

March 2021

# The Month Ahead

## At Innova

Heidi completed an honours bachelor's degree in arts/science and a Bachelor of Education at Lakehead University. Heidi spent her first-year teaching on an aboriginal reservation in Quebec and then moved to Newmarket where she was introduced to classical Christian education. She was immediately impressed with the respect, self-discipline, and perseverance that was displayed in the students of Innova Academy. Heidi loves playing sports and spending time with her two children. Most of all, Heidi is grateful to share the love of God with her students every day.



Mrs. Heidi Di Marco  
Teacher

Senior  
Kindergarten

Angie graduated from Tyndale University with a Bachelor of Religious Education. She also completed the Leaders In Further Training (LIFT) program in upstate New York at CAMP of the WOODS where she also served as their all girls camp Tapawingo director. Angie has also been on staff with the public school board as an educational assistant. In her free time, Angie loves to spend time with her husband and their two children, hiking, exploring cities, finding great coffee shops (well, Angie does) and family pizza nights!



Mrs. Angie Armstrong  
Teacher

Senior  
Kindergarten



Senior Kindergarten

Mrs. Heidi Di Marco

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Mrs. Angie Armstrong

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*Senior Kindergarten is a time of magical growth where children learn foundational knowledge and skills to develop a life-long 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:** Students learn through the examples of biblical characters how God showed his love for His people and how His people showed their love and gratitude in return. Students are challenged to find ways they can show their love for God. This month, students will continue to study Joshua and the time of the judges. Students will:

- Learn about the Fall of Jericho
- Explore how God uses ordinary people like Gideon to accomplish His amazing purposes
- Discuss the significance of Ruth's loyalty and the fulfillment of God's plan

**Language Arts:** Students will explore stories, poems, songs, chants, and hands-on activities each month. Literature selections this month include *In Like a Lion, Out like a Lamb, The Wombat and the Kangaroo*, "Go, Kangaroos, Go," "Insects of the Rain Forest," and *Tikki Tikki Tembo*. During daily read-aloud time, students will enjoy listening to a variety of classroom stories. Using various tactile means as well as songs and chants, students will:

- Review and practice letters and their sounds
- Develop penmanship skills using proper grip and letter formation
- Discuss the story elements of character and setting
- Make predictions before and during reading
- Continue to review vowel sounds
- Review and practice the endings *-es, s, -ff, -ll, -zz, -ss, and -all*
- Understand, read, and create compound words
- Practice writing complete sentences with proper punctuation

**Culture/Geography:** Students will enjoy an exciting journey around the world during geography and culture class. This month, students will learn about the continent of Asia. Students will:

- Learn about the rivers in China
- Understand how Chinese New Year's is celebrated
- Take a tour of Japan
- Discover the *Legend of Momotaro*

## SK – 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.

**Mathematics:** In mathematics, students will continue to explore numbers using various hands-on manipulatives, songs, and chants. This month, students will learn and practice ordinal numbers, calendar patterns, and counting on and counting back. Specifically, students will:

- Learn to sequence events
- Describe physical positions
- Learn to order their preferences
- Use the terms today, tomorrow, and yesterday
- Order the days of the week and months of the year
- Count forwards and backwards using fingers
- Investigate the terms fewer, more, and how many more

**Science:** In science this month, students will continue with their investigation of materials unit. By participating in science experiments and hands-on activities, students will study the following questions:

- What is clay like?
- What are fabrics and paper like?
- What are glass and plastic like?

**Art:** This year, senior kindergarten students are introduced to the seven elements of design (colour, line, shape, texture, form, space, value) and learn to incorporate them into their artwork. This month, students will explore the element of form. Students will:

- Create three-dimensional art projects
- Create spring-themed art projects

**Music:** In March, students will continue to refine their mallet technique and practice rhythms on the Orff instruments. They will also begin a unit on orchestral instruments and their timbres. More specifically, they will work on:

- Rhythmic notation
- Percussion instruments of the orchestra
- Listening: William Tell Overture
- Solfege scale
- Spring concert repertoire

**Physical Education:** During physical education, students will have opportunities to develop spatial awareness, balance, and coordination using their bodies. Students will spend time outside to enjoy God's creation while exercising. This month, students will practice:

- Completing various activities and exercise routines outside to enjoy fresh air and to develop healthy habits
- Following instructions while participating in simple games

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

## Upcoming Events

March 4 – Cursive is Cool Contest Deadline (Gr. 1-6)

March 4 – Bob Ingram Event – via Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

March 5 – High School Semester 2 Progress Reports Go Home

March 11 – Post-Secondary Pathways Night – via Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

March 19 – Exordium – via Zoom at 9:15 a.m.

March 29 – High School Semester 2 Midterms 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.