

June 2019

# 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.



Maja Younan  
Teacher

Grade 3 and  
Grade 4



Grade 4  
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*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:** This month, students will read the biography of a Christian missionary or figure and create a short report. Students will:

- Learn to identify ways that their subject displayed various Christian virtues we have studied in class this year
- Share their findings with the class using a visual aid to assist with their presentation

**Literature:** Students will read a range of short stories and fables from across cultures. Students will:

- Use implicit information from a passage to make inferences about the motives or behaviours of characters
- Use implicit information from a passage to answer specific questions about a text
- Use explicit and implicit information to determine the author's likely intent for writing a passage or for including certain information in a passage
- Apply biblical principles and explore lessons learned from a text
- Define a biblical standard of good literature
- Compare and contrast tales from different cultures

**Writing:** This month, students will complete their informational report on a figure from history or literature. Students will:

- Gather information from basic print sources (such as a children's encyclopedia)
- Use titles, tables of contents, chapter headings, glossaries, and indexes to locate information in a text
- Write a short report presenting the information in his or her own words
- Create informational materials using appropriate headings

**Spelling and Grammar:** As students study spelling and grammar, they develop greater awareness of how the English language is structured and apply their skills to writing across the curriculum. This month, students will continue to practice memorizing phonograms along with learning twenty new spelling words each week. Students will:

- Write from dictation and employ proper grammatical conventions
- Know how to use:
  - end punctuation: period, question mark, exclamation point
  - comma: between day and year when writing a date, between city and province in an address, commas in a series, after yes and no
  - apostrophe: in contractions; in singular and plural possessive nouns
- Recognize and avoid the double negative
- Distinguish complete sentences from fragments

**Latin:** This month, students will review vocabulary words and practice using them through song, chants, and informal conversation. Topics include:

- Colours
- A time for everything
- Around the palace
- Adjectives
- Review of past vocabulary

## 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:** This month, students will continue with their new unit titled "Je vais a l'ecole". Students will:

- Expand their vocabulary with new school related words
- Work on, read, and then present their booklets
- Learn simple adjective agreements in French

**History:** This year, Grade 3 students are exploring the Middle Ages with a focus on Eastern Empires and the Americas. This month, students will work on a culminating project, taking a deeper look at a historical or literary figure that was studied this year. Topics include:

- Genghis Khan
- Marco Polo
- Queen Elizabeth
- Christopher Columbus
- Ferdinand Magellan

**Mathematics:** In mathematics, students will continue to practice timed drills and math facts. This month, they will learn about symmetry and tessellations. Topics include:

- Identifying lines of symmetry
- Rotational symmetry
- Making symmetric shapes and patterns
- Identifying tessellations
- Creating shapes using 3D printing

**Science:** This month, students will begin a study investigating structures. Students will explore the following questions and topics:

- What is scale?
- What materials are strong and stable?
- What goes into structures?
- How can I plan, build, and evaluate a structure?

**Visual Arts:** Students will look at the Spanish painter Diego Velazquez and learn how to draw people in correct proportion. Students will also create a watercolour painting. This month's focus will be on the following:

- Drawing in correct proportion
- Composition and watercolour techniques

**Music:** For the month of June, the Grade 4 class will review what they have learned as well as continue working through the recorder curriculum. They will also study the composer Paganini and listen critically to his works. Topics include:

- New notes and repertoire for recorder
- Paganini and his works
- Review the instruments of the orchestra

**Physical Education:** For the remainder of the year in Physical Education, students will be playing a variety of low organizational games. During these games, students will be required to use skills such as:

- Catching and throwing
- Evading opponents
- A variety of locomotor skills

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

## Upcoming Events

- June 3 – AMICA Presentation (JK-2)
- June 4 – Prayer Meeting in Room A at 8:30 a.m. – Parents Welcome AND Lunch Lady Lunch
- June 6 – Spring Concert/Musical & Art Show – 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- June 7 – Pizza Lunch
- June 10 – Green Acres Field Trip (JK-2)
- June 11 – Lunch Lady Lunch
- June 15 – End of Year Picnic at the Makarenkos' – 12-2:00 p.m.
- June 18 - Last Day of Classes (noon 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.