

January 2021

The Month Ahead

At Innova

Grade 2

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When Samantha was introduced to Classical Christian Education, she immediately recognized the value in its methodology and curriculum. Samantha has predominantly taught in the primary division and this year teaches the grade 2 class at Innova Academy. Samantha attended Tyndale College and University and graduated with a Bachelor of Education. Her goal was to teach in a Bible believing Christian School and she is excited to be teaching at Innova Academy. Samantha has been married to her husband, Andre, for over 20 years and they have three children. In her spare time, she is involved in her church choir and worship team and volunteers in the nursery. Her favourite Bible verses are Colossians 1:15-17.



Mrs. Samantha Jung
Teacher

Grade 2



Grade 2 students are actively engaged in building foundational knowledge and skills in all subject areas. Our classroom is filled with singing, chanting, movement, and 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.

Bible: This month, students will continue to explore the New Testament and discover how Jesus' birth fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies. Jesus is the king of God's promise who will sit on David's throne forever. Topics include:

- The disciples
- Sermon on the Mount
 - Loving your enemies
 - Acts of righteousness
 - Do not worry

History and Geography: Grade 2 students will explore Canadian history and geography, including the map and symbols of Canada, the pioneers, and famous Canadians. Our focus this month is on our third unit: Government of Canada, including:

- Taxes and the taxpayer
- Ottawa
- Freedom of religion, speech, and travel

Writing, Grammar, and Phonics: This year, the grade 2s will look at various classical poems and literature as models to develop their writing, grammar, vocabulary, and phonics skills.

- Literature and poem selections include *The Yak*, *How Man and Fire Became Friends*, *The Vulture*, *The Lion and the Boar*, *Ingenious Little Old Man*, *The Fox and the Goat*
- Grammar topics include rhyming, *-ly* adverbs, *ie* and its sounds, forming plurals of words ending in *y*, *ly* suffix, root words, homophones, synonyms, and *its* vs *it's*.
- Writing exercises this month will continue to focus on:
 - Teaching students to select relevant information from a story and placing that information into paragraphs which become summaries
 - Identifying the story sequence in a narrative story, creating story sequence outlines, summarizing stories from outlines, and creating three paragraph stories from the story sequence outlines created as a class
 - Performing a 4-point check when creating their sentences – capitals, spacing, end marks, does it make sense?

Literature and Reading Fluency: Students will continue to build and refine their oral reading fluency as they study *The Boxcar Children* by Gertrude Chandler Warner. Topics include:

- Identifying the main and supporting characters
- Making predictions
- Defining, memorizing, and using new vocabulary from the story
- Story sequencing

Spelling: This month, students will use a variety of word and clapping games as they learn to apply spelling rules to list words. Spelling will focus on:

- Word analysis
- Writing original sentences
- *er* and *sh* words and rules
- Review *e* dropping rules
- Contractions

Grade 2 – 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.

- Silent final e rules
- homophones

Latin: Students will strengthen their vocabulary skills through the study of Latin. This month, grade 2 students will focus on:

- More words for food
- Weather
- Seasons

Mathematics: Grade 2 students begin each mathematics period practicing math facts with the CalcuLadder math drill program. Students progress through this program on an individual basis. This month, students will conclude their chapter on multiplication tables of 2, 5, and 10 and begin a unit on measurement. Specifically, students will practice the following:

- Solving division word problems
- Skip counting by 2, 5, and 10 and solve word problems
- Writing out multiplication fact families
- Measuring in metres by comparing lengths

Science: In December, the grade 2 class will continue to study physics learning about:

- Albert Einstein
- Simple machines and levers by understanding:
 - Fulcrum
 - Leverage
 - Mechanical advantage

Visual Arts: Students will continue to focus on the elements of design and work on their drawing skills. Students will explore the following elements of design:

- Space: size, placement, position, overlapping, and details
- Colour: mixing of primary colours as well as exploring warm and cool colours
- Texture: real and illusory texture

Music: In January, the grade 2 class will expand their knowledge of the solfege scale, particularly the pentatonic scale. They will begin broken borduns on the Orff instruments and continue to work on their ensemble technique. They will also learn a new musical genre and instrument group. Classes will address:

- Verse and refrain
- Practice percussion borduns
- Music notation
- Jazz
- Listening: "Autumn Leaves"

Physical Education: During physical education classes, students will develop agility, flexibility, endurance, and gross motor skills. This month's topics include:

- Leaping and Jumping
- Creative Movement
 - Freeze
 - Flexibility
 - Balance
 - Story creation

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

Upcoming Events

January 4 – Online Training/Orientation and Curriculum Pick-Up
January 5-8 – Classes Resume Online After Christmas Break
January 11 – Elementary Classes Resume In-Person
January 22 – Elementary Term 1 Ends – Reports sent home
January 25-28 – High School Evaluation Days
January 28-29 – Parent Teacher Interviews (mandatory)
January 29 – P.D. Day – No school for students

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