

EXAMPLE LETTER FROM CLASS TEACHER TO PARENTS

Dear Parent,

NO HANDS UP—EXCEPT TO ASK A QUESTION!

I am going to try to make some improvements to the teaching and learning in my classroom.

Research shows that many students say very little in classrooms, while others are desperate to answer the teacher's questions. And importantly, students learn more when the teacher chooses students randomly to answer questions.

I have explained this to the class, and told them that I am going to try to choose them at random, so that all of them must think about the answers—not just a few. It will be difficult for me to change my style of questioning, and I realize that my students may not be keen on the change at the start, but I would like you to give me a month to show that I can get all students in the class more engaged.

The school leaders know that we are always trying to improve as teachers and are encouraging us to try out techniques that are now being used successfully in many schools.

Please contact me if you have a pressing question about this.

Yours sincerely,