

Dear Family,

It's time for the second theme of *Fully Alive*, our family life program. Because the partnership of home, church, and school is so important, this letter is written to let you know what we talk about in class and to offer some ideas for your involvement.

About Theme Two

Theme Two of *Fully Alive* is called "Living in Relationship." God created us to live in relationship with others and to respond to each other with love. Living in relationship begins in the family, the setting in which people first learn about love. As children grow up, friendship becomes more and more important to them. In this theme we will be exploring both important relationships — family and friendship. For more information go to: www.acbo.on.ca.

In Theme Two we will

- explore the need for relationships in our lives, especially with family and friends.
- discuss the importance of family histories and customs.
- examine some day-to-day stresses that all families experience and consider strategies to manage them.
- learn about common communication problems and ways to overcome them.
- analyze how friendships change as we grow up and learn more about how to handle stressful situations with friends.

Working together at school and at home

- The students will be doing an interview about friendship. Please share with your child some memories of the friends you had as a child or young teenager.
- The students will also be asking for some information about their family histories and customs. Please tell your child about some of the people, events, and customs that are important in your family's history.
- We will be examining day-to-day stresses and communication problems in families and among friends. You might ask your child about these topics and the strategies that were discussed for handling these normal difficulties.
- In the classroom, we discussed the important idea that learning how to be a good friend is a process that takes time. You could talk to your child about his or her friends and how these relationships have changed over time.

Teacher: _____ Date: _____