

May 2021

# The Month Ahead At Innova

Grade 4

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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:

- Learn about the ten commandments and God's covenant with Israel
- Study the stories *The Conceited Apple-Branch* and *The Nightingale*, both by Hans Christian Andersen, and *The Castle* by George MacDonald, discovering the qualities of a good friend
- Students will continue to learn about God's provision for the Israelites in the wilderness

**Literature:** Students will complete an enrichment project related to their studies of the King Arthur mythos and begin a second unit of poetry focused on sensory language. 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
- 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 identifying and using:

- Adjectives
- Adverbs

**Latin:** This month in Latin, students will practice new vocabulary through gestures and classroom activities. Vocabulary words will center around the following topics:

- Reviewing previous chapters
- Time-related words
- Colours

**French:** Students will learn about writing simple sentences using vocabulary words. Specifically, students will:

- Write sentences in French

## 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.

- Create a class writing composition using familiar vocabulary
- Create independent writing compositions to read to classmates

**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. In May, students will learn about the first Roman prince, Augustus Caesar, and the beginning of Christianity. Topics include:

- Augustus Caesar
- The birth of Jesus
- The crucifixion and resurrection

**Mathematics:** Students will continue their study of geometry with units examining the mathematical properties of squares and rectangles and calculating perimeter and area of composite shapes. To further understand perimeter and area, students will complete an enrichment project. Areas of focus include:

- Calculating perimeter and area
- A review of previously learned chapters
- A perimeter and area special project

**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 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 complete their study of vertebrate animals. Students will practice being scientists and identify animals based on their characteristics. Topics include:

- Mammals
- Reptiles
- Amphibians

**Visual Arts:** In art, students will continue to explore the elements of design and develop their artistic skills drawing flowers and nature. Students will:

- Create a miniature flower arrangement
- Learn scratch art techniques
- Draw from nature

**Music:** This month, the grade 4 class will continue to build knowledge of theory and singing. They will also begin preparing for the spring concert. Activities will include:

- Folk dance
- Solfège reading, singing, and writing
- Identifying notes on a treble staff
- Intervals
- Vocal technique

**Physical Education:** During physical education classes, students develop agility, flexibility, endurance, and gross motor skills as well as practice good sportsmanship. While online, students will reinforce as many of these skills as possible within the limitations. A greater focus on general physical health will replace skills that cannot be worked on from home. Activities this month include:

- A workout series designed to build strength and improve coordination

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

## Upcoming Events

May 3, 10 & 17 – Apologetics For Innova Parents With Tim Barnett

May 5 – Community Safety Village (virtual) – grade 1 – 11:00

May 7 – Community Safety Village (virtual) - grade 2 – 1:30

May 10 – Walk Through Literature Day

May 14 – House Spelling B Competition

May 24 – Victoria Day – No School

May 28 – Community Safety Village (virtual) – SK – 9:00

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