

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

Think about a time when you felt unimportant. Maybe you were ignored or someone said something to you that made you feel that you were not good enough, clever enough or wealthy enough. I'm sure our children can relate to feeling unimportant. Often they feel ignored, left out, not good enough, not old enough and the list goes on.

In the Christian Studies unit *Precious to God*, the students will be exploring the Bible's message that they are important and precious to God. They will explore the Christian belief that people's gender, nationality, ability, age, wealth and social status do not determine their worth in the eyes of God. The students will explore Bible stories where Jesus demonstrated this to the people in his community and how he even gave up his life because all people are precious to God.

Look for opportunities to demonstrate to your child that they are always precious to you.

LEVEL 2 NEWSLETTER

Think about a good friend. What are the qualities of this person which make them such a good friend? A good friend can be trustworthy, fun to be with, someone who accepts you, listens to you, someone who cares about you, someone who has things in common with you.

In the Christian Studies unit *Friends with God*, the students will be investigating the Christian belief that God initiates friendship with all people. They will hear about the perfect friendship God had with the first people. The students will explore Bible stories which demonstrate God's continuing friendship with people, despite the fact that people had turned away from God and spoiled the perfect friendship. The students will hear the Bible's message of how Jesus showed the ultimate act of friendship by giving his life so that all people who believe in him can live as friends of God forever. The students will also identify and explore the response to God's friendship of people in Bible stories and people today.

Spend time with your child discussing ways family members can be good friends to each other.

LEVEL 3 NEWSLETTER

What are your talents and abilities? We often hear in the media about people with wonderful musical, sporting, academic, artistic or leadership talents which can lead us to feel rather 'talent-less'!

In the Christian Studies unit *Our Talents*, the students will be exploring the Christian belief that talents and abilities are God's gifts. They will be hearing Bible stories about people who did not seem particularly 'talented' and how God developed their talents so they could serve God and other people. The students will be identifying their own talents, affirming the talents of their peers, and exploring ways Christians can use their talents to serve God and others.

Take this opportunity to identify and affirm the talents of your child.