

STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

To involve students' families in this unit, teachers can choose from the following:

- Students share work samples with their families.
- Invite parents to see presentations or displays developed by the students.
- Present the students' investigations in a school worship or assembly.
- Students produce their own class newsletter to share with their families, which includes samples of students' reflections, psalms, prayers, art, research etc.
- Inform parents about the topic through a newsletter. The following provide examples related specifically to the model units.

LEVEL 1 NEWSLETTER

Our Christian Studies unit will begin with students making model houses to represent houses of Bible times. By 'visiting' these houses and meeting their occupants (puppets who represent Bible characters), students will hear stories about the birth, life death and resurrection of Jesus. Each puppet tells it's story of meeting with Jesus. Students will hear about Jesus who grew up as a child just like themselves, who had special friends, who loves even people who do wrong, and who was a master storyteller.

At the end of the unit the students will make their own puppet and prepare their own story of meeting Jesus.

You can help your child think and learn more about Jesus by reading stories from a children's Bible or Bible story books. If you do not have these at home, you are welcome to borrow them from the school library.

LEVEL 2 NEWSLETTER

You may have frequently heard Christians speak of Jesus' love. In our Christian Studies lessons students will be learning about Jesus' love. For each of the six stories that students hear they will identify who Jesus loved, how Jesus showed his love and how people felt when they knew Jesus loved them. This information will be recorded to develop a picture of the Jesus who loves children, people in need, people who are hurting, people who are neglected by others and even people who do not love him. Students hear the Bible's message of Jesus' love for all people, including themselves. At the end of the unit students will make their own picture of themselves with Jesus.

Songs which tell about Jesus' love will be used throughout the unit. You may like to ask your child to share some of these songs with you.

LEVEL 3 NEWSLETTER

Over the years Christians have expressed their belief about Jesus through the arts. In Christian Studies students will be exploring these art forms to find out what they tell about Jesus. The students will be looking at . . . *[fill in examples of the arts and activities that you will use]*. Throughout all of these activities the crucial question is 'What does this tell about Jesus?'

Christians believe that the Bible is the most important place to learn about Jesus. The students will use children's Bibles to hear stories of the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus and again consider what these stories tell about him.

At the end of the unit students will prepare a presentation which shows what they have learnt about Jesus. Students will have the option of doing this through art, drama, writing, music etc.

I would encourage you to invite your child to share what they have learnt with you.