

May 2019

The Month Ahead At Innova



Junior Kindergarten
Miss Melinda Morris
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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

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 theme is God's care and love for His people. The Old Testament stories introduce students to biblical characters to show how God displayed His love. Students will grow in their understanding that God loves and cares for them just as He did for His people in the Old Testament. This month, topics include:

- Ascension
- Pentecost
- Philip
- Peter
- Paul
- The Lord's Prayer
- The Greatest Commandment
- Giving thanks
- Caring for others
- Memory Verses: Luke 24:48 "You are witness of these things." and Luke 10:27 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and love your neighbour as yourself."

Language Arts: This month, Junior Kindergarten students will listen to, discuss, and complete activities associated with stories with the themes zoo animals, ocean life, and Mother's Day. With the use of various tactile means, songs, games, and chants, students will practice proper letter formation and proper finger spacing between words when writing. This month, students will:

- Practice beginning and ending sounds in words: /o/, /d/, /g/, /k/, /v/, /i/, /qu/, /z/
- Learn and practice short vowel sounds: /a/, /i/, /o/
- Blend sounds to build words
- Learn new sight words
- Independently read various stories from our phonics-based reading series
- Write lowercase letters *a* to *t* independently
- Write messages to friends using the words *to*, *from*, *I like you*, *I love you*

Culture/Geography: As we continue our tour of the world, students are learning about different cultures and how God made the nations distinct. This month, students will focus on our community. Learning objectives for this month include:

- Understanding that the nations have different kinds of people
- Knowing that God loves all people and it is His desire that all be saved according to 1 Timothy 2:4
- Learning that different cultures have different cultural clothing, homes, arts, food, toys, and traditions
- Exploring our community
- Recognizing that people in our community may come from different countries

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.

- Learning about various places in a community
- Identifying who the various community helpers are and what they do

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

- Subtracting sets - subtraction facts to 10
- Skip counting by 2's to 20, 5's to 20, 10's to 100
- More, less, and the same
- Counting forwards and backwards 0-20 and 20-0
- Numbers 20-29, 30-49
- Pairs (counting by 2's)
- Review 2D & 3D shapes

Science: This month in science, students will explore rainbows, ocean life, butterflies, and zoo animals. We are excited to have caterpillars in the classroom and observe the lifecycle of the Painted Lady Butterfly! Students will do various hands-on activities and experiments and learn about:

- Rainbows (Skittles rainbow experiment and colour mixing to make rainbows)
- Oceans and animals that live in the ocean (Ocean in a bottle experiment)
- Different kinds of zoo animals
- Jesus is the Lion of Judah

Visual Arts: This month, students will learn about different cultural art types and styles. Our artwork will showcase ocean life, Mother's Day and zoo animals. Our projects will include the following:

- Making different types of fish
- Mother's Day project
- Ocean scenes

Music: The Junior Kindergarten students are busy preparing for the upcoming Spring Concert on June 6th. Some of the concepts learned through their spring repertoire include:

- The families of the Orchestra
- Listening: Selections from *The Carnival of the Animals* by Camille Saint-Saëns
- Good singing tone and correct pitch matching

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 topics include:

- Travelling in patterns
- Travelling using different body parts
- Walking relay using letters and numbers
- Travelling animals
- Travelling around and over pylons

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

Upcoming Events

- May 2 – Math Olympics – Mississauga Christian Academy
- May 3 – Exordium – Parents Welcome
- May 7 – Prayer Meeting in Room A at 8:30 a.m. – Parents Welcome
- May 7, 14, 21, 28 – Lunch Lady Lunch
- May 10 – Parent Morning AND Pizza Lunch
- May 20 – Victoria Day – No School
- May 21 – Battle of the Books (Gr. 4-8) – Innova
- May 24 – Pizza Lunch
- May 28 – Track and Field (Gr. 7/8) – Centennial Stadium
- May 29-31 – Camping Trip (Gr. 9)
- May 30 – Track and Field (Gr. 4-6) – Centennial Stadium AND Grad Night (Gr. 7/8)

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