

# 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, 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

If you asked people in the street what the word 'church' meant, I guess many would say that it's the place where some people go on a Sunday morning. In the current Christian Studies unit *A local church*, the students will be discovering that 'church' is far more than just a building. The students will be discovering that for Christians, the church is God's people. The apostle Peter says in the Bible that the church is 'God's chosen and special people . . . brought out of darkness and into his marvellous light' (1 Peter 2:9). The students will be investigating the place where members of the church meet, the important activities which take place there and the benefits of belonging to a church. They will also be exploring the roles of people in the church and their motivation for working there. The students will compare the local church with the church in New Testament times.

Make sure you ask your child to share with you the information they discover about a local Christian church.

## LEVEL 2 NEWSLETTER

It's great to be a part of a community such as our school community, where we can come together and share certain things we have in common. In our current Christian Studies unit, *Church communities care*, our class will be looking at various communities. The students will investigate the first Christian community, focusing particularly on the ways they cared for each other. They will become aware of the Lutheran Church of Australia as an example of a church community and of the various activities which take place in this community. The class will choose one organisation of the LCA involved in caring. They will investigate its work and identify the gospel of Jesus Christ as the motivation for Christians to care. The students will also explore the various ways the school community cares for people.

You are welcome to visit our class to view the display the students will be working on which illustrates the caring work of the first Christian community, the Lutheran community and the school community.

## LEVEL 3 NEWSLETTER

Consider those people in your life who have been or who are important to you. Think about the impact they have had on your life.

In our current Christian Studies unit *Paul, Luther and the Christian church*, the students will be discovering the importance of Jesus to the life and work of Paul in the early church, to Martin Luther and the Christian church throughout history, and to people in the Christian church today. The students will be examining the work of Paul and Luther and the impact this work had on the Christian church. They will also be examining the ways people in the Christian church show love and tell others about Jesus as a response to the Bible's message about Jesus.

Ask your child to share with you the information they discover about Paul, Martin Luther, the Christian church and the importance of Jesus to each of these.