

February 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 Junior Kindergarten Bible class, the overarching theme is God's care and love for His people. The Old Testament stories introduce students to biblical characters in a way that shows how God displays His love and takes care of each person. This month, topics include:

- Jesus visits the Temple
- Jesus and Nicodemus
- Jesus chooses His disciples
- Jesus blesses the children
- Jesus' talk with a Samaritan woman
- Memory Verses: John 3:16-17 "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved." (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: 100th Day, Valentine's Day, body parts (head, shoulders, knees, toes, eyes, ears, mouth, and nose), and bears. Literature selections include, *Ready, Set, 100th Day* by Nancy Wallace, *Counting Our Way to 100th Day* by Betsy Franco, *Body Parts* by Bev Schumacher, *Me and My Body* by Helene Hilton, *Famous Bears* by Diana Star Helmer, *Bears* by Thea Feldman. Using various tactile means as well as songs and chants, students will:

- Read and say the digraphs *sh*, *th*, and *ch*, tri-graph *tch*, ending *ck* and use them in original writing
- Compose and copy sentences into a journal
- Practice cursive strokes and letters *a*, *c*, *d*, and *g*
- Compare and contrast characters and make inferences
- Identify story structures: Characters, setting, predictions, and retelling
- Learn vocabulary related to the body parts, bears, 100th day, and Valentine's Day

World Cultures and Geography: As we continue our tour of the world, students will learn about Canada and the United States of America. Students will:

- Learn about the Inuit living in the Arctic
- Learn about Canadian winter sports
- Locate Canada and America on a map
- Know that Canada is the second largest country in the world
- Know that Canada and America are located in the continent of North America
- Recognize that people in Canada speak English and French
- Learn about the Quebec Winter Carnival
- Learn about Christopher Columbus, the Wright Brothers and the Statue of Liberty

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.

Mathematics: Students engage in learning experiences structured around the investigate-discover-explore-apply format through songs, chants, and hands-on activities. Topics this month include:

- Review counting by 1s to 100
- Read and write numbers 0-20
- Compare sets using words *fewer, more, less, and the same number*
- Sequence events (first, second, third, last, and next)
- Physical position (first, second, third, before, and after)
- Order preferences

Science: This month in science, students will explore body parts, nutrition, colours and light. Students will learn the French words for head, shoulders, knees, toes, eyes, ears, mouth, and nose through the Head and Shoulders song. They will also do various hands-on activities and experiments such as the balloon lung experiment, the sugar experiment, the exploding colours in milk experiment, the walking water colour and light experiments to learn about:

- Body systems - muscular, digestive, nervous, respiratory, circulatory
- Healthy eating
- How colours are made
- Light and its source

Visual Arts: This year, students are learning about cultural art from around the world. This month's artwork will showcase the continent of North America. Projects will include the following:

- Native Canadian art using the colours blue, red, green, and black
- Valentine's Day art project
- Create a body made from shapes

Music: In music class, Senior Kindergarten students will begin to work with unpitched percussion and continue to practice their skills singing. This month, there will be a stronger emphasis on pitch matching, keeping a steady pulse, and understanding rhythmic notation. More specifically, we will explore:

- Good singing tone and correct pitch matching
- Half notes and half rests
- Rhythmic patterns on unpitched percussion instruments

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 focus includes:

- Kicking
- Beanbag dribbling with feet
- Ball kicking variations
- Kicking to a target

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

Upcoming Events

February 4 – ACSI Jr. Boys Basketball Tournament – Toronto
February 5 & 19 – Prayer Meeting in Room A at 8:30 a.m. – Parents Welcome
February 5, 12, 19 & 26 – Lunch Lady Lunch
February 8 – Exordium – Parents Welcome AND Pizza Lunch
February 15 – Walk Through Literature Day
February 20 – In-School Speech Meet
February 21 – Sr. Boys Basketball Tournament - Stouffville
February 22 – Pizza Lunch
February 28 – ACSI Public Speaking Festival - Mississauga

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