

November 2020

# The Month Ahead At Innova



Grade 4

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Mr. Namba holds a Master's Degree in Education, a Bachelor's Degree in History, an ACSI teaching certificate, and TESOL certification. He has worked overseas as a grammar stage teacher and Lower Grammar Stage Academic Director for the Seoul International Christian Academy. His love for classical education is rooted in its deep appreciation for history and its commitment to truth, beauty, and goodness. When Jason is not teaching, he can be found reading, playing board games, cooking, and spending time with his wife and two sons.



Mr. Jason Namba  
Teaching Interim  
Vice Principal

Grade 3 and  
Grade 4

Kayleigh completed her Bachelor's Degree with specialties in Studio Art and Biology at the University of Guelph, and a Bachelors of Education at Brock University. Kayleigh's classroom experience includes teaching Core French in Saskatchewan to grades 4 to 12. She most recently worked as a visual arts teacher for elementary students in a French Immersion school while living in Oakville. Kayleigh serves in her church and loves reading, making art, photography, baking, and spending time with her husband and son.



Mrs. Kayleigh Shin  
Teacher

Grade 3 and  
Grade 4

*Grade 4 students are actively engaged in building foundational knowledge and skills in all subject areas. Our classroom is filled with reading, discussion, chants, 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 continue their study of *Faerie Gold: Treasures from the Land of Enchantment*. Students will:

- Study the wonder of fairy tales through personal reflection and class discussion
- Become familiar with virtues worthy of imitation
- Memorize the books of the Bible and study the types of literature found in the Bible
- Begin reading about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt

**Literature:** Students will begin their study of Greek and Roman Myths through our K-12 *Classics for Young Readers* anthology to build upon their growing knowledge of Greek and Roman history. Literature class is conducted through the following activities:

- Vocabulary work
- Comprehension work
- Narration
- Discussion

**Writing:** Students will expand their writing ability by imitating masterful compositions through our IEW program. This month, students will work on:

- Retelling a narrative work through multiple paragraphs
- Taking notes on a masterful narrative work
- Adding quality adjectives and strong verbs to their work

**Spelling:** Each month, students will practice memorizing phonograms as well as learn fifteen new words each week. Students will:

- Develop greater awareness of how the English language is structured
- Apply their skills to writing across the curriculum
- Learn unique spelling rules

**Grammar:** Students will learn the rules of English grammar and apply them in their writing. This month, students will practice:

- Singular and plural nouns
- Irregular nouns
- Possessive nouns

**Latin:** Students will practice new vocabulary through gestures and classroom activities. Vocabulary words will center around the following topics:

- Helping at home
- Communication with others
- Travel
- School

## 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:** Students will begin memorizing the play *Le chat et la lune*. Students will:

- Begin answering questions about the play in French
- Become familiar with gestured vocabulary and practice speaking independently
- Listen to short stories and expand their French vocabulary

**History:** Students will learn about the city-states of Sparta and Athens. Topics include:

- Life in Athens
- Life in Sparta
- Greece's war with Persia

**Mathematics:** This month, students will complete or begin studies in the following math concepts:

- Long division
- Tables and graphs
- Review first quarter of the book

**Science:** In science, students will learn about the microscopic world. Students will:

- Compare different types of cells
- Learn about the work of Robert van Leeuwenhoek and Robert Hooke
- Examine cells from different parts of the plant

**Visual Arts:** This month, students will design Remembrance Day posters and begin a drawing unit. Areas of study include:

- Poster design: the theme of Remembrance Day
- The message through images - Canadian symbols and words
- Drawing basics focusing on the following elements of design: line, shape, space, colour, value, and texture

**Music:** In music, the grade four class will review music notation rhythmically, with solfege and with note names. They will learn more musical terms, instruments, and listen to famous classical music. They will also begin preparing for the Christmas concert in December. Lessons include:

- Treble clef staff: directional reading with solfege or note names
- 2/4, 3/4, 4/4 meters
- Legato and staccato
- Christmas repertoire
- Orchestra: Woodwinds and percussion

**Physical Education:** This month, students will continue to work on their running endurance. Students will:

- Practice running long distances
- Learn about the game of basketball
- Practice dribbling and passing a basketball

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

## Upcoming Events

November 2 – Picture Day Retakes – Both campuses  
November 5 – Interim Parent/Teacher Check-in via Zoom  
November 6 – Biblical Parenting Book Study via Zoom  
November 11 – Remembrance Day Chapel  
November 13 – High School Semester 1 Midterms Go Home  
November 20 – Biblical Parenting Book Study via Zoom

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