

January 2020

The Month Ahead At Innova

Grade 1

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 also completed 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 and private choral companies. 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.



Miss Johanna Hatt
Teacher

Grade 1

Grade 1 students are actively engaged in learning 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 continue to memorize Psalm 33. Throughout the month, students will focus on:

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

History: This year, students are studying Canada, focusing on Canada's geography, symbols, early settlers, and communities. This month, students will finish their study of the various symbols of each province before moving on to a unit about the Wendat people. Students will look specifically at:

- Where the Wendat lived
- What the Wendat ate
- Travel and tools of the Wendat
- Wendat ceremonies

Literature, Vocabulary, and Reading Fluency: Through participating in reading groups, students will build and refine phonics skills, oral reading fluency, and reading comprehension. In the month of January, the Grade 1 literature study will focus on winter stories such as *Snowmen at Night*, as well as *Make way for Ducklings*, and *Owl Moon* by Jane Yolen. We will also be finishing up *Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White for this month's read-aloud. Students will:

- Role play
- Develop listening skills
- Read clearly with expression and observe punctuation marks
- Read for meaning and respond to content questions
- Infer and make predictions of the story outcome
- Identify author, plot, characters, setting, problem, outcome, and lesson of the story, highlighting biblical application
- Sequence the events and retell the story in his/her own words
- Recognize, write, and illustrate the beginning, middle, and end of the story
- Relate story events to personal experiences
- Write creatively based on the story

Spelling, Phonics, and Penmanship: Spelling, phonics, and penmanship will be learned together using *Spell to Write and Read* and *Cursive First*. Using a variety of activities and games, students will:

- Learn and practice writing their memory verse each week in cursive
- Learn, review, read, and spell the following multi letter phonograms: *er, ir, ur, ear, wor ea, ee, ng, oo, or, ow, th, igh, ie, dge, wr*
- Continue learning 20 spelling list words each week

Writing and Grammar: In the month of January, students will:

- Creatively write 10 sentences using their weekly spelling list words
- Recognize and form compound words
- Identify and form plural nouns by adding -s
- Use commas to separate nouns in a series
- Identify verbs that show action
- Add -s to some verbs when used with a noun that names one person or one thing

Grade 1 – 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.

- Identify that some verbs do not end in -s when used with a noun that names more than one person or thing
- Distinguish between singular and plural verb forms

Mathematics: Grade 1 students will begin each mathematics period practicing math facts with the CalculLadder math drill program. Students progress through this program on an individual basis. This month, students will complete their unit titled "Ordinal Numbers and Position" before moving on to a unit entitled "Numbers to 20" Students will:

- Use ordinal numbers to show order
- Use position words to name relative positions
- Problem solve through word problems
- Learn different ways to add and subtract

Science: This month, students will continue and finish the unit on the circulatory system. Later this month, students will investigate animals and their habitats. Through various hands on activities, students will:

- Explore the different types of blood vessels
- Learn interesting facts about the circulatory system
- Explore different habitats and how they are unique to different animals

Latin: In Latin this month, Grade 1 students will review vocabulary words, learn songs to reinforce vocabulary, and practice using their new words in informal conversation. Students will focus on the following types of vocabulary words:

- Animals
- The body
- The face

Visual Arts: Students will create pinch pots and paint them using patterns inspired by ancient artifacts. Topics this month include:

- Primary and secondary colours
- Using shapes to create patterns
- 3-dimensional works of art
- Seals and cartouches from Ancient Egypt

Music: In January, the Grade 1 class 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. They will also learn a new musical genre and instrument group. Students will:

- Learn to label verse and refrain
- Practice vocal and percussion borduns
- Identify music notation
- Begin an introduction to jazz
- Listen to *Autumn Leaves*

Physical Education: Students will complete their unit on team games with an emphasis on forming the heart – learning and playing team games to the glory of God and honouring Him while we engage in competition. Students will:

- Learn the rules of various team-oriented games such as relays and cooperative challenges
- Observe what makes a good team
- Practice language and actions that promote teamwork and cooperation
- Learn to monitor their heart and mind while engaging in competition

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

Upcoming Events

January 10 – Homeschool Visit Day – South Campus
January 16 – AMICA Visit – Grades 3/4
January 17 – Elementary Term 1 Ends – Reports Go Home
January 17- 23 – High School Evaluation Days
January 23 – Parent Teacher Interviews
January 24 – PD Day AND Parent Teacher Interviews
January 27- 29 – Fair Glen Retreat – Grades 5-10
January 28 – Fair Glen Field Trip – Grades 3/4

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