

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

Worship surrounds us. 'Your Worship' is a title of honour used to address magistrates or people of a certain rank. Most of us have hero-worshipped some persons at some stage of life. We have looked up to these people, wanting to be like them, even adoring them. Singers and pop groups attract people who will scream out their support and go to great lengths to see and touch them, cramming their walls with dozens of pictures of them. Ardent football followers likewise ritually attend matches, dressed in the team colours, singing the team songs, cheering, venerating their champions.

In the unit *A Life of Worship*, students will explore what form worship takes in the life of Christians. Students will examine the distinctiveness of Christian worship through stories in the book of Daniel and the stories of Christmas and Easter as they are told in the New Testament. Christians understand worship to be God's action coming into people's lives and people's response to God's action. Students will further explore the idea that worship is more than rituals: that the worship of God involves every facet of life. Students will conclude the unit by reflecting on the place of worship in their lives.

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

LEVEL 2 NEWSLETTER

Human life is full of patterns: daily patterns of waking, eating, working, relating to people; weekly patterns of work and leisure, sports and meetings; yearly patterns of birthdays, holidays, anniversaries.

In the Christian Studies unit *The Rhythm of Life* students will look at the way worship fits into and shapes the life patterns of Christians. They look at daily, weekly, and yearly worship patterns in the Old Testament, the New Testament and in today's church. As a parallel activity students will hear and write brief reports on worship music from a variety of Christian traditions.

The culminating activity will be the production of a video titled *The Rhythm of Life*. You may want to view the video that your student's group produces.