

May 2021

The Month Ahead

At Innova



Junior Kindergarten
Miss Melinda Morris
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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

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. In the New Testament, Jesus's life and ministry exemplify His kindness and love. His miracles reveal His power and authority as God responds to all kinds of human needs (physical, emotional, and spiritual). This month, topics center on the following themes:

- Jesus teaches His children how to live
- The Church is God's New Testament family
- Giving thanks and caring for others
- Pentecost
- Philip, Peter, Paul
- Memory Verse: John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

Language Arts: Students will continue to practice mastering the letters of the alphabet and their respective sounds as well as develop their fine motor skills. As they demonstrate readiness, students read books from our individual reading program.

Skills focused on include:

- Beginning and/or ending sounds of the letters found in words: /i/, /qu/, /z/, /w/, /x/, /b/, /d/
- Short vowel sounds: a, i, o
- Blending sounds to build words
- Learning new sight words
- Reading independently various stories from the PhonicsWorks Reading Series
- Tracing and printing alphabet letters
- Writing messages to friends using: To, from, I like you, I love you

Mathematics: Students will develop number sense and use various tactile means to practice proper number formation. This month, topics include:

- Complex comparing of numbers
- Recognition of numbers and quantity
- Complex measurement
- Measuring and comparing capacity

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.

- Non-standard measurement
- Recognizing standard measurement tools

Culture/Geography: During our online unit, students will learn more about South America and develop a greater understanding of different cultures. Learning objectives for this month include:

- Review South America- Andes Mountains and the Quechua People
- Locate the Pampas region in South America on a map
- Learn about the culture of the people living in the Pampas region
- Explore cultural clothing, homes, arts, food, toys, and traditions

Science: This month in science, students will enjoy the wonders of spring. They will complete various hands-on activities and experiments as they learn about:

- Birds
- Soil
- Plants
- Oceans

Art: Students will enjoy exploring the elements of art this month by creating several abstract pieces. Students will:

- Use vibrant colours to reflect God's majesty
- Explore colours that reflect the beauty of creation and spring

Music: This month, junior kindergarten students will learn spring themed repertoire, expand their knowledge of proper singing technique, and practice listening actively. Activities include:

- Spring concert repertoire
- Identifying head voice and chest voice
- Singing in solfege
- Identifying rhythmic values

Physical Education: During the stay-at-home order, students are encouraged to spend time outside and enjoy God's creation through exercise. This month, students are encouraged to:

- Engage in outdoor activities to enjoy fresh air and to develop healthy habits
- Go to the park and practice swinging, sliding, climbing, and playing kindly with others

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.