

June 2021

The Month Ahead

At Innova

Grade 6

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Melanie graduated *summa cum laude* from York University with an honours bachelor's degree of arts in French studies and Spanish and a Bachelor of Education.

Melanie has her intermediate/senior qualifications in French and Spanish and completed her TEFL training at the University of Toronto. She has formerly taught French to students in grades 3-9 and Latin to grades 6-8 at Innova Academy. Her experience also includes teaching various subjects at other Christian schools in York Region and abroad. Melanie has also tutored students in grades 3-12 in math, science, English, French, and history. She serves as a "big sister" to youth in Georgina and serves on the prayer, Alpha, and guest services teams at her church. In her spare time, Melanie enjoys going for walks, baking, reading, and travelling.



Miss Melanie Pretorius
Teacher

Grade 6

Grade 6 students have opportunities to show marked maturity academically and spiritually as they learn to make meaningful connections and critically analyze ideas. Teachers continue to foster the love of learning, and lead students to deepen their understanding of God's purpose for His creation and their role in His redemptive plan.

Christian Education: This month, students will study the Pentecost, examining the beginning of the gathering of God's people and how the Holy Spirit equipped individuals to spread the gospel. Students will:

- Study the Holy Spirit and the power and direction He provided the early church
- Discover the quarrels, divisiveness, persecution, and growth of the early church
- Examine the transformation of the disciples and apostles
- Study the life of Corrie Ten Boom and Mary Slessor

Literature: This month, students will read, discuss, and think critically about several short stories centered on the theme of "lessons learned." Students will contribute meaningfully to group discussions by being prepared for discussion, drawing on preparation, explaining ideas, building upon others' comments, and asking questions. Stories include:

- "The Stone" by Lloyd Alexander
- "The Three Brass Pennies" – Chinese folk tale
- "The Magic Prison" by Elizabeth Harrison
- "Kaddo's Wall" – African folk tale

Writing: In June, students will learn to write a critique. Students will:

- Learn a solid structure for book reports and reviews
- Develop a "critique" vocabulary, which aids in literary analysis
- Use the critique structural model to write a five-paragraph review of a short story

Spelling: Using the *Spell to Write and Read* program, students develop spelling skills through word analysis and understanding and applying spelling rules to daily writing across the curriculum. This month, students will:

- Analyze weekly spelling words drawn from the class list and student writing
- Review and practice the E-dropping rule

Grammar: Grammar study develops students' awareness and understanding of how the English language is structured. As students work through the grammar program, they apply their knowledge to writing in all subject areas. This month's grammar study focuses on:

- Review of all grammar concepts learned as we complete the story of Robin Hood
- Practice Identifying all eight parts of speech

Latin and Greek Vocabulary: Students will strengthen their vocabulary through the study of Latin and Greek vocabulary using the *Get to the Root of It!* curriculum. Students develop the ability to analyze unfamiliar English words based on Latin and Greek roots. This month, students will:

- Learn words derived from the Latin roots *rot* (wheel), *tort* (twist), *vers/vert* (turn)
- Use words learned in past units to write creative sentences and short stories

Grade 6 – The Logic Stage

The strong knowledge base established in the grammar school provides a solid foundation as students enter the logic school. As perspective widens, students start to make meaningful connections across the curriculum. Students show more independence in their learning and establish systems in self-regulation and personal study skills. Shaping students' habits of heart, mind, and soul is a key focus as students deepen their understanding of God's purpose for his creation and their role in his redemptive plan. Teachers continue to foster the love of learning, and students have opportunities to show marked maturity academically and spiritually as they learn to critically analyze ideas and speak to issues in light of God's purposes.

French: In French this month, students will review everyday vocabulary, learn basic grammatical concepts, demonstrate reading and listening comprehension, and memorize Scripture in French. Students will:

- Review and practice present tense verb conjugation
- Watch short video clips and answer questions in French about the content of the story
- Finish memorizing Romans 12:2 in French

History/Geography: This year, the study of history focuses on people, culture, and events around the world from 1450 to 1800. As a final project, students will choose a historical figure and be interviewed as that person. During the month of June, students will learn about:

- The Imperial East – Emperor Chi-en lung
- Fighting over North America - The Seven-Year War
- Discontent in the British Colonies
- The American Revolution

Mathematics: In the final month of the school year, students will complete their study of 3D shapes before completing a unit on Measures of Central Tendency. Concepts covered in this unit will include:

- Mean
- Mode
- Median
- Real world problems: mean, mode, median

Science: Science provides us with unique ways of seeing God's creative presence in the world. This year, the science program focuses on chemistry. During the month of June, the grade 6 students will:

- Complete and present a project to illustrate one of the concepts learned since January
- Prepare, present, and explain a scientific experiment

Visual Arts: This month, students will enjoy making masks using the collage method inspired by the painting titled "Vertumnus" (portrait made of fruits and vegetables) by Renaissance artist Guiseppe Arcimboldo. Students will:

- Create their own masks
- Make a Father's Day art activity using paper folding

Music: In music class, students will engage in activities involving all areas of music studied throughout the year. Topics include:

- World music review
- Composition and melody writing review
- Theory review
- Ukulele repertoire

Physical Education: While online this month, physical education lessons will include a series of pre-recorded videos of various workouts and activities that students can complete with limited to no equipment. Exercises will focus on the following:

- Cardiovascular fitness
- Flexibility
- Muscular endurance

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

Upcoming Events

- June 9 – Ripley's Aquarium Field Trip (virtual) – Gr. 1/2
- June 11 – Ripley's Aquarium Field Trip (virtual) – Gr. 3-5
- June 17 – Spring Concert (virtual)
- June 17 – Repairing the Ruins Simulcasts for Parents
- June 17-23 – High School Evaluation Days
- June 21 - Innova Business Meeting – For all parents at 7:00 p.m.
- June 24 – Last Day of Classes (lunch dismissal), Reports Sent Home, and Grade 8 Graduation

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