

November 2020

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.



Miss Melinda Morris
Teacher

Junior
Kindergarten

Our Junior Kindergarten program is designed to inspire children to have a lifelong 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 cared of His people. This month, topics include:

- Joseph's Coat
- Joseph in Egypt and Joseph's Family Reunion
- God's Plan for His Family: Miriam
- Exodus, Moses, and the Ten Commandments
- The Tabernacle
- The Promised Land
- Hannah

Memory verse: Genesis 28:15 ESV "Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land."

Language Arts: Students are learning to identify letters of the alphabet and their respective sounds. With the use of various tactile means, songs, and chants, students practice proper letter formation. This month, students will explore the following:

- Phonics: Letter sounds and recognition of *w, x, y, z, m, t, n, p, e, h, d, o, b, f, g, j*, long *a* and long *o*
- Identify beginning, ending and individual sounds in words
- Distinguish between words that rhyme or sound different
- Writing: proper letter formation of the upper-case letters W-Z and lower-case letters *a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h*, and *i* with various tactile means
- Literature: read aloud various stories and alphabet booklets

World Culture and Geography: Students will learn basic geographic landforms and where they live in relation to the world. Learning objectives for this month include:

- Africa - life in the Sahara
- The African Savanna
- Central Africa and the Congo rainforest
- African villages and cities

Mathematics: Students will learn to recognize and say their numbers through songs and chants and use various tactile means to practice proper number formation. This month's focus is the recognition of the numbers 6-10 and comparing numbers. Students will:

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.

- Recognize and write the numbers 6-10
- Show a set of numbers with more, less, and the same
- Compare a set of numbers to determine which is more, less, or the same

Science: This month in science, students will perform various hands-on activities and experiments and explore the following topics:

- Leaves: stem, petiole, veins, blade
- Pumpkins
- The four seasons: the flashlight experiment
- Different kinds of weather: tornado in a bottle and weather in a jar experiments
- Magnets

Visual Arts: This year, JK students will be introduced to the seven elements of design and work with a range of materials. They will learn to incorporate these elements into their artwork, and practice identifying these elements in various classical works of art and in God's creation. This month, students will:

- Learn about the element of texture and concept of perspective
- Complete a Remembrance Day activity: "Field of Poppies"
- Build a collage with cut out construction paper and fabric shapes

Music: In music class, JK students will continue to explore ranges and opposites in music as well as learn more about instruments and begin repertoire for Christmas. Lessons will include:

- Types of vocalizing
- Rhythmic patterns
- Christmas repertoire
- Instruments: piano

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, topics include:

- Rolling large and small balls to develop aim and appropriate speed
- Rolling to a target
- Rolling games
- Underhand and overhand throwing using large balls
- Underhand throwing and catching to a partner and against the wall

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.