

February 2021

# The Month Ahead At Innova

Maja graduated from the University of Toronto with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and English and completed teacher's college at OISE. Her specialty was in secondary education, but she has also worked with elementary students. She has taught in the public school board as well as in a private Christian school and continues to enjoy serving in her church's children's ministry. Maja came to love the classical model after reading the book *Wisdom and Eloquence* as a new teacher. She has enjoyed learning and implementing classical Christian principles in her teaching and with her own family and wants to see other families experience its fruits! Maja loves sports, reading, and having fun with her children, husband, and dogs.



Mrs. Maja Younan  
Teacher

Grade 5

Grade 5

Mrs. Maja Younan

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*Grade 5 students have opportunities to show marked maturity academically and spiritually as they learn to make meaningful connections and critically analyze ideas. Teachers continue to foster the love of learning, and lead students to deepen their understanding of God's purpose for His creation and their role in His redemptive plan.*

**Christian Education:** Students will continue to be challenged to grow in their faith by studying and memorizing Scripture and learning about Christians from history. This month, students will:

- Continue to study and memorize Psalm 103 in more depth, adding weekly journal entries to record their reflections on each part of the passage
- Read and learn about Jesus' early life and ministry
- Study the expansion of Jesus' ministry

**Literature:** Students will continue a novel study on *The Bronze Bow* by Elizabeth George Speare. This novel complements our study in the Bible of Jesus' early life and ministry. Students will:

- Read aloud from the novel with fluency, inflection, and proper volume
- Follow along during the reading and demonstrate understanding by answering questions prompted by the teacher and the included comprehension questions at the end of each chapter
- Memorize 3 new poems, "The Shadow", "There Was an Old Person Whose Habits", and "Jonathan Bing" and identify the use of poetic devices in each

**Writing:** Students will continue to build on skills learned in the *IEW Structure and Style* program. This month, students will:

- Choose their own research topic, learn how to find appropriate source material, and complete a short 3 paragraph report
- Practice documenting references in a bibliography
- Continue to use stylistic techniques to add creativity to their writing

**Spelling:** Using the *Spell to Write and Read* program, students develop spelling skills through word analysis and understanding and applying spelling rules to daily writing across the curriculum. This month, students will:

- Continue to learn 15 new spelling words a week while practicing identifying phonograms and spelling rules
- Write new words in sentences, using stylistic techniques to improve quality

**Grammar:** Grammar study develops students' awareness and understanding of how the English language is structured. As students work through the grammar program, they apply their knowledge to writing in all subject areas. This month's grammar study focuses on:

- Its vs. It's
- Prepositions
- Coordinating conjunctions

**Latin and Greek Vocabulary:** Students will strengthen their vocabulary through the study of Latin and Greek vocabulary. Students develop the ability to analyze unfamiliar English words based on Latin and Greek prefixes, suffixes, and roots. Students will:

- Learn words with the roots *plur*, *mutli/poly*, *mega*, *mono*, *uni*, *sol*
- Review previously learned vocabulary
- Practice using new words in oral conversation

**French:** This month, students will complete their study of regular verbs in the present tense and begin to learn about the irregular verbs *faire*, *avoir*, and *être*. Students will:

## Grade 5 – The Logic Stage

The strong knowledge base established in the grammar school provides a solid foundation as students enter the logic school. As perspective widens, students start to make meaningful connections across the curriculum. Students show more independence in their learning and establish systems in self-regulation and personal study skills. Shaping students' habits of heart, mind, and soul is a key focus as students deepen their understanding of God's purpose for his creation and their role in his redemptive plan. Teachers continue to foster the love of learning, and students have opportunities to show marked maturity academically and spiritually as they learn to critically analyze ideas and speak to issues in light of God's purposes.

- Read the story *Le cigale et le fourmi* and answer questions
- Review important vocabulary and participate in classroom conversations
- Practice reading the play in small groups

**History and Geography:** This year, history study focuses on world history from 1450 to 1800. This month, students will:

- Learn about key figures, empires, and events such as Sir Walter Raleigh, The Roman and Spanish Empires, The Dutch Revolt, The Spanish Armada, and the world at the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century
- Continue to add to their scrapbook

**Mathematics:** Students will continue to build on the solid foundation of *Math in Focus*. Weekly timed drills using *Calculadder* and math fact quizzes will be used to develop speed and accuracy. This month, students will learn about:

- Area of a triangle
- Ratio
- Decimals

**Science:** Science is observing and describing God's creation. God's attributes, power, and divine nature can be clearly seen in what has been made (Romans 1:20) and immersing them in a study of science will help them to see this even more. This year, students will have the joy of participating in hands on activities and experiments each week as they learn about physics. Students will:

- Learn about flight, engines, sound, waves, electromagnetism, colour, light, lenses, and optics
- Read about and identify the contributions of Galileo Galilei to our understanding of astronomy and physics
- Write a simple lab report as they complete experiments

**Visual Arts:** In art, students will continue to improve their drawing skills through their study of animals and perspective. During the month of February, students will:

- Learn how to draw an animal
- Learn how to draw in one-point perspective
- Learn how to draw still life

**Music:** In the grade 5 music class, students will continue to develop their skills playing the ukulele. They will also have the opportunity to write their own compositions and study world music. Topics include:

- Ukulele – note, rhythmic, and chord reading and playing skills
- Composition
- African and Latin American music traditions

**Physical Education:** A sound mind in a sound body is important to overall well-being. Physical activity is a catalyst for learning in all content areas, and therefore it is critical that every student, regardless of athletic or physical ability, receive the opportunity to participate and succeed in physical education. Through exposure to a wide variety of activities, students will gain the necessary knowledge to understand the importance of achieving and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. This month, students will participate in weekly fitness challenges to:

- Develop an understanding of strength training
- Use proper form
- Learn how to maintain a simple at-home exercise regimen

*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.