

# 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

Our class is about to do some 'time travel' as we investigate the history of the Christian church. We will be 'travelling back' to different times in history to explore how the church began and what it was like to belong to the first Christian church. The students will also travel to the Middle Ages to explore what it meant to belong to the Christian church at that time. Students will keep travel logs, where they will record features of the church at that time and their thoughts about what they are discovering. The students' research will be presented in a display and oral presentation to the class. You will be invited to attend these presentations. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

## LEVEL 2 NEWSLETTER

Lutheran, Uniting, Baptist, Church of Christ, Catholic, Assemblies of God, Anglican . . .

Are they all the same? How are they different? Are they part of the Christian church? What do you know about each of these Christian denominations?

The students will be investigating the Christian denominations represented in the local area as part of their Christian Studies. We will be identifying the common beliefs of all Christian denominations and the differences that exist between the denominations. We have arranged to visit some local congregations to talk with their ministers about the beliefs and activities of the churches. The investigation will assist students to understand that the Christian church is the worldwide church made up of people who believe that Jesus is their Saviour. Christian denominations may vary in their tradition and practices, but they share a common faith in Jesus. If you can provide any assistance with this study, please contact me.

## LEVEL 3 NEWSLETTER

What is a Lutheran? What do Lutherans believe? How did the Lutheran church begin?

We have students from various religious backgrounds in our school. However, because our school is a Lutheran school based on Lutheran beliefs and practices, it is natural that there will be a Lutheran perspective to our Christian Studies. Do the students and families know what Lutherans believe and do? In Christian Studies, our class is about to investigate the Lutheran church. It is hoped that the unit will give the students the opportunity to understand better many of the activities they are involved in as students of a Lutheran school.

The students will produce a brochure that will outline the beliefs and practices of the Lutheran church. In preparation for the task, they will investigate the history of the Lutheran church and the work of the Lutheran church in Australia and the world. Should you have any information about the Lutheran church and its organisations, family histories or information about Lutheran settlement in Australia, please send them to school.