

October 2020

The Month Ahead

At Innova

Melinda holds a Bachelor of Arts Honours degree in Psychology from the University of Windsor and a Bachelor of Education from Queen's University. She is passionate about instilling a love of learning into the hearts of children and encouraging and inspiring them to be confident leaders. Using music, art, drama, and many visual resources, Melinda loves teaching in creative ways to engage children. After reading the book, *Shaping Hearts and Minds* by Monica and Shawn Whatley, Melinda is excited to bring the classical model of teaching to her classroom. Melinda enjoys travelling, meeting new people, and eating a variety of international foods. She is active in her church and serves in various capacities on the worship and prayer team as well as in local outreach and evangelism.



Miss Melinda Morris
Teacher

Junior
Kindergarten

Junior Kindergarten
Miss Melinda Morris
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Our Junior Kindergarten program is designed to inspire children to have a lifelong 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, 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 displayed His love and took care of each of His children. This month, topics include the following:

- God's Creation: Days 1-7
- The Fall
- Noah
- Abraham-call and promise
- Isaac's birth
- Jacob and Esau, Jacob's dream, Jacob's sons
- Joseph's coat

Memory verse: Psalm 8:1 English Standard Version "O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth. You have set your glory above the heavens."

Language Arts: Students are learning to identify letters of the alphabet and their respective sounds. With the use of various tactile means, songs, and chants, students practice proper letter formation. This month, students will explore the following:

- Phonics: Sounds and recognition of *Jj, Kk, Ll, Mm, Nn, Oo, Pp, Qq, Rr, Ss, Tt, Uu, Vv*
- Writing: Proper letter formation of upper-case letters J-V using various tactile activities
- Literature: Read aloud from various classic children's books and alphabet booklets

World Culture & Geography: Students will learn basic geographic landforms and where they live in relation to the world. Learning objectives for this month include the topics below:

- Becoming familiar with the globe
- Comparing globes with maps
- Identifying and exploring the continents, oceans, and Canada

Mathematics: Students will learn to recognize and say their numbers through songs and chants and use various tactile means to practice proper number formation. This

JK – 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.

month's focus is patterning and positional words. Students will learn about the following:

- Finding patterns in our life
- Creating movement and sound patterns
- Creating and copying a pattern
- Repeating, finishing, and expanding a pattern
- Recognizing positional words

Science: This month in science, students will explore topics about the five senses and apples. They will do various hands-on activities and experiments and learn about the following:

- Sense of smell, taste, hearing
- Apples- the parts of an apple and how it grows

Visual Arts: This year, JK students will be introduced to the 7 elements of design - colour, line, shape, texture, form, space, and value. They will incorporate these elements into their artwork, and practice identifying these elements in various classical works of art and God's creation. They will explore a range of art materials, techniques, and vocabulary to develop their creative skills while examining art from different cultures and time periods. Students will:

- Explore the colour wheel
- Learn about mixing colours
- Introduce the element of line and create lines using various mediums
- Examine works by Pablo Picasso and Albrecht Dürer

Music: In music, the JK class will continue to sing and play games to explore different elements of music, such as the topics listed below:

- Pulse - recognize stressed beats
- Loud/soft
- Unpitched percussion
- Instruments: guitar
- Listening: *Anitra's Dance* by Grieg

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 practice good sportsmanship while playing games with their classmates. This month, topics include the following:

- Bouncing a ball
- Bouncing and catching a ball
- Travelling and bouncing a ball
- Bouncing a ball to a partner

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.