

March 2021

# The Month Ahead

## At Innova

Melinda holds a Bachelor of Arts Honours degree in Psychology from the University of Windsor and a Bachelor of Education from Queen's University. She is passionate about instilling a love of learning into the hearts of children and encouraging and inspiring them to be confident leaders. Using music, art, drama, and many visual resources, Melinda loves teaching in creative ways to engage children. After reading the book, *Shaping Hearts and Minds* by Monica and Shawn Whatley, Melinda is excited to bring the classical model of teaching to her classroom. Melinda enjoys travelling, meeting new people, and eating a variety of international foods. She is active in her church and serves in various capacities on the worship and prayer team as well as in local outreach and evangelism.



Miss Melinda Morris  
Teacher

Junior  
Kindergarten



Junior Kindergarten  
Miss Melinda Morris  
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*Our Junior Kindergarten program is designed to inspire children to have a lifelong 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:** In Junior Kindergarten, the overarching theme is God's care and love for His people. The Old Testament stories introduce students to biblical characters in a way that shows how God displays His love and takes care of His people. In the New Testament, Jesus's life and ministry gives us examples of His kindness and love. This month, topics include:

- Jesus talks with a Samaritan woman
- Jesus heals many people
- Jesus feeds the Hungry
- Jesus helps those who are sad and scared
- The Easter story

Memory Verse: "Love the Lord your God with all of your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and love your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27

**Language Arts:** Students will continue to practice mastering the letters of the alphabet and their respective sounds. With the use of various tactile activities, songs, and chants, students practice proper letter formation. As they demonstrate readiness, students read books from our individual reading program. Skills focused on include:

- Phonics: /oo/ and /ow/ sounds
- Beginning and/or ending sounds of the letters found in words: /a/, /m/, /s/, /t/, /b/, /f/, /c/, /h/, /j/, /l/, /n/, /p/, /r/, /o/, /d/, /g/, /k/, /v/
- Tracing upper- and lower-case letters
- Combining letters to write words
- Mastery of sight words
- Reading books from the individual reading program
- Writing messages and letters to friends in the message centre

**Mathematics:** Students will continue to practice reading and saying their numbers through counting. They will also use various tactile means to practice proper number formation. This month, students will learn about:

- Complex patterning
- Complex shapes
- Number recognition 1- 20
- Counting 1-50, 2's- 20, 10's-100, 5's-50

**World Culture & Geography:** Students will learn about the United States of America, Brazil, and the Amazon Rainforest in South America. Learning objectives for this month include:

- Locating America on a map and recognizing it is located within the continent of North America

## JK – 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.

- Learning about the Statue of Liberty and the Wright brothers
- Finding Brazil on a map and recognizing that it is the largest country within the continent of South America
- Discovering that Brazil has many natural resources, and their people speak Portuguese
- Recognizing that the Amazon Rainforest is the largest rain forest on the earth and exploring animals of the rainforest

**Science:** As students delve into various topics of science, they will observe and discover the wonders of God's creation. This month, students will participate in hands-on activities and explore the following:

- Body systems
- Nutrition
- Life cycles of chickens and butterflies
- Experiments with eggs

**Music:** In March, students will continue to refine their mallet technique and continue to practice rhythms on the Orff instruments. They will also begin a unit on orchestral instruments and their timbres. More specifically, they will work on:

- Rhythmic notation
- Percussion instruments of the orchestra
- Listening: William Tell Overture
- Solfege scale
- Spring concert repertoire

**Art:** This month, students will review all the elements of art learned thus far, with the goal of combining all the elements into one art piece. Students will have an opportunity to present their work to the whole class and speak about their art using terminology taught in previous months. New skills taught will also include:

- Etching
- Sponging

**Physical Education:** In March, students will continue to focus on developing their gross motor skills, with an emphasis on teamwork and co-operative games. This month, students will participate in the following:

- Outdoor games that incorporate varied walks and strides (eg. skipping, hopping, bear walks, leap frogs, etc.)
- Team-building exercises like capture the flag and other territory games

*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.