Sample Letter to Introduce the Take-Home Math Program to Parents (Primary Level)

[Date]

Dear Family,

Our class is beginning a mathematics program called take-home math. This program includes many meaningful and enjoyable mathematics activities that reflect current research and provincial expectations.

Your child will bring home, in a resealable bag, activities for you to explore as a family. Some activities will require things that can be found around the house; for other activities, what is needed will be inside the bag. Your child can explore these activities with the whole family or with individual members, such as a parent, brother, or sister. When children participate in the activities with family members, their self-confidence increases and their attitude towards mathematics becomes more positive.

[Include a paragraph establishing the time lines for your program. For example: “A math activity for family participation will be sent home with your child every Wednesday. Please have your child return the resealable bag to the class by the following Wednesday. That day, your child will be provided with a new activity to take home.”]

The activities chosen for this project provide opportunities for children and adults to solve problems, to use logical thinking, to develop strategies, and to communicate their mathematical thinking and understanding. The activities are designed to help students meet provincial expectations in mathematics through sharing literature, playing games, or completing open-ended problems. Included with each activity are some questions that you may use to help your child gain a clear understanding of the math concepts being explored. Some of the activities review concepts that have already been presented in class, some extend your child’s understanding, and some may prepare your child for concepts to be explored in class in the future.

Included in the bag is a reflection book, which will travel with the activity when other students in our class take it to their homes. After you and your child have completed an activity, please take a few minutes to record your discoveries in the reflection book. You may do the recording or your child may want to do it. Writing about the activity will give you a chance to think about the discoveries that you and your child have made together and an opportunity to express some thoughts and feelings about math that can be shared with other families in our class.

Thank you very much for your continued support of your child’s learning. I welcome any ideas or suggestions for the take-home math program.

Sincerely,
[Date]

Dear Family,

Our class is beginning a mathematics program called take-home math. This program includes many meaningful and enjoyable mathematics activities that reflect current research and provincial expectations.

Your child will bring home problem-solving activities for you to explore as a family. Some activities will require things that can be found around the house. Your child can explore these activities with the whole family or with individual members, such as a parent, brother, or sister. When children participate in the activities with family members, their self-confidence increases and their attitude towards mathematics becomes more positive.

[Include a paragraph establishing the time lines for your program. For example: “A math activity for family participation will be sent home with your child every Wednesday. Please have your child return the activity to the class by the following Wednesday. That day, your child will be provided with a new activity to take home.”]

The activities chosen for this project provide opportunities for children and adults to solve problems, to use logical thinking, to develop strategies, and to communicate their mathematical thinking and understanding. The activities are designed to help students meet provincial expectations in mathematics through sharing literature, playing games, or completing open-ended problems. Included with each activity are some questions that you may use to help your child gain a clear understanding of the math concepts being explored. Some of the activities review concepts that have already been presented in class, some extend your child’s understanding, and some may prepare your child for concepts to be explored in class in the future.

Included with each activity is a reflection book, which will travel with the activity when other students in our class take it to their homes. Your child has been asked to record his or her discoveries in this reflection book after an activity has been completed. Writing about the activity will give your child an opportunity to think about the discoveries that you and he or she have made together and an opportunity to express some thoughts and feelings about math that can be shared with other families in our class.

Thank you very much for your continued support of your child’s learning. I welcome any ideas or suggestions for the take-home math program.

Sincerely,