

December 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.



Mrs. Maja Younan  
Teacher

Grade 5

Grade 5

Mrs. Maja Younan

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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 William Wilberforce and Elizabeth Fry
- Continue to memorize Psalm 103
- Identify virtues by reading relevant Scripture, literature, and poetry and discuss practical ways they can practice these virtues inside and outside of school
- Identify John the Baptist and the important events surrounding the baptism of Jesus
- Discuss the three temptations of Jesus in the desert

**Literature:** Students will continue to study C.S. Lewis' *The Magician's Nephew*. They will also read Christmas literature and poetry in preparation for the Christmas season. Students will:

- Read aloud from the novel with fluency, inflection, and proper volume
- Identify literary devices in the reading and apply them to their own writing
- Identify the main characters and summarize their involvement in the plot
- Reflect on the meaning of Christmas and the details surrounding the birth of Christ
- Memorize 2-3 new poems

**Writing:** Students will continue to build on skills learned in the *IEW Structure and Style* program. This month, students will:

- Continue to practice summarizing a reference by creating a key-word outline and writing a paragraph using all 6 stylistic devices
- Review and practice writing using pictures as prompts and exercising imagination and creativity to create details, setting, characterization, motives, and effects
- Write 3-paragraph stories from one or two pictures

**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. This month, students will:

- Learn 20 new spelling words and practice using them in sentences, using stylistic devices to make their sentences more interesting
- Create reference pages to review the "Silent Final E", "SH/TI", and "ER" sounds
- Review and memorize spelling rules 1-9

**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:

- Indentation: when to start new paragraphs
- Homophones, exclamation marks
- Review of previous rules

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

- Learn new words relating to time, place, and movement
- Review previously learned vocabulary
- Compare words using analogies and identify how words are used as parts of speech

**French:** Students will learn about conjugating IR verbs in the present tense. Students will:

- Continue to practice saying the play and work towards memorization

## 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.

- Learn new gestured vocabulary and practice conversing in French
- Conjugate ER and IR verbs in the present tense

**History and Geography:** This year, history study focuses on world history from 1450 to 1800. This month, students will focus on:

- The four hemispheres, reading map grids and co-ordinates, identifying longitude and latitude
- Learning about the lives of famous explorers from Europe such as Dias, De Gama, John Cabot, Vespucci, Columbus, Magellan, Cartier, and Samuel de Champlain

**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. This month, students will learn about:

- Multiplying and dividing fractions and mixed numbers
- Algebra

**Science:** Science is 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 students 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 simple machines and floating
- Begin to study the life and work of Archimedes and complete a short in-class project to highlight his contributions to scientific inquiry

**Visual Arts:** This month, students will celebrate Christmas by painting a nativity scene in watercolour and design Christmas cards. Students will:

- Study colour by creating a monochromatic/one colour painting
- Study value by adding black to a colour to create shading
- Learn how to draw the human figure

**Music:** In music class this month, the grade 5 class will continue building their skills on the ukulele, learn new theory concepts, and work on ear training. Specific elements will include:

- Intervals
- Scale identification
- Notation
- Chording
- World 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 the rules of basketball
- Practice dribbling, passing, shooting
- Use their knowledge of positioning to effectively defend against the opposing team
- Learn and practice offensive plays

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

## Upcoming Events

December 4 – Biblical Parenting Book Study via Zoom  
December 17 – Innova Online Christmas Concert – At 7:00 p.m.  
December 18 – Classes Dismissed at Noon for Christmas Break  
December 23 – January 1 – Christmas Break!

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