



September 6, 2016

Dear Fourth Graders,

4th grade is fabulous, and so are you! Wake up every morning with the thought that something wonderful is about to happen!

Last weekend, I went to the big city to visit Chicago's Navy Pier. There, I visited the surrounding shops, ate some tasty treats, and went on a water boat ride. Did you know that Chicago was the first city ever to build a Ferris wheel? Chicago still has a Ferris wheel today, located near the center of Navy Pier. Its majestic white wheel stands tall, and offers beautiful views of the city. Every time I visit, I never have the courage to ride the Ferris wheel because I am terribly afraid of heights, or things that are high up off the ground. This time though, I was determined to face my fears and ride the wheel. I'm so glad I did because it was so much fun! Everybody has things that make them feel scared. What are you afraid of? Are you afraid of spiders or snakes? Maybe you are scared of tight spaces, or being alone in the dark. In your letter, tell me about your fears and how you will face those fears as you grow.

Have you ever seen a hot air balloon? I love the way the air catches it, just as it lifts off the ground and soars high into the sky! I like to think of all my 4<sup>th</sup> grade students as hot air balloons, but I need to know, what will make you soar? At the start of the year, it's always a good idea to set a goal for ourselves, or things you want to improve upon. Do you want to get better at math facts or reading fluently? Do you want to get better at writing creative stories? What do you want to improve in? In your letter, set a goal for yourself and tell me why you chose it to be your goal. Why is this goal important to you?

I can't wait to learn more about you this week. Don't forget to include the 5 parts of a letter: the date, greeting, body, closing and signature. Please remember to sign your name in cursive at the end!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cozzi