

# 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

We live in a society that stresses individualism, while at the same time communicating to us that certain forms of individualism, divergence and difference from the 'norm' are neither acceptable nor valued. We also live in a society which stresses success and performance. This is certainly a recipe for 'failure' for people who do not fit the mould of society. Young people are bombarded with many messages about who they are or should or should not be and how to make themselves acceptable.

The unit *God Created You* draws attention to the uniqueness and 'specialness' of each human being — including each member of the class — as a creature of God. Students compare and contrast the influences and factors that have contributed to their concept of self and sense of personal worth with the biblical understanding of human identity and worth. Students investigate a range of Bible passages which show that human failure does not negate human worth, since God extends his forgiveness and acceptance to all who will accept it. Students will be involved in a range of activities including reading, discussion, analysis of texts, listening to music, personal reflection and celebrating the uniqueness, diversity and specialness of individuals through poetry, art, drama, music and dance.

Should you have any comments or questions, please contact me.

## LEVEL 2 NEWSLETTER

Accountability and responsibility are buzz words in football and other team games today. Responsibility is one aspect of our Christian Studies focus on God creating human beings.

Christians believe that God created human beings in his own image, as responsible spiritual beings who can relate to him and to his creation. Jesus taught and showed that because they are God's special creatures, all human beings are important to God. Christians believe that human beings are created to be responsible with the various gifts and abilities God gives them.

Students will look at the implications of these beliefs for some of the issues human beings face today.

Should you have any comments or questions, please contact me.