

January 2020

# The Month Ahead

## At Innova

When Samantha was introduced to Classical Christian Education, she immediately recognized the value in its methodology and curriculum. Samantha has predominantly taught in the primary division and this year teaches the JK and SK class at Innova Academy. Samantha attended Tyndale College and University and graduated with a Bachelor of Education. Her goal was to teach in a Bible believing Christian School and she is excited to be teaching at Innova Academy. Samantha has been married to her husband, Andre, for over 20 years and they have three children. In her spare time, she is involved in her church choir and worship team and volunteers in the nursery. Her favourite Bible verses are Colossians 1:15-17.



Samantha Jung  
Teacher

Senior  
Kindergarten



Senior Kindergarten  
Mrs. Samantha Jung  
[sjung@innovaacademy.ca](mailto:sjung@innovaacademy.ca)

*Senior Kindergarten is a time of magical growth where children learn foundational knowledge and skills to develop a life-long love of learning. 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 Senior Kindergarten, the overarching theme is God's care and love for His people. God had plans for the world and this plan includes all nations. This month, topics include:

- Samuel's birth and call
- Israel's request for a king
- Saul's anointment, sin, and rejection
- David's anointment
- Goliath
- Jonathon
- David as king and writing of the Psalms
- Solomon
- Memory Verse: 1 John 5:3a "This is love for God: to obey his commands"

**Language Arts:** Each month, students will explore stories, poems, songs, chants, and hands-on activities related to the monthly themes. This month's themes are: winter and arctic animals. Literature selections include, *Winter* by Saviour Pirotta, *Winter* by Victoria Parker, and *Arctic Animals* by various authors. During daily read-aloud time, students will enjoy listening to the novel *Ramona Forever* by Beverly Cleary. Using various tactile means as well as songs and chants, students will:

- Review and practice letters and their sounds
- Write and copy sentences into a journal
- Practice proper letter formation
- Use word(s) surrounding an unknown word to figure out its meaning
- Identify story structures: Characters, setting, predictions, and retelling
- Review all single-letter sounds
- Learn ending consonant blends: *-nd, -ft, -lk, -lp, -ct, -lt, -mp, -sp, -sk, -st, -nt, and -nch*
- Review sight words: too, walk, talk, again, out, pull, next, my, and friend
- Learn vocabulary related to the winter and snow

**World Culture and Geography:** Students will learn about China, Japan and Thailand. Students will be able to:

- Locate Asia on a globe
- Know that China is a country in the continent of Asia
- Understand that the Yangtze and Yellow River are important rivers in China
- Locate Japan on a world map
- Know that Tokyo is the largest city in Japan
- Learn about Japanese and Thai Culture

# SK – 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.

- Practice saying hello in Mandarin, Japanese, and Thai
- Know that Thailand is a country in Asia

**Mathematics:** This month in mathematics, students will begin to explore numbers using various hands-on manipulatives, songs, and chants. Topics this month include:

- Numbers 0 – 100
- Read and write numbers 0-20
- 2D and 3D shapes
- Numbers to 100
- Comparing sets

**Science:** This month in science, students will discover topics about: The Solar System. They will complete various hands-on activities and experiments and explore:

- What are the Planets?
- What is gravity?
- How does the moon shine?
- What is a Star?

**Visual Arts:** In art class, students will focus on winter landscapes and arctic animals. They will learn about creating an illusion of space using placement and various overlapping tree sizes. Students will explore how to use simple shapes to draw a variety of arctic animals with emphasis on:

- Space: placement, size, foreground and background, overlapping
- Line and Texture: Use a variety of lines to create textures
- Shape: Use simple shapes to build pictures

**Music:** In music class, students will continue to expand their repertoire of songs and practice keeping the pulse and recognizing the difference between elements of music such as fast and slow or low and high. They will also learn about instruments and take part in active listening. Classes will focus on the following:

- Singing - Pitch Matching
- Pulses with stresses
- Same/Different phrases
- Fast/Slow
- Instruments: Trumpet
- Listening (*The March of the Siamese Twins* from *The King and I*)

**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 will include:

- One hand over hand throwing
- Underhand and overhand throwing with scoops

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

## Upcoming Events

- January 10 – Homeschool Visit Day – South Campus
- January 16 – AMICA Visit – Grades 3/4
- January 17 – Elementary Term 1 Ends – Reports Go Home
- January 17- 23 – High School Evaluation Days
- January 23 – Parent Teacher Interviews
- January 24 – PD Day AND Parent Teacher Interviews
- January 27- 29 – Fair Glen Retreat – Grades 5-10
- January 28 – Fair Glen Field Trip – Grades 3/4

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