

May 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
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Mrs. Angie Armstrong
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Senior Kindergarten is a time of magical growth where children learn foundational knowledge and 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 will continue to study Israel's first kings. Through the examples of Saul, David, and Solomon, students will learn how God keeps His promises despite our failures. This month, students will examine:

- The life of David, his defeat of Goliath, his friendship with Jonathan, and his relationship with Saul
- The life of Solomon and the wisdom we can receive from the Lord

Language Arts: Students will explore stories, poems, songs, chants, and hands-on activities each month. Literature selections this month include *Diamonds and Toads*, *Talk*, "That's Tasty," *The Story of Tom Thumb*, and *Thumbelina*. 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
- Practice words containing ending constant blends *mp, sp, st, nch*
- Practice words containing the beginning constant blends *bl, cl, fl, gl, br, cr, dr, fr, gr*
- 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 go on an African safari! Students will:

- Learn about life in the Sahara
- Discover the African Savanna
- Learn about central Africa and the Congo Rain Forest
- Learn about African towns and villages

Mathematics: In mathematics, students will continue to explore numbers using various hands-on manipulatives, songs, and chants. This month, students will study

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.

units on *Length and Height*, *Classifying and Sorting*, and *Addition Stories*. Specifically, students will:

- Compare lengths using terms long, short, longer, shorter, longest, and shortest
- Compare lengths and height using nonstandard units
- Classify objects by one attribute
- Classify and sort objects by two attributes
- Write addition sentences
- Represent addition stories with numbers

Science: In science this month, students will explore God's wonderful creation by participating in science experiments and hands-on activities. Students will have an opportunity to observe the growth of their own plant! Topics include:

- The life cycle of a plant
- The life cycle of a chick
- The life cycle of a frog

Art: This year, senior kindergarten students are introduced to the seven elements of design (colour, line, shape, texture, form, space, value) and are learning to incorporate them into their artwork. This month, students will enjoy exploring the elements of art 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, senior kindergarten students will learn spring themed repertoire, expand their knowledge of proper singing technique, and listen 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.