

January 2019

# 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  
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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:** During the month of January, students will study the beginning of Jesus' ministry. They will also memorize Psalm 139:1-10. Throughout the month, students will focus on:

- John the Baptist
- Jesus' baptism
- Jesus' temptation
- Jesus calling His disciples
- The Sermon on the Mount
- Jesus sending out the disciples

**Reading Fluency, Literature, and Vocabulary:** Grade 2 students will build and refine oral reading fluency, comprehension, and expand their vocabularies. During the month of January, students will complete a novel study on the book *Peter Pan* by J.M. Barrie (abridged). While studying this novel, specific attention will be given to the following objectives:

- Identify words that link ideas, i.e., for example, also, in addition
- Demonstrate comprehension and draw inferences from the text
- Discuss vocabulary drawn from the text
- Retell a story using narrative language to describe characters, setting, and the plot in proper sequence
- Relate story details to personal experiences
- Demonstrate an understanding of literary language (E.g. author, illustrator, characters, setting, plot, dialogue, personification, simile, and metaphor) and use some of these terms in retelling the story and creating their own stories

**Spelling and Penmanship:** Spelling and penmanship will be learned together using *Spell to Write and Read* and *Cursive First*. Students will continue to practice reading and writing phonograms each day. They will also continue to learn and apply spelling rules. Students will:

- Review the following phonograms: *igh, ie, dge, wr, ti, ci, si, tch, eigh, ei, ey*
- Learn 20 spelling list words each week
- Learn spelling rules:
  - *i* before *e* except after *c*, if we say *A* and some exceptions
  - *sh* used at the beginning of a word at the end of a syllable, but not at the beginning of any syllable after the first one, except for the ending *-ship*
  - *ti, ci, si*: Latin spellings of *sh* used at the beginning of any syllable after the first one

**Grammar:** In writing this month, students in Grade 2 will use prior writing and grammar knowledge to write a how-to article with sensory details. Specific skills to be assessed this unit include:

- Proper use of nouns, verbs, and adjectives
- Correct capitalization and punctuation
- Proper use of the transition words first, next, then, and finally
- Proper sentence structure
- Correct spelling of sight words
- Good penmanship

**Writing:** This month in writing, students will review knowledge discussed in December and use their new knowledge of adjectives and the writing process to successfully write a vivid description. At the end of unit, students will understand:

- What a description is
- How to write a good topic sentence

## 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.

- How to use sensory words to make descriptions more vivid

**Latin:** In Latin this month, Grade 2 students will review the following types of vocabulary words:

- Pets
- Animals

**History:** This year, students are studying Canada, focusing on Canada's geography, symbols, early settlers, and communities. This month, students will learn about the Wendat People. Topics include:

- Wendat homes
- The food of the Wendat
- Travel and tools of the Wendat
- Wendat ceremonies

**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 review the previously completed unit titled "Metric Measurement of Length." Students will then complete a unit in which they will learn to measure the mass of objects. Specifically, students will learn to:

- Measure and compare length in centimetres and metres
- Measure and compare mass in grams and kilograms
- Complete real-world problems in relation to metric length and metric mass

**Science:** In January, students will begin investigating changes during science class by examining the many changes that take place in our world. Students will investigate the following questions:

- How do people and families change?
- How does the sun affect the day and night?
- How do the stars seem to change?
- How does the moon change?
- How do weather patterns change?

**Visual Arts:** Students will begin the new year studying the art of the Group of Seven artists Franklin Carmichael and A. J. Casson. Students will learn to draw a landscape giving the illusion of space. They will then create a landscape collage showing layers of space. Areas of study will include:

- Foreground, middle ground, and background
- Space

**Music:** In January, Grade 2 students will expand their knowledge of the solfege scale, particularly the pentatonic scale. They will begin broken borduns on the Orff instruments and continue to work on their vocal technique. We will also learn a new musical genre and instrument group. Students will:

- Label verse and refrain
- Practice vocal and percussion borduns
- Practice music notation
- Listen to *Autumn Leaves* Jazz Standard
- Explore characteristics of jazz

**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:

- Kicking and dribbling skills in combination with small balls and beanbags
- Kicking and dribbling in a circuit
- Relay races involving kicking and dribbling

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

## Upcoming Events

January 7 – School Resumes  
January 8 & 22 – Prayer Meeting in Room A at 8:30 a.m. – Parents Welcome  
January 24-31 – High School Evaluation Days  
January 25 – Elementary Term 1 Ends – Reports Sent Home  
January 31 – Parent Teacher Interview Night  
February 1 – PA Day – All Students – Parent Teacher Interviews

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