

June 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 and events in a way that shows how God displayed his love, care, and protection. This month, students will focus on some key teaching from the New Testament, including:

- Paul's journey and teaching about Jesus
- The Lord's Prayer
- The greatest commandment
- Giving thanks
- Caring for others
- Memory Verse: 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 following themes: Father's Day, ocean life, and zoo animals. With the use of various tactile means, songs, games and chants, students will continue to expand their reading skills by reading phonemes, sounding out words, learning sight words, and combining words into sentences. They will also work toward proper pencil grip, letter formation, and spacing between words when writing. This month, students will:

- Read beginning and/or ending sounds: *u, w, x*
- Short vowel sounds: *a, j, o*
- Review long and short vowel sounds for: *a, e, i, o, u, y*
- Review of digraphs: *ch, th, sh, wh*
- Learn new sight words
- Read stories from the *Phonics Works* series independently
- Write lowercase letters *t* to *z* independently
- Compose messages to friends using: to, from, I like you, I love you, you are nice, you are my friend

World Cultures and Geography: This month, students will learn about community and how God wants us as His children to love and care for each other in the Christian community. Students will:

- recognize various places in a community
- Learn about community helpers and what they do
- Explore ways we can help our community
- Discuss ways to reach out to others who do not know Christ

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.

- Understand that we should not forsake meeting together as believers in Christ and we should live together in love and unity

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:

- Compare sets to 20
- Understand the more, less, or the same concept
- Review counting from 1-100
- Compare numbers to 10
- Review numbers 11-20

Science: This month in science, students will explore fun hands-on experiments and review the theme of oceans and zoo animals. Topics include:

- Air compression in the cloud experiment
- Air power in the balloon racer experiment
- Chemical reactions in the balloon pop experiment
- Chemical reactions in the Diet Coke explosion experiment
- Review oceans and zoo animals

Visual Arts: This month, our artwork will highlight Father's Day and various helpers in our local communities. Our projects will include the following:

- Community helpers
- Father's Day gift

Music: June is primarily a review month for Junior Kindergarten students. Students will cover all areas of music learned throughout the year in the form of musical games and activities.

Topics include:

- Opposites review (high/low, loud/soft, short/long etc.)
- Solfege singing
- Rhythm syllables
- Musical genres
- Critical listening

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:

- Travelling with hula hoops
- Balancing 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.