

April 2021

# The Month Ahead At Innova

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

Mrs. Heidi Di Marco  
hdimarco@innovaacademy.ca

Mrs. Angie Armstrong  
aarmstrong@innovaacademy.ca

*Senior Kindergarten is a time of magical growth where children learn foundational 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:** Students learn through the examples of biblical characters how God showed his love for His people and how His people showed their love and gratitude in return. Students are challenged to find ways they can show their love for God. This month, students will begin to study Samuel and the Kings: Topics include:

- God's call on Samuel's life
- God provided a king for Israel
- The life of Saul and David

**Language Arts:** Students will explore stories, poems, songs, chants, and hands-on activities each month. Literature selections this month include *The Foolish Rabbit*, "Being Nosy About Smells," and *The Honest Woodsman*. During daily read-aloud time, students will enjoy listening to a variety of classroom stories. Using various tactile means as well as songs and chants, students will:

- Continue practicing phonograms and decoding more complex words
- Develop penmanship skills using proper grip and letter formation
- Discuss the story elements of character and setting
- Make predictions before and during reading
- Practice writing several related complete sentences with proper punctuation
- Practice writing simple stories

**Culture/Geography:** Students will enjoy an exciting journey around the world during geography and culture class. This month, students will continue to learn about the continent of Asia. Students will:

- Discover the Japanese tale *The Legend of Momotaro*
- Explore the landforms of India
- Identify India on a map of Asia

**Mathematics:** In mathematics, students will continue to explore numbers using various hands-on manipulatives, songs, and chants. This month, students will study a chapter titled *Number Facts*. When completed, they will then begin a unit on measurement. Specifically, students will:

- Combine sets of numbers
- Explore how many more are needed for values up to 15

## 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.

- Compose and decompose numbers to 20
- Compare lengths using terms long, short, longer, shorter, longest, and shortest

**Science:** In science this month, students will investigate God's non-living world. By participating in science experiments and hands-on activities, students will study the following questions:

- What are non-living things like?
- What are rocks and soil like?

**Art:** This year, senior kindergarten students are introduced to the seven elements of design (colour, line, shape, texture, form, space, value) and learn to incorporate them into their artwork. This month, students will explore the element of value. Students will:

- Learn to identify value in art projects
- Experiment with mixing colours
- Create spring-themed art projects

**Music:** As we enter the final months of the school year, the senior kindergarten class will begin preparing repertoire for the spring concert. They will also review all they have learned throughout the year and continue to build on their skills on the Orff instruments. More specific goals include:

- Keeping a steady off-beat pulse on unpitched percussion
- Mallet technique
- Repetitive patterns on the Orff instruments
- Identifying rhythmic notation
- Identifying *so-mi*

**Physical Education:** During physical education, students will have opportunities to develop spatial awareness, balance, and coordination while developing good sportsmanship skills. Students will spend time outside to enjoy God's creation while exercising. This month, students will practice:

- Completing various activities, games, and exercise routines outside to enjoy fresh air and to develop healthy habits
- Following instructions while participating in team and cooperative games

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

## Upcoming Events

- April 1 – High School Parent Teacher Interviews
- April 2 – Good Friday – No school
- April 5-16 – Spring Break – No school
- April 7 – Blakey Art Competition Deadline – Gr. 9-11
- April 19 – Students Return to School from Spring Break
- April 19 – Apologetic Series for Parents
- April 28 – CLT10 (Classic Learning Test) – Gr. 9/10

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