

STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

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

- Students share work samples with their families.
- Present the students' investigations in a school worship or assembly.
- In consultation with the local pastor, arrange an information evening at which parents have the opportunity to hear and ask about what students are doing in Christian Studies.
- Students produce their own class newsletter to share with their families, which includes samples of students' research etc.
- Inform parents about the topic through a newsletter. The following are examples of newsletter items related specifically to the model units.

LEVEL 1 NEWSLETTER

When a family discovers that they are expecting a new baby, many hours are spent pondering possible names for the child. Many families find it hard to agree on a name, and some babies are born before a name has been chosen. The child, however, is born into a family and into the name of that family.

In our current Christian Studies unit *What happens in baptism?* the students will explore the Christian belief that people become a part of God's family when they are baptised. They are baptised into a new name: *the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit*. The students will be examining what takes place during a baptism. They will also discover the Christian belief concerning benefits the Holy Spirit brings to people who become a part of God's family through baptism, such as assurance of God's love and forgiveness and eternal life.

Spend time sharing with your child the work they produce about baptism.

LEVEL 2 NEWSLETTER

Have you ever found yourself in a situation where you were afraid, confused or alone, and no matter how hard you tried you were unable to change the situation on your own? Many of us and our children may be feeling like this right now.

In our current Christian Studies unit *The Holy Spirit changes lives* we will be discovering what the Bible says about a special helper God has sent who can encourage, guide, teach, help, comfort and really change lives! The students will be learning about the impact the Holy Spirit had on Jesus' disciples at Pentecost. They will explore the way the Holy Spirit inspired people after Pentecost — and in more recent times — to love and serve others.

You can support your child by asking him/her to share with you the information they have researched about people who have been changed by the Holy Spirit.

LEVEL 3 NEWSLETTER

What is your favourite memory? Is it the birth of your children, a holiday, a special family celebration, or that fantastic win by your sporting team when they came from behind to snatch victory?

In the current Christian Studies unit *Remember* the students will be remembering and sharing special times in their own lives, investigating the way people remember and celebrate the passover and the special passover meal Jesus had with his disciples when he instituted holy communion. The students will be exploring what happens during holy communion, and most importantly investigate the Christian belief concerning Jesus' gifts to people in holy communion. Jesus comes to people in a very special way and offers them his love and forgiveness. The students will be discovering that holy communion is much more than just a memory!

In order to support your child, you could discuss your own favourite memories and share special mementos or souvenirs with your child.