Dear Parents,

In our math class we are learning about the volume of 3-dimensional shapes, specifically right rectangular prisms and right triangular prisms. For homework, I have an opportunity to make one of these shapes out of play dough and measure its volume. I may make my own play dough or use store bought Play Doh for my shape. If I make homemade play dough, here is a recipe I might use. (I may use another recipe instead, if I wish.)

Traditional Play Dough

- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup warm water
- 2 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 1 teaspoon oil
- 1/4 cup salt
- food coloring

Mix all ingredients, adding food coloring last. Stir over medium heat until smooth. Remove from pan and knead until blended smooth. Place in plastic bag or airtight container when cooled.

My Assignment:

1. Create a right rectangular prism or right triangular prism out of play dough. You choose how large or small your shape will be.
2. Draw your shape on the back of this paper. Make your drawing fill about ½ the page.
3. Measure the dimensions of your shape with a ruler in both metric and customary units. (For a rectangular prism you will measure length, width, and height. For a triangular prism you will measure the base and height of the triangular base and the height of the prism.)
4. Write your measurements in their appropriate places on your drawing.
5. Calculate the volume of your shape. Write the volume in both metric and customary units next to your picture.
6. Bring your shape to school to share with the class.