



Think Different

Dear _____,

My name is Mrs. Maichin. I will be your Resource Room teacher this year. I am so excited to share the journey of this coming school year with you.

This year brings us all so many opportunities to grow and learn. We are all being challenged to have high expectations for ourselves. As your Resource Room teacher, I will expect you to set goals for yourself and work very hard to reach them. I promise to set high goals for myself as well.

Working towards your goals can be scary and sometimes frustrating. It takes a very long time to become an expert at something that you aren't yet so good at. In fact, scientists have proven that the only way to learn and get smarter is to try something new and work *really, really* hard at it... *even if you make a lot of mistakes.*

YES! I SAID IT!

I WANT YOU TO MAKE A LOT OF MISTAKES!!!

Do not be afraid to try something because you think you won't be good at it. Chances are, **YOU WON'T! AND THAT IS GOOD!** In order to be successful, you will need to make mistakes and learn from them. Easy is boring. Effort is what makes you smart. Even scientists say so.

Enclosed in this envelope is a symbol of your ticket to success. Yes, it is an eraser! Keep this eraser and use it as a reminder to **ACCEPT CHALLENGES, to MAKE MISTAKES, and to LEARN** from those mistakes. Most importantly, I want you to promise yourself that when things get difficult, you will **KEEP TRYING**. When it gets tough, I promise to help you along the way.

I would love to hear from you! If you want to "talk" before school starts, you can email me at jmaichin@mineola.k12.ny.us. Let me know how your summer is going!

I can't wait to begin! See you on September 3rd!

And please remember:

"The worst mistake anyone can ever make is to be too afraid to make one."

