

# 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

How do you respond when someone does something thoughtful for you? Maybe you thank them personally, send a card, give them a gift or tell others about the caring thing they did.

In the current Christian Studies unit *God acts, people respond*, students are looking at what worship is and why it is important to Christians. The students will explore Bible stories about God's love and care for the Israelites, focusing on the way God helped them to escape from slavery in Egypt. Students will explore the way the people responded to God's acts by worshipping God. They will research information about the tabernacle, which was the special place where the Israelites worshipped God while they were in the desert. Students will examine Bible stories which describe God's actions through Jesus and people's responses to these actions, as well as Christians' responses today.

You can assist your child by asking them to share their Christian Studies investigations with you. Please feel free to join us for class worship or whole-school worship.

## LEVEL 2 NEWSLETTER

There are many events during the year that we love to celebrate, such as birthdays or anniversaries. Part of the celebration involves remembering and retelling stories about that event. Christian worship is a celebration which includes remembering and telling stories about events recorded in the Bible.

In our current Christian Studies unit about worship, *Seasons of the Church Year*, students will be exploring special events which Christians love to remember and celebrate. These times of remembering and celebration are known as 'seasons of the church year'. Students will become familiar with each of the 'seasons'. They will explore the Bible stories about God's actions which provide the reasons for celebrating and remembering. Students will be identifying the special ways Christians respond in worship to these stories of God's actions. They will be planning a simple worship presentation which focuses on one particular season of the church year.

Help your child to record on the family calendar important events to remember and celebrate. You are welcome to join in our worship sessions. We will inform you when the students will be presenting the worship they have planned.

## LEVEL 3 NEWSLETTER

What sort of rituals do you have in your family? Think about what you do each morning or when celebrating special occasions, such as birthdays or Christmas.

In our current Christian Studies unit *Christians Worship* students will explore the concept of ritual and the rituals involved in Christian worship. They will identify important elements of Christian worship, particularly looking at how all of worship can be classified as God acting or speaking and people responding. One of the students' tasks will be the careful observation of a worship service. Students will identify the message people hear about God and the ways people respond. They will also identify the benefits of people coming together to worship. They will also conduct a survey about worship, and finally prepare a worship plan which reflects what they have learnt in this unit.

Ask your children to share with you what they have been learning about worship. Please feel free to join us for worship in our class or school.