

October 2020

The Month Ahead At Innova

Grade 4

Mr. Jason Namba
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Mr. Namba holds a Master's Degree in Education, a Bachelor's Degree in History, an ACSI teaching certificate, and TESOL certification. He has worked overseas as a grammar stage teacher and Lower Grammar Stage Academic Director for the Seoul International Christian Academy. His love for classical education is rooted in its deep appreciation for history and its commitment to truth, beauty, and goodness. When Jason is not teaching, he can be found reading, playing board games, cooking, and spending time with his wife and two sons.



Mr. Jason Namba
Teaching Interim
Vice Principal

Grade 3 and
Grade 4

Kayleigh completed her Bachelor's Degree with specialties in Studio Art and Biology at the University of Guelph, and a Bachelors of Education at Brock University. Kayleigh's classroom experience includes teaching Core French in Saskatchewan to grades 4 to 12. She most recently worked as a visual arts teacher for elementary students in a French Immersion school while living in Oakville. Kayleigh serves in her church and loves reading, making art, photography, baking, and spending time with her husband and son.



Mrs. Kayleigh Shin
Teacher

Grade 3 and
Grade 4



Grade 4 students are actively engaged in building foundational knowledge and skills in all subject areas. Our classroom is filled with reading, discussion, chants, 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: This month, students will continue their study of *Faerie Gold: Treasures from the Land of Enchantment*. Students will:

- Study the wonder of fairy tales through personal reflection and class discussion
- Become familiar with virtues worthy of imitation
- Continue to study the book of Ephesians
- Develop an understanding of the importance of God's word

Literature: Students will continue their study of the novel *Pollyanna* and will build understanding through the following types of activities:

- Vocabulary work
- Comprehension work
- Narration
- Discussion

Writing: Students will expand their writing ability by imitating masterful compositions through our IEW program. This month, students are working on:

- Retelling a short, written piece in their own words
- Taking notes on a masterful composition
- Adding quality adjectives to their work

Spelling: Each month, students will practice memorizing phonograms as well as learn twenty new words each week. Students will:

- Develop a greater awareness of how the English language is structured
- Apply their skills to writing across the curriculum
- Learn unique spelling rules

Grammar: Students will learn the rules of English grammar and apply them in their writing. This month, students will practice:

- Rules for sentence construction
- Types of sentences

Latin: Students will practice new vocabulary through gestures and classroom activities. Vocabulary words will center around the following topics:

- Greeting and salutations
- Classroom words
- Family words

French: Students will continue to practice new gestured vocabulary and engage in classroom conversation. Students will:

- Greet each other and participate in chants to begin and end the class
- Become familiar with the vocabulary of the play *Le chat et la lune*

Grade 4 – 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.

- Work towards speaking exclusively in French with teacher prompts

History: Students will continue to explore the culture and history of ancient times. Students will begin learning about ancient Greece. Topics include:

- The stories of Homer
- The First Olympic Games
- The Medes and the Persians
- Athens and Sparta

Mathematics: This month, students will complete or begin studies in the following math concepts:

- Multiplication tables from 1 to 12
- Factors and multiples
- Multi-digit multiplication
- Long division

Science: Students will discover more about God's creation by completing their study of plants. Students will discover the amazing way that plants make their own food and how insects help plants grow. Topics include:

- Photosynthesis
- Pollination
- Seed dispersal

Visual Arts: Over the course of this year, students will learn about the elements and principles of design with a focus on ancient Greek and Roman art. They will also learn art making techniques using a variety of art forms including drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpture. This month, students will learn about printmaking and start a sculpture unit. Areas of study include:

- Qualities of line found in making relief prints
- Shape and form including geometric and organic shapes in sculpture

Music: In music, the grade 4 class will take the next steps in their knowledge and learning of rhythm, note reading, and Orff technique. Topics of study include:

- Mallet technique
- Musical staff: meter, bar lines, repeat sign
- Music literacy
- Steps and skips on the treble clef staff
- Orchestra: review string family and percussion

Physical Education: This month, students will learn to play handball. They will also spend time working on developing their running stamina. Students will:

- Develop passing skills
- Work on shooting accuracy
- Learn positions and rules for handball
- Develop running endurance

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

Upcoming Events

October 8 – Curriculum Night – Via Zoom
October 9 – PD Day – No school for students
October 12 – Thanksgiving Day – No School
October 30 – Walk Through History Day AND
October 30 – Interim Reports Go Home

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