

# 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

Can you imagine a world in which every person was accepted and respected for their unique identity?  
 . . . in which people valued differences and used them to learn more about each other and the world?  
 . . . in which no one suffered prejudice and all people lived in harmony with each other?

In our Christian Studies lessons we are about to explore Christian beliefs about human relationships. The students will investigate God's original plan for relationships and what has broken people's relationships with God and each other. As an example of damage to relationships, students will explore the issue of prejudice: what it is, what causes it and how it affects people's relationships. They will consider what Jesus taught about how people should relate to each other and whom he accepted as his friends. They will also explore the Bible's message about God's love for all people.

If you know someone who could talk to the class about their experiences of prejudice or their work towards justice in the community, please do not hesitate to contact me.

## LEVEL 2 NEWSLETTER

Our world needs good leaders: leaders with a vision for the world, leaders who understand the importance and responsibilities of leadership. At the same time the world needs people to respect leaders and to accept their authority.

In Christian Studies we are about to begin a unit about leadership. Christians believe that social structures and leaders are a part of God's plan to care for and protect people. The students will be reading stories of leaders in the Bible and investigating leadership today. They will explore the Bible's teaching about the importance of authority figures and how people should relate to leaders.

Students will use the information to consider leadership roles and responsibilities in the school community. They will develop a mission statement and action plan for the year. If you know of someone who can share with students information about the challenges and responsibilities of leadership, please do not hesitate to contact me.

## LEVEL 3 NEWSLETTER

The adolescent years are sometimes called the most difficult years. Adolescents' relationships with family, friends and people in authority change and can become quite frustrating and at the same time rewarding. In Christian Studies we are about to begin a unit entitled *Complex Relationships*. The students will be investigating issues that relate to their relationships with family, friends and people in the community. They will gather information and strategies for positive relationships and consider what the Bible and Luther's *Small Catechism* teach about human relationships. If you have any resources that might be useful in our study of this topic, please send them.

You can assist your child by discussing what they are learning and ways in which you can work together in developing your relationship together.