learn foundational knowledge and skills to develop a life-long love of learning. 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: In Senior Kindergarten, the overarching theme of this year's Bible study is God's care and love for His people. During December, students will focus on the Christmas story. Students will discover that the birth of Jesus the Messiah is the fulfillment of prophecy and that God came to earth in human flesh. This month, topics include:

- The angel's visit to Mary
- Jesus' birth
- The shepherds and the angels
- The visit of the wise men
- Simeon and Anna
- Memory verses: Luke 2:11 "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord." (ESV) Hebrews 1:1-3 "Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power." (ESV)

Language Arts: Each month, students will explore stories, poems, songs, chants, and hands-on activities related to the monthly themes. This month's themes are the solar system and Christmas. Literature selections include, *Solar System by Gregory Vogt*, *Our Solar System by Seymour Simon*, *Star Bright: A Christmas Story by Allison Mcghee*, and *The Good News of Great Joy by Kelly Pulley*. During daily read-aloud time, students will enjoy listening to the novel *The Bobbsey Twins and the Circus Surprise* by Laura Lee Hope. Using various tactile means as well as songs and chants, students will:

- Practice proper letter formation
- Write and copy sentences into a journal
- Discuss the story elements of point of view, setting, and characters
- Retell and sequence stories under the following headings: beginning, middle, and end
- Review all single-letter phonograms and master the short vowel sounds
- Learn vocabulary related to the four seasons and the solar system

World Cultures and Geography: As we continue our tour of the world, students will learn about China, Japan, and Israel. Students will:

- Locate Asia on a globe
- Know that China is a country in the continent of Asia
- Know that the Yangtze River is an important river in China
- Locate Japan on a world map
- Know that Tokyo is the largest city in Japan

SK – 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.

- Know how to say hello in both Mandarin and Japanese
- Locate Israel on a world map
- Know that Jesus was born in Bethlehem

Mathematics: This month in mathematics, students will explore numbers 0 - 20 using various hands-on manipulatives, songs, and chants. Students will:

- Read and write the numbers 0-20
- Match numbers with objects
- Compare and order groups of objects up to 20
- Use mathematical vocabulary: more, fewer, greater than, and less than
- Identify solid shapes: edge, face, corner, cube, cone, cylinder, sphere, and pyramid
- Make pictures from flat shapes

Science: In science, students will explore the solar system. They will do various hands-on activities and experiments to answer the following questions:

- What are the names and characteristics of the planets?
- What is gravity?
- How does the moon shine?
- What is a star?

Visual Arts: This month, students will learn about the art of Asia and complete a project related to Christmas. Projects will include:

- Japanese paper fans
- Chinese lanterns
- Nativity scene

Music: Innova students are very busy preparing for our annual Christmas concert. Over the next weeks, music classes will mostly consist of:

- Polishing pieces for the Christmas performance
- Working together as an ensemble

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 encouraged to develop good sportsmanship while playing games with their classmates. This month's topics include:

- Overhand throwing using large balls
- Two hand overhand throwing
- One hand overhand throwing
- Underhand and overhand throwing with scoops

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

Upcoming Events

- December 4 & 18 – Prayer Meeting – Room A at 8:30 a.m. – Parents Welcome
- December 4, 11, 18 – Lunch Lady Lunch
- December 6 – Pizza Lunch
- December 7 – AGO Field Trip – Gr. 5-9
- December 14 – Special Lunch Lady Lunch
- December 16 – Grade 7/8 Performance at Cedarview
- December 19 – AMICA Christmas Performance
- December 20 – Christmas Concert – Main Sanctuary
- December 21 – Last Day of Classes Before Christmas Break – Noon Dismissal
- December 29 – Christmas Social - NTR
- December 24-January 4 – Christmas Break

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