

January 2021

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 Elizabeth Fry, Fidelia Fiske, Nijima Jo, and Hudson and Maria Taylor
- Begin memorizing Psalm 34
- Read and learn about Jesus' early life and ministry

Literature: Students will begin a study of the novel, *I, Juan de Pareja*, by Elizabeth Borton de Treviño. Students will:

- Read aloud from the novel with fluency, inflection, and proper volume
- Follow along during the reading and demonstrate understanding by answering questions prompted by the teacher and the included comprehension questions at the end of each chapter
- Identify the main characters and summarize their involvement in the plot

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

- Use two, three, or more references and take notes on a specific topic from each reference
- Fuse outlines and write a summary from a fused outline
- Document their references

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:

- Continue to learn 20 new spelling words a week while identifying phonograms and spelling rules
- Write new words in sentences, using stylistic techniques to improve quality

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:

- Quality adjectives
- -ly adverbs
- Capitals 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 movement, names, life, light, and love
- Review previously learned vocabulary
- Practice using new words in oral conversation

French: Students will begin learning about conjugating regular RE verbs. Students will:

- Review vocabulary and participate in classroom conversations
- Answer questions about stories read in class
- Answer questions in writing about the play *Un Jour Bizarre*

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.

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

- Learn about the lives of famous explorers such as Magellan, Cartier, and Samuel de Champlain
- Study the early American kingdoms, the role of the Spanish and Portuguese in the New World, and Queen Elizabeth's rule

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 turn their attention to:

- Algebra
- Area of a triangle

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 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:

- Continue to study the life and work of Archimedes and complete a short in-class project to highlight his contributions to scientific inquiry
- Learn about flight, engines, sound, and waves
- Write a simple lab report as they complete experiments

Visual Arts: Students will study portraits painted during the Renaissance and make their own drawings of people. Areas of study include:

- Learning how to draw the human figure
- Learning how to draw humans in motion
- Learning about the proportions of the human form

Music: In the grade 5 music class, students will continue their ukulele training. They will expand their knowledge of composers, music notation, and terms. Lessons will focus on:

- Review of introduction, interlude, coda, theme, and variations
- Introduction to sonata form
- Key signatures
- Harmony
- Time period: Romantic
- Composers: Chopin, Schumann, Liszt
- Listening: "Raindrop" Prelude, Liebestraum, Schuman Piano Concerto

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:

- Demonstrate the skill of throwing and catching a frisbee
- Demonstrate knowledge of the rules while playing a game of ultimate frisbee

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.