

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:

MODEL FOR A LEVEL 1 NEWSLETTER

What are your greatest fears? Are they unemployment, environmental disasters, crime, uncertainty about the future for your children, illness or death?

In our Christian Studies unit ***Jesus and my fears***, the students will investigate what the Bible says about how sin brought fear into the world. They will explore Bible stories of Jesus rescuing people from their fears. They will hear the good news of how Jesus, through his own death and resurrection, rescued the human race from sin and death. He took away the fear of death for all those who believe in him. The students will investigate what the Bible tells us about heaven and Jesus' promise to be with his followers always. The students will also reflect on how Jesus' words and actions impact on their own fears.

You can support your child by discussing the fears of family members and possible ways of dealing with these fears.

MODEL FOR A LEVEL 2 NEWSLETTER

Advertising certainly bombards us with a multitude of promises: 'If you buy our product you will become richer, happier, more intelligent, more beautiful, worry free', and so on. Unfortunately, we soon discover that most of these are empty promises with hidden costs.

In our Christian Studies unit ***Promises, promises***, the students will investigate a range of promises. These include promises made in advertisements, the empty promises with hidden costs made to Adam and Eve by the devil, and most importantly God's promise to send a Saviour for the world. The students will investigate the reasons God made the promise, the people God used as messengers, and the cost to God of keeping the promise. The concepts the students will investigate are central to Christianity. The students will hear that God kept his promise by sending Jesus to free people from their wrongdoing, their guilt, and their past and to restore their relationship with God. All people who believe in Jesus have God's free gift of eternal life.

Ask your child to share with you some of the advertisements they prepare during the unit.

MODEL FOR A LEVEL 3 NEWSLETTER

The media continually bombards us with 'bad news' stories, such as rising unemployment, environmental concerns, robbery, domestic or racial violence, conflict and war, and the list goes on. It appears as though there is no end or no solution to all this 'bad news'.

In the Christian Studies unit ***Bad news, good news***, the students will discover the Bible's 'good news' that God has provided a solution to all the 'bad news' taking place in the world. God sent Jesus to free people from their wrongdoing and to restore their broken relationships with God and with each other. The students will undertake some investigative journalism into 'bad news' in the world and the source or reasons for this 'bad news'. The students will research stories in the Old Testament of the Bible which show how God rescued people who were in trouble as a result of their own actions. They will investigate God's solution to the 'bad news' in the world and they will present this as a 'good news' report. The students will also reflect on what the 'good news' about Jesus means for them.

It is important that your child has the assurance of your love, in every situation and regardless of the things he/she has done wrong.