

March 2021

The Month Ahead

At Innova

Grade 1

Miss Tiffany Gray

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Tiffany holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the University of Alberta, a diploma in Early Childhood Education, and TESOL certification. She has worked overseas in South Korea and the UK as a grammar stage teacher. Tiffany has also worked as an educational assistant for children with special needs. Her love for the classical model grew after she was introduced to it by a fellow teacher and friend. Tiffany grew up in Hamilton and just recently moved to the Newmarket area. When Tiffany is not teaching, she can be found reading, enjoying time at the beach with her dog Zoey, serving in various ministries at church, and spending time with family.



Miss Tiffany Gray
Teacher

Grade 1

Grade 1 students are actively engaged in learning foundational knowledge and skills in all subject areas. Our classroom is filled with singing, chanting, movement, and engaging 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: Grade 1 students will continue to discuss Jacob. Jacob's choices were often unwise and harmed others. However, God used Jacob to fulfill His promises to Abraham and Isaac. The promises of salvation and eternal life also extend to us as God's children. Areas of study this month include:

- Pharaoh's dreams
- Joseph's brothers first journey to Egypt
- Joseph's brothers second journey to Egypt
- Unit review

Literature: In literature this month, students will study the novel *Amelia Bedelia*. Students will also look at literature selections connected to the Easter narrative. Students will:

- Use who, what, where, when, and why questions to discuss the stories and make application to other areas of life
- Discuss idioms in the book
- Predict story outcome
- Identify main characters, setting, and main ideas of the story
- Demonstrate effective listening skills

Spelling: This month, students will complete sections I-4, J-1, and J-2 of the SWR program. Students will:

- Gain an understanding of how the prefix "un" changes a word
- Explain the difference between homographs and homophones
- Write spelling words from dictation
- Compose original sentences
- Identify compound words

Writing: In writing and grammar this month, students will continue Unit 4: Summarizing a Reference and begin Unit 5: Writing from Pictures. Poems include: "Holding Hands," "Mice", and "Five Little Monkeys". Students will:

- Explore alliteration in poems
- Review topic/clincher rule
- Sequence pictures
- Imagine, discuss, retell
- Revise and edit to create a final draft
- Review dress-ups

Latin: Students will strengthen their vocabulary through the study of Latin. This month, the grade 1 class will work on following Latin vocabulary:

- I sing, I praise, I give, gift
- Review of previous vocabulary

History: During the month of March, grade 1 students will investigate the world of early explorers to Canada. Students will read about and discuss their expeditions, challenges, navigational tools, ships, and legacy. This month's explorers include:

- John Cabot
- Samuel De Champlain

Grade 1 – 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.

Mathematics: This month in mathematics, students will focus on Chapter 12: Numbers to 40, and Chapter 13: Addition and Subtraction to 40. Areas of study Include:

- Place value
- Comparing, ordering, and patterning
- Interpreting and solving real world problems
- Addition and subtraction with and without regrouping
- Adding 3 numbers

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). This year, students will have the joy of studying biology. Students engage in hands on activities and experiments as they discover the wonders of God's creation. Over the course of this month, students will engage in study related to the human body. Students will explore the following topics:

- Heart and lungs
- Blood vessel, organ, artery, vein
- Digestive system
- Kidneys

Visual Arts: In March, students will discover the medium of tempera paint on stretched canvas. Students will explore and apply the following to their art:

- Different painting techniques such as dabbing, short strokes, and long strokes on their still-life painting inspired by Paul Cezanne
- Practice mixing secondary colours and adding textures to create dynamic pieces of art

Music: This month, the grade 1 class will continue to refine their technique on the Orff instruments as well as continue to learn more about reading and writing on the musical staff. Goals include:

- Syncopated rhythmic notation
- Understanding phrases
- Vivaldi: The Four Seasons
- Composition on the musical staff
- Spring concert repertoire

Physical Education: Our physical education unit for the month of March centers on springing and landing and working with balls. Students will explore:

- Passing a ball around their bodies using various methods
- Fielding a ball using one or two hands
- Controlling a ball while carrying it and running
- Underhand tossing
- Transferring weight from one part of the body to another to develop balance, strength, and agility
- Safely landing while doing agility exercises

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

Upcoming Events

March 4 – Cursive is Cool Contest Deadline (Gr. 1-6)

March 4 – Bob Ingram Event – via Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

March 5 – High School Semester 2 Progress Reports Go Home

March 11 – Post-Secondary Pathways Night – via Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

March 19 – Exordium – via Zoom at 9:15 a.m.

March 29 – High School Semester 2 Midterms Go Home

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