

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

Conflict is part of life. It is evident in people's personal lives and relationships, in local communities, between people of different backgrounds and races and where there is a clash of values and beliefs. How people respond and deal with the conflicts will determine whether they are either adversely or positively affected by the experience of conflict. There are a multiplicity of conditions which contribute to a conflict and there are seldom simple, quick-fix measures for solving problems.

The unit *In Conflict?* will give students an insight into the challenges and hopes the Bible gives to people in conflict. Students will explore conflict by examining the causes and consequences of conflict and strategies for dealing with conflict in a variety of situations. They will compare modern psychologists' views with biblical teaching. Students will reflect on the importance of forgiveness and the need for a change of heart for effective conflict resolution. In the final activity they will explore the implications of living out the Christian way of love in relationships and conflicts within the school community.

If you have any questions regarding the unit of work, feel free to contact me.

LEVEL 2 NEWSLETTER

Surveys show that in spite of the growing frequency and acceptance of divorces and defacto relationships in our society, most teenagers think that some day they will be married.

In our current Christian Studies unit students will explore the nature of the marriage relationship as given expression in a variety of historical and cultural contexts. In particular, they will look closely at what the Bible teaches about marriage, identifying the key principles which are relevant for marriage today. Students will use these principles as the basis for discussing a range of issues related to marriage in our society.

You may want to use questions raised in this study as an opportunity to talk to your son or daughter about your own ideas on marriage and relationships.