

March 2020

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.



Miss Melinda Morris
Teacher

Junior
Kindergarten



Junior Kindergarten
Miss Melinda Morris
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Junior Kindergarten is a time of magical growth where children learn foundational 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 Junior Kindergarten, the overarching 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 each of these people. In the New Testament, Jesus's life and ministry gives us examples of His kindness and love for people. His miracles show us His power and authority as God in relating to all kinds of human needs (physical, emotional, and spiritual). This month, topics include:

- Jesus Feeds the Hungry
- Jesus Helps Sad People
- Jesus Helps Scared People
- Jesus Helps People Who Do Wrong
- The Good Shepherd (Jesus Tells Stories)
- The Wise and Foolish Builders (Jesus Tells Stories)

Memory Verse: John 13:34-35 "As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples."

Culture/Geography: Students will learn about Canada and various aspects of Canadian culture. This month, students will:

- Learn about the Inuit living in the Arctic
- Locate Canada on a map
- Memorize facts about Canadian geography
- Discover that people in Canada speak English and French
- Learn about the Quebec Winter Carnival

Language Arts: With the use of various tactile means, songs, games, and chants, students will practice proper letter formation and pronunciation. This month, students will learn about:

- Phonics: /sh/, /aw/, /kw/, /oi/, /ks/, long u, /oo/, /ow/ sounds
- Beginning and/or ending sounds: /sh/, /aw/, /kw/, /oi/, /ks/, long u, /oo/, /ow/
- Syllables and sounds
- Writing letters to friends and tracing upper- and lower-case letters of the alphabet

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 and use various tactile means to practice proper number formation. This month, students will learn about:

- Identifying numbers 18-20
- Measuring, comparing, and ordering height

Science: This month in science, students will learn about body parts and nutrition. They will complete various hands-on activities and experiments and learn about:

- Body systems- muscular, digestive, nervous, respiratory, circular
- Healthy eating

Art: In art, students will draw animals using simple shapes. They will also start on their sunset seascape tempera painting on canvas. Students will work on the following elements of design:

- Line
- Shape
- Colour

Music: In March, students will continue to refine their mallet technique and continue to practice rhythms on the Orff instruments. They will also begin a unit on orchestra instruments and recognize what they sound like. More specifically, students will work on:

- Rhythmic notation
- 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:

- Developing kicking/dribbling skills by travelling with a bean bag or small ball through a circuit
- Spatial awareness while travelling, listening to signals, and changing modes

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

Upcoming Events

March 2 – ACSI Public Speaking Festival - Mississauga

March 2-6 – House Basketball Intramurals (Gr. 5-10) – South Campus

March 4 – Royal Ontario Museum (Gr. 3/4 and 9/10)

March 9-20 – March Break – No School

March 24 – Toronto Symphony Orchestra (Gr. 5-10) – Roy Thomson Hall

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