

March 2021

The Month Ahead At Innova

Grade 4

Mr. Jason Namba
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Mrs. Kayleigh Shin
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Mr. Namba holds a Master's Degree in Education, a Bachelor's Degree in History, an ACSI teaching certificate, and TESOL certification. He has worked overseas as a grammar stage teacher and Lower Grammar Stage Academic Director for the Seoul International Christian Academy. His love for classical education is rooted in its deep appreciation for history and its commitment to truth, beauty, and goodness. When Jason is not teaching, he can be found reading, playing board games, cooking, and spending time with his wife and two sons.



Mr. Jason Namba
Teaching Interim
Vice Principal

Grade 3 and
Grade 4

Kayleigh completed her Bachelor's Degree with specialties in Studio Art and Biology at the University of Guelph, and a Bachelors of Education at Brock University.

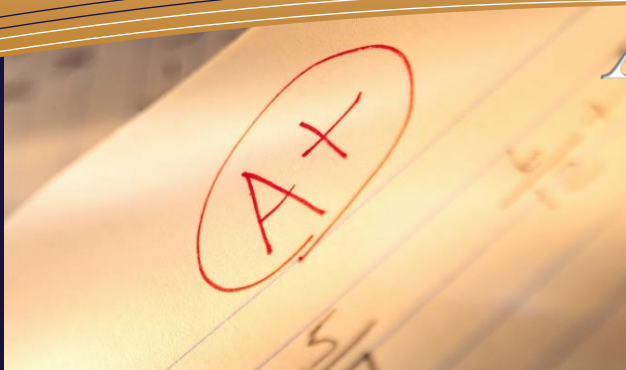
Kayleigh's classroom experience includes teaching Core French in Saskatchewan to grades 4 to 12. She most recently worked as a visual arts teacher for elementary students in a French Immersion school while living in Oakville.

Kayleigh serves in her church and loves reading, making art, photography, baking, and spending time with her husband and son.



Mrs. Kayleigh Shin
Teacher

Grade 3 and
Grade 4



Grade 4 students are actively engaged in building foundational knowledge and skills in all subject areas. Our classroom is filled with reading, discussion, singing, 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.

Christian Education: Students will continue to study *Faerie Gold*, discussing virtues, life lessons, and biblical application to our lives. They will also explore the Exodus and the Israelites' journey and time in the wilderness. This month, students will study the following stories:

- *The Coming of the King* by Laura E. Richards - treating one another with kindness
- *The Princess of the Golden Castle* by Katherine Pyle - how to deal with conflict
- *The Nightingale* by Hans Christian Andersen - the importance of critical thinking

Literature: Students will begin reading an abridged version of the King Arthur legend along with other short story selections from *K12 Classics for Young Readers*. Literature class is conducted through the following activities:

- Read aloud, partner reading, choral reading
- Vocabulary, comprehension, and inference work
- Narration, discussion, and application

Writing: Students will expand their writing ability by imitating masterful compositions through the IEW program. This month, students will learn about creative writing through:

- Generating a list of possible writing ideas
- Identifying topics within writing ideas to center an essay around
- Writing in 5-paragraph essay format
- Writing from notes taken
- Adding dress-ups to make compositions more interesting
- Practicing writing conventions for multi-paragraph compositions

Spelling: Each month, students will practice memorizing phonograms and spelling rules as well as learn fifteen new words each week. Students will:

- Develop greater awareness of how the English language is structured
- Apply their skills to writing across the curriculum
- Learn and practice spelling rules

Grammar: Students will learn the rules of English grammar and apply them in their writing. This month, students will practice:

- Pronouns
- Contractions
- Noun-verb agreement

Latin: Students will practice new vocabulary through gestures and classroom activities. Vocabulary words will center around the following topics:

- Adverbs
- When I grow up
- Review of previous vocabulary

French: Students will practice saying and writing vocabulary terms relating to the weather and the seasons. Students will:

- Practice saying the play in small groups

Grade 4 – 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.

- Write sentences using learned vocabulary
- Answer questions about the play

History: As students study world history chronologically, they learn about God's unfolding plan of redemption. This year, grade 4 students are studying the history, geography, and culture of the ancient civilizations of Greece, Rome, India, the Americas, and Far Eastern Empires. This month, students will complete their study of India by learning about the Mauryan and begin to learn about cultures in ancient China. Topics include:

- The Empire United
- The Jataka Tales
- Calligraphy in China

Mathematics: Students will be studying decimals in greater detail this month and then begin a unit on geometry. Topics include:

- Understanding place value to the tenth and hundredth place
- Rounding and comparing decimals
- Decimals as fractions
- Adding and subtracting decimals

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. This month, students will explore other types of invertebrates and begin to learn about vertebrates. Topics include:

- Molluscs
- Echinoderms
- Amphibians

Visual Arts: Students will continue to explore the elements of design and develop their artistic skills. This month, students will use the medium of paint and will:

- Complete one-point perspective drawings
- Learn painting techniques
- Create a painting in the style of a historical artist

Music: As we approach spring, it is time to begin preparing for our spring concert. The grade 4 class will begin preparing repertoire for the concert as well as continue to develop their music literacy. The focus this month includes:

- Orff ensemble
- Composition
- Rhythms and subdivisions

Physical Education: During physical education classes, students develop agility, flexibility, endurance, and gross motor skills as well as practice good sportsmanship. Students will engage in physically distanced games outdoors that encourage and build the following skills:

- Teamwork and communication
- Sportsmanship
- Hand-eye coordination
- Physical fitness

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.