Dear Marne,

I am writing this letter to express my gratitude to you for all that you have done for me during my life. You have been such an amazing role model for me since the first time I met you, and you have helped to shape me into the caring person I am today. You are a great teacher and the most patient person I know, to have put up with me for so many years. I am always fascinated to watch you teach so many young children at once and be able to learn more from you every time.

I am specifically grateful for you giving me the chance to work for you for a few summers while I was in high school. You allowed me to learn a lot about what it means to be an employee and gave me the best opportunity to learn patience and responsibility in an environment that I love. It was amazing to be able to help you teach all of the kids the same things you taught to me years ago. I just wanted to really thank you for the experiences you gave me by giving me the job and trusting me enough to help you with the lessons and taking care of the kids to your standard. I know that I messed up quite a few times that first summer, having not worked anywhere before, but you were always so patient and explained to me what I needed to do to get better. I understand now how much of a responsibility I had as your helper and I really hope that as I learned, I was able to truly help you with the kids and allow you the time to teach them more of your extensive knowledge.

As you know, I am at UNC Charlotte, working towards getting my Bachelors in Nursing. I have used many of your teachings and influences to push myself and make myself better in my schooling and in life. Working for you is also one of the reasons I decided to go into nursing because I was able to learn that I really liked helping people when I was working with the kids. I actually just passed the tests to get my Certification to be a Nurse Aide this past weekend in Asheville. I am now officially a certified nursing aide and able to work as one in a healthcare setting. I will definitely be putting all that I learned from working for you to use at any future jobs I get.

I hope that I am making you proud and I hope that you can see how your influence has made me a better and stronger person. I know that you have impacted the lives of all of the kids you teach, not just mine. I know that you weren’t able to hold camp as normal because of COVID-19 this year and I know that was really hard on you. Hopefully, by next summer, we can get back to semi-normal and you can continue to teach so many young minds more than just pottery.

With Love,

Bonnie