

March 2019

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.



Melinda Morris
Teacher

Junior
Kindergarten

Junior Kindergarten
Miss Melinda Morris
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Our Junior Kindergarten program is designed to introduce children to the joy of learning through theme-based units. 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 Bible 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 His people. This month, topics include:

- Jesus heals the blind man
- Jesus heals the deaf man
- Jesus heals the man born lame
- Jesus heals the leper
- Jesus feeds the hungry and helps those who do wrong

Memory Verse: Luke 7:22 "And He answered them, 'Go and tell John what you have seen and heard; the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them.'" (ESV)

Language Arts: This month, Junior Kindergarten students will listen to stories and complete activities associated with the themes farm animals, pets, and birds. With the use of various tactile means, songs, games and chants, students will practice proper letter formation and pronunciation. This month, students will learn:

- Phonics: /oo/, /ow/ sounds
- Beginning and ending sounds in words: /a/, /m/, /s/, /t/, /b/, /f/, /c/, /h/, /j/
- Word building
- Sight words
- Journal writing: printing letters independently - Pp, Qq, Rr, Ss, Tt, Uu, Vv

World Cultures and Geography: As we continue our tour of the world, students will learn about Brazil and Thailand. Learning objectives for this month include:

- Locate Brazil and Thailand on a map
- Know that Brazil is a country within the continent of South America
- Recognize that Brazil is the largest country in South America
- Learn that Brazil has many natural resources
- Identify that people in Brazil speak Portuguese
- Study the Iguazu Waterfalls and Christ the Redeemer Statue in Rio de Janeiro
- Identify that people in Thailand speak Thai
- Learn about Thai culture

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.

Mathematics: Students will learn to recognize and say their numbers through counting as well as use various tactile means to practice proper number formation. This month, students will learn about:

- Counting sets of numbers 10-19
- Recognize and write numbers 10-19
- Count by 10's to 100
- Count 1 to 50
- Estimation and recording data

Science: This month in science, students will learn about the life cycle of a chicken and the life cycle of a butterfly. They will do various hands-on activities and experiments and learn about:

- Life cycles and characteristics of chickens and butterflies
- The floating egg experiment (density- sinking or floating)
- Egg in a bottle experiment
- What is a proboscis? - making our own proboscis to drink nectar

Visual Arts: This month, students will learn about different cultural art types and styles. Our artwork will showcase the continent of South America and Asia, and student projects will include the following:

- Paper serapes (coat)
- Thai headdress

Music: In music class, Junior Kindergarten students will continue to work with unpitched instruments and refine their mallet technique. They will also begin a unit on orchestra instruments and what they sound like. More specifically, they will work on:

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

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 are led to develop good sportsmanship while playing games with their classmates. This month's focus includes:

- Kicking skills
- Games that include kicking activities
- Ball kicking variations
- Kicking a ball and beanbag to a target

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 – Science Centre (JK-4) – Toronto

March 5 – Prayer Meeting in Room A at 8:30 a.m. – Parents Welcome AND Lunch Lady Lunch

March 8 – Pizza Lunch

March 11-22 – March Break – No School

March 26 – Lunch Lady Lunch

March 29 – Pizza Lunch

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