

January 2019

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



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 is God's care and love for His people. Students will be introduced to Old Testament stories and characters in order for them to recognize how God displayed His loving kindness. This month, topics include:

- Elijah and the fiery chariot
- Elisha and the Shunamite family
- Healing of Naaman
- King Josiah
- Jonah and the fish
- Nineveh
- Daniel and his friends
- Esther

Memory Verses: Hebrews 13:5b-6 "I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"

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: winter and Arctic animals. Literature selections include, *Winter* by Saviour Pirota, *Winter* by Victoria Parker, and *Arctic Animals* by various authors. 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:

- Review and practice letters and their sounds
- Write and copy sentences into a journal
- Practice proper letter formation
- Use context clues to derive the meaning of unfamiliar words
- Examine story structures: characters, setting, plot
- Make predictions
- Review all single-letter sounds and the digraphs /sh/, /th/, /wh/, and /ch/
- Learn vocabulary related to winter and Arctic animals

World Cultures and Geography: As we continue our tour of the world, students will learn about Japan, India, and Saudi Arabia. Learning objectives for this month include:

- Identifying Japanese culture through *The Story of Momotaro* (Peach Boy) and Bunraku puppets
- Locating India and Saudi Arabia on a map
- Knowing that India and Saudi Arabia are located in the continent of Asia
- Learning about the Taj Mahal and the spices of India
- Recognizing that elephants are important animals in India
- Learning how to say hello in Hindi (Namaste) and in Arabic (Salam)

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.

- Identifying clothing (kaftan and ghutra) in Saudi Arabia
- Recognizing Riyadh as the capital city in Saudi Arabia

Mathematics: This month in mathematics, students will begin to explore skip counting and numbers to 100 using various hands-on manipulatives, songs, and chants. Topics this month include:

- Numbers 0-100
- Read and write numbers 0-20
- Identify and extend a shape pattern
- Counting by 2's up to 20
- Counting by 5's up to 20
- Counting by 10's to 100
- Counting by 1's to 100

Science: This month in science, students will explore matter and energy before learning about animals that hibernate. They will complete various hands-on activities and experiments to investigate:

- Matter and how it takes up space
- How and at what temperatures things freeze
- Facts about snowflakes
- Hibernation
- Which Canadian animals hibernate in the winter?

Visual Arts: This month, students will learn about different cultural art types and styles. Our artwork will showcase the continent of Asia. Projects will include the following:

- Japanese paper fans
- Chinese lanterns
- Indian mandala patterns and jewelry

Music: In music class, Senior Kindergarten students will continue to learn foundational skills through singing, movement, playing unpitched percussion, and playing musical games. Students will:

- Clap back and read rhythm patterns involving quarter and eighth notes
- Identify and respond to fast/slow, long/short, and loud/quiet
- Feel and show pulse
- Match pitches *so, mi, la, do* in a variety of sequences
- Recognize and sing to the Kodaly hand signs for *so, mi, la, do*

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:

- One hand over hand 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

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.