

# 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

The gift of life is something that people often take for granted. In Christian Studies students will be exploring what is special about human life.

Students will hear the Bible story of the creation of the first people and will then participate in activities to help them appreciate various facets of life that is theirs. This means that as part of Christian Studies students may well be painting, making music, dancing, and working with others as they explore what people can do.

Christians believe that God had a special relationship with Adam and Eve. Students will hear that God loves and cares about all the people he has created, and that he loves and cares about them.

You can help your child develop an understanding of these concepts by providing opportunity for them to enjoy all aspects of life — to be involved in physical activity, to enjoy happy times and recognise sad times and to interact with people around them.

## LEVEL 2 NEWSLETTER

I am sure that as parents/care-givers you recognise the unique nature of your child. In Christian Studies students will be exploring what is unique about people and about themselves.

Conception, birth and the physical differences between boys and girls will be discussed as part of our lessons. I will be using resources especially designed for young children to do this. Please see me if you would like to discuss this or to attend any of these sessions.

Students will identify ways in which they are unique and will hear the Bible's message that everyone is special to God, regardless of appearance, abilities or skills.

At the end of the unit, students will be making a soft 'squeezy' toy from two old socks. Could you please send along two socks, not necessarily matching.

Your child will be asking you to fill in a sheet about themselves as babies, and to write what you see as being special about them. Use this opportunity to tell your child why they are unique and special to you.

## LEVEL 3 NEWSLETTER

*As slow as a snail; as fast as a speeding rocket.* Images are part of everyday language, used to describe the characteristics of people. The Bible also uses images or 'pictures' to describe what God is like. In Christian Studies students will be hearing these images and using them to build a description of God.

The images that will be used are those of animals caring for their offspring, human parents and a shepherd. All of these images create a picture of a God who loves and cares for the people he created.

At the end of the unit students will prepare their own response to the question: How would you describe God?

You can help your child develop an understanding of imagery by reading poems or descriptive writing to them. This could be from any book, or it could include reading short descriptive phrases from the book of Psalms in the Bible.