

June 2021

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, singing, 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: Students will study the narrative of the Israelites receiving the ten commandments from God. In addition, the class will complete the year with a four-week study on biblical friendship. Students will:

- Learn the value and gift of friendship
- Examine how to deal with and respond biblically to conflict in friendship
- Develop a fairytale based on friendship

Literature: Upon completion of poems related to the theme of sounds, sensations, and metaphors, students will begin reading their final literature book for this year, *A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park. Literature activities include:

- Read aloud, partner reading, choral reading
- Vocabulary, comprehension, and inference work
- Narration, discussion, and application
- Analyzing poetry for meter, rhyme, and word choice
- Writing poetry in the studied style

Writing: Students will expand their writing ability by imitating masterful compositions through the IEW program. This month, students will complete their final creative composition (5 paragraph) and choose a culminating piece and write their final polished composition. They will engage in the following:

- Generate a list of possible writing ideas
- Identify topics within writing ideas
- Write in 5-paragraph essay format
- Write from notes taken
- Add dress-ups to make compositions more interesting
- Practice writing conventions for multi-paragraph compositions

Spelling: Each month, students will practice memorizing phonograms and spelling rules as well as learn fifteen new words each week. Students will:

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

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

- Adverbs

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

- Around the house
- Adjectives
- Whole year review

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.

French: Students will work on writing a short story and will read their short story to their classmates. Students will:

- Write a short story using vocabulary words
- Practice grammar principles by writing short sentences
- Read aloud their writing compositions to classmates

History: As students study world history chronologically, they learn about God's unfolding plan of redemption. This year, grade 3 students are studying the history, geography, and culture of the ancient civilizations of Greece, Rome, India, the Americas, and Far Eastern Empires. In June, students will learn about Christians under Roman rule and the fall of the Roman Empire. Topics include:

- Christians in the catacombs
- The emperor is a Christian
- Rome begins to weaken

Mathematics: In the final month of this year, students will complete studies on the topics of symmetry and tessellation. Time permitting, they will conclude their year by choosing one of the two aforementioned topics to build upon through a creative project. Areas of study will include:

- Identifying lines of symmetry
- Understanding and identifying rotational symmetry
- Using symmetry to create patterns
- Understanding and identifying tessellations and tessellated shapes within a pattern
- Creating tessellations by rotating, flipping, or sliding a shape

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). This year, students have the joy of studying biology. Students engage in hands on activities and experiments as they discover the wonders of God's creation. This month, students will learn about the skeletal, muscular, and respiratory systems. Topics include:

- Skeletal system
- The senses
- Muscles

Visual Arts: In art, students will use materials from around the house to create a collage in the form of a mask. Students will:

- Create a mask using collage materials
- Complete an art activity for Father's Day
- Create an outdoor artwork using nature

Music: In the last few weeks of school, the grade 4 class will review what they have learned throughout the year as well as complete a critical listening and history unit. Topics include:

- Score reading and analysis
- History of composers
- Critical listening
- Solfege singing

Physical Education: During physical education classes, students develop agility, flexibility, endurance, and gross motor skills as well as practice good sportsmanship. While online, students will reinforce as many of these skills as possible within the limitations. A greater focus on general physical health will replace skills that cannot be worked on from home. This month, students will:

- Continue a workout series designed to strengthen their bodies and improve coordination

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

Upcoming Events

June 9 – Ripley's Aquarium Field Trip (virtual) – Gr. 1/2

June 11 – Ripley's Aquarium Field Trip (virtual) – Gr. 3-5

June 17 – Spring Concert (virtual)

June 17 – Repairing the Ruins Simulcasts for Parents

June 17-23 – High School Evaluation Days

June 21 - Innova Business Meeting – For all parents at 7:00 p.m.

June 24 – Last Day of Classes (lunch dismissal), Reports Sent Home, and Grade 8 Graduation

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