

November 2020

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.



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Teacher

Grade 5



Grade 5
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Grade 5 students have opportunities to show marked maturity academically and spiritually as they learn to make meaningful connections and critically analyze ideas. Teachers continue to foster the love of learning, and lead students to deepen their understanding of God's purpose for His creation and their role in His redemptive plan.

Christian Education: Students will continue to be challenged to grow in their faith by studying and memorizing Scripture and learning about Christians from history. This month, students will:

- Study the life of Martin Luther, John Bunyan, and Jonathan Edwards
- Continue to memorize Psalm 103
- Retell the story of John the Baptist and Jesus' announcement and birth and identify key characters in each story
- Identify major events from Anna and Simeon, the visit of the Magi, the flight into Egypt, and Jesus as a boy in the temple.

Literature: Students will continue to study the exciting novel, *Sign of the Beaver*. They will also begin a new study of C.S. Lewis' *The Magician's Nephew*. Students will:

- Read aloud with fluency, volume, and inflection
- Identify literary devices such as foreshadowing and imagery
- Define and use vocabulary from the reading in their own conversation
- Summarize main character involvement in the plot
- Memorize 2-3 new poems

Writing: Students will build on skills learned in the *IEW Structure and Style* program. Students will:

- Learn to use the classroom/home library, find material on topics, take notes, and write a summary
- Learn the topic sentence and paragraph clincher
- Use one reference, take outline notes on the reference, and write a paragraph
- Document the reference and report what they found and where they found it

Spelling: Using the *Spell to Write and Read* program, students develop spelling skills through word analysis and understanding and applying spelling rules to daily writing across the curriculum. Students will:

- Learn 20 new spelling words and practice using them in sentences, using stylistic devices to make their sentences more interesting
- Review the 70 phonograms and practice reciting and writing them without error

Grammar: Grammar study develops students' awareness and understanding of how the English language is structured. As students work through the grammar program, they apply their knowledge to writing in all subject areas. This month's grammar study focuses on:

- Strong verbs
- Using apostrophes to show ownership (possessives)
- Helping verbs
- Apostrophes and contractions

Latin and Greek Vocabulary: Students will strengthen their vocabulary through the study of Latin and Greek vocabulary. Students develop the ability to analyze unfamiliar English words based on Latin and Greek prefixes, suffixes, and roots. Students will:

- Learn new words relating to expression, time, and place
- Compare words using analogies
- Identify words as parts of speech

Grade 5 – The Logic Stage

The strong knowledge base established in the grammar school provides a solid foundation as students enter the logic school. As perspective widens, students start to make meaningful connections across the curriculum. Students show more independence in their learning and establish systems in self-regulation and personal study skills. Shaping students' habits of heart, mind, and soul is a key focus as students deepen their understanding of God's purpose for his creation and their role in his redemptive plan. Teachers continue to foster the love of learning, and students have opportunities to show marked maturity academically and spiritually as they learn to critically analyze ideas and speak to issues in light of God's purposes.

French: Students will begin memorizing the play *Un jour bizarre*. 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/Geography: This year, history study focuses on world history from 1450 to 1800. Students will focus on:

- First Nations people groups in early Canadian history
- Lives of famous European explorers like Dias, De Gama, John Cabot, Vespucci, and Columbus
- Creating a scrapbook that records the timeline of this period of history and identifies key events through pictures and short summaries

Mathematics: Students will continue to build on the solid foundation of *Math in Focus*. Weekly timed drills using *Calculadder* and math fact quizzes will be used to develop speed and accuracy. Students will practice:

- Identifying fractions and mixed numbers
- Multiplying and dividing fractions and mixed numbers

Science: Science is simply observing and describing God's creation. God's attributes, power, and divine nature can be clearly seen in what has been made (Romans 1:20) and immersing them in a study of science will help them to see this even more. This year, students will have the joy of participating in hands on activities and experiments each week as they learn about physics. Students will:

- Learn about gravity, balance, pressure, simple machines, and floating
- Begin to study the life and work of Archimedes

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 5 class will begin preparing ukulele repertoire for the Christmas concert in December. They will also study world music. Lessons will include:

- Key signatures
- Terms: grave, moderato, prestissimo, vivace
- Christmas repertoire
- Ukulele
- Indonesian, African, and Indian music

Physical Education: A sound mind in a sound body is important to overall well-being. Physical activity is a catalyst for learning in all content areas, and therefore it is critical that every student, regardless of athletic or physical ability, receive the opportunity to participate and succeed in physical education. Through exposure to a wide variety of activities, students will gain the necessary knowledge to understand the importance of achieving and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. This month, students will:

- Learn how to play flag football
- Demonstrate how to throw and pass a football
- List and recall different positions played in football

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.