

January 2021

The Month Ahead At Innova



Senior Kindergarten

Mrs. Heidi Di Marco

hdimarco@innovaacademy.ca

Mrs. Angie Armstrong

aarmstrong@innovaacademy.ca

Heidi completed an honours bachelor's degree in arts/science and a Bachelor of Education at Lakehead University. Heidi spent her first-year teaching on an aboriginal reservation in Quebec and then moved to Newmarket where she was introduced to classical Christian education. She was immediately impressed with the respect, self-discipline, and perseverance that was displayed in the students of Innova Academy. Heidi loves playing sports and spending time with her two children. Most of all, Heidi is grateful to share the love of God with her students every day.



Mrs. Heidi Di Marco
Teacher

Senior
Kindergarten

Angie graduated from Tyndale University with a Bachelor of Religious Education. She also completed the Leaders In Further Training (LIFT) program in upstate New York at CAMP of the WOODS where she also served as their all girls camp Tapawingo director. Angie has also been on staff with the public school board as an educational assistant. In her free time, Angie loves to spend time with her husband and their two children, hiking, exploring cities, finding great coffee shops (well, Angie does) and family pizza nights!



Mrs. Angie Armstrong
Teacher

Senior
Kindergarten

Senior Kindergarten is a time of magical growth where children learn foundational knowledge and skills to develop a life-long 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: This month, students will conclude their study of the times of judges and begin the study of Samuel and the Kings as well as the Divided Kingdom. Students will:

- Learn about Samson and Ruth
- Explore the life of Samuel, David, and Solomon
- Study the life of Elijah, Elisha, and Hezekiah
- Continue to memorize Psalm 136

Language Arts: Students will explore stories, poems, songs, chants, and hands-on activities each month. Literature selections this month include *The Lion and the Mouse*, *Caps for Sale*, *Emperors of the Ice*, *Make Way For Ducklings*, and *The Elves and the Shoemaker*. Using various tactile means as well as songs and chants, students will:

- Review and practice letters and their sounds
- Develop penmanship skills using proper grip and letter formation
- Discuss the story elements of character and setting
- Make predictions before and during reading
- Continue to review vowel sounds, digraphs *th/wh/ch/th*, and endings *-tch/ck*
- Learn to write a proper sentence

Culture and Geography: Students will enjoy an exciting journey around the world during geography and culture class! This month, students will learn about the continent of Europe. Students will:

- Meet the peaceful bull, Ferdinand
- Tour Buckingham Palace
- Tour France and meet the storybook heroine, Madeline

Mathematics: In mathematics this month, students will continue to explore numbers using various hands-on manipulatives, songs, and chants. This month, students will investigate solid and flat shapes. Students will then focus on numbers from twenty to one hundred. Specifically, students will:

- Explore solid and flat shapes, flat shapes in solid shapes, flat shape pictures, and shape patterns

SK – 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.

- Practice counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s to 100
- Count, order, and compare numbers to 100

Science: In science this month, students will investigate living things. By participating in science experiments and hands-on activities, students will study the following questions:

- How are plants alike and different?
- How do plants grow?
- How are plants useful in God's creation?
- How are animals alike and different?

Art: This year, SK students will look at the seven elements of design using a variety 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. In art class this month, students will explore the element of texture. Students will:

- Look for texture in art pieces
- Create an art project with a variety of textures
- Create snowy art projects

Music: In music class, students will continue to expand their repertoire, practice keeping the pulse, and recognizing the difference between elements of music such as fast and slow or low and high. They will also learn about instruments and take part in active listening. Classes will include:

- Pulses with stresses
- Same and different phrases
- Instruments: brass
- Meters in music

Physical Education: During physical education, students will have opportunities to develop spatial awareness, balance, and coordination using their bodies and a variety of equipment. Throughout the year, students are encouraged to develop good sportsmanship while playing games with their classmates. This month, students will practice:

- Working with a team in cooperative games
- Throwing overhand and underhand with balls
- Throwing overhand and underhand with bean bags
- Catching a pass

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.