NAME _____ DATE _____ PERIOD _____

Family Letter

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Carpenters, architects, chefs, and scientists use fractions and patterns. We also use fractions and patterns to make decisions. For example, we need to know how to multiply fractions if we want to change the number of servings when preparing a recipe. Making the connection between facts learned in the classroom and real-world situations helps students appreciate the mathematical concepts they learn in school.

In **Chapter 2, Algebra: Rational Numbers**, your child will learn how to compute with fractions and mixed numbers, to solve equations with rational numbers, and to solve problems by using patterns. Your child will also learn how to compute with powers and exponents and use scientific notation. In the study of this chapter, your child will complete a variety of daily classroom assignments and activities and possibly produce a chapter project.

By signing this letter and returning it with your child, you agree to encourage your child by getting involved. Enclosed is an activity you can do with your child that also relates the math we will be learning in Chapter 2 to the real world. You may also wish to log on to the **Online Study Tools** for self-check quizzes, Parent and Student Study Guide pages, and other study help at **www.msmath3.net**. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me at school.

Sincerely,

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____ Date _____

NAME _____ DATE _____ PERIOD _____

Family Activity

Recipe Round-Up

Work with a family member to answer the following questions. Find a recipe on the back of a packaged food item or use a favorite recipe. Be sure the recipe includes measurements that are fractions. Copy the ingredients and the quantity of each ingredient in the space below.

1. How many servings can be made if you do not alter the recipe?

2. Suppose you want to make twice as many servings. How much of each ingredient would you need?

3. Now suppose you want to make half as many servings. How much of each ingredient would you need?

4. How much of each ingredient would you need if you wanted to make only one-fifth the number of servings?

5. Calculate how much of each ingredient you would need if you wanted to make only one serving.

6. Calculate how much of each ingredient you would need if you wanted to make enough servings for every member of your immediate family.