

February 2021

The Month Ahead At Innova

Grade 1
Miss Tiffany Gray
tgray@innovaacademy.ca

Tiffany holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the University of Alberta, a diploma in Early Childhood Education, and TESOL certification. She has worked overseas in South Korea and the UK as a grammar stage teacher. Tiffany has also worked as an educational assistant for children with special needs. Her love for the classical model grew after she was introduced to it by a fellow teacher and friend. Tiffany grew up in Hamilton and just recently moved to the Newmarket area. When Tiffany is not teaching, she can be found reading, enjoying time at the beach with her dog Zoey, serving in various ministries at church, and spending time with family.



Miss Tiffany Gray
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.

Bible and Christian Living: Grade 1 students will continue to discuss Isaac and Jacob. Jacob's choices were often unwise and harmed others. However, God used Jacob to fulfill His promises to Abraham and Isaac. The promises of salvation and eternal life also extend to us as God's children. Areas of study this month include:

- Jacob on the run in Paddan Aram, escape from Laban, homecoming
- Reading through *Grandpa's Box* by Starr Meade to explore good and evil kings from the Old Testament
- Studying God's plan of redemption told throughout the entire Bible
- Discussing how God is working even when it is unseen

Literature: In literature this month, students will study two novels: *Peter Rabbit* and *Amelia Bedelia*. Students will:

- Demonstrate effective listening and oral reading skills
- Identify main characters, setting, and lessons of the story
- Explore idioms
- Predict the story outcome, retell it in sequential order, and write effectively about the story
- Explore the topic of obedience to God and those in authority over us
- Discuss the consequences of obedience and disobedience

Spelling: This month, students will cover sections I-1 and I-2 of the SWR program. Students will:

- Review learned phonograms
- Learn new phonograms: *kn, gn, ough, ew*
- Generate words using selected phonograms
- Show an understanding of contractions
- Generate compound words using spelling words
- Organize spelling words in ABC order
- Write a sentence using an adjective, noun, and verb from a selected list
- Write an original sentence using at least two spelling words

Writing and Grammar: In writing and grammar this month, students will begin Unit 4: Summarizing a Reference. Poems include: "If I had a Dollar", "The Funny Man", and "Holding Hands". Students will:

- Learn to limit information to a single topic, choosing what is important or interesting
- Create outlines on a single topic, choosing details from facts, not sentences
- Summarize a topical paragraph using the outline
- Know that each paragraph has a purpose

History and Geography: During the month of February, grade 1 students explore famous Canadians and Explorers. Students will begin Unit 6: A study on Outstanding Canadians. Well-known Canadians include:

- Sir John A. Macdonald
- Sir Sandford Fleming
- Lucy Maud Montgomery
- Terry Fox
- John Cabot

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.

- Jacques Cartier
- Samuel De Champlain

Latin: This month, grade 1 students will work on the following Latin vocabulary:

- Dog, cat, horse, fish, lion, bird, bear, elephant
- Angel, shepherd, lamb, star, baby, gift
- I sing, I praise, I give

Mathematics: This month in mathematics, students will focus on Chapter 10: Weight and Chapter 11: Picture Graphs and Bar Graphs. Areas of study Include:

- Mid-year review
- Comparing things
- Finding the weight of things in units
- Picture graphs
- Tally chart and bar graph

Science: Over the course of this month, students will engage in study related to woodland habitats and seashores. Students will explore the following topics:

- Woodland habitats
- Mammals
- Birds- John James Audubon
- Seashores

Visual Arts: This month, students will continue learning about the different elements of design, with an emphasis on colour. Students will:

- Extend their knowledge of primary and secondary colours by mixing tints and shades to create values
- Use various warm and cool tones to communicate ideas and feelings

Music: This month, the grade 1 class will focus on developing more familiarity with the Orff instruments. Students will also continue practicing singing with solfege, rhythm, and directional note reading. More specific goals will include:

- Percussion patterns on the Orff instruments
- Solfege composition and dictation
- Tone quality in singing
- Percussion instruments
- Whole rest
- J. S. Bach

Physical Education: Our physical education unit for the month of February centers on bean bag play and springing and landing. Students will explore:

- Balancing, tossing, catching, relays, and hand-eye coordination
- Landing safely, single leg hops
- Jumping and hopping stunts
- Transferring weight from one foot to the other

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

Upcoming Events

February 1 – High School Semester 2 Begins

February 5 – Re-Application Early Bird Deadline

February 12 – PD Day – No School

February 15 – Family Day – No School

February 16 – Post-Secondary Application Process & Planning Session –
Online Via Zoom

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