Dear future Ashley,

 This is a letter from you from just two years ago. I’m writing this on a cloudy autumn evening in my first semester of college. I’m sure it feels like time has flown by since now, or maybe you’ve changed so much that this feels distant. Whatever the case may be, I hope that some of my advice helps you out now. Things are quite overwhelming and scary in this present moment, but by now I hope you’ve gotten everything sorted out. I hope that you’ve become the person that you’ve been wanting to be for so long now, healthy, bright, and focused, or at least have gotten a lot closer to that. I know that you will never be satisfied with where you are but relax and find satisfaction in how far you’ve already come. Not everything has to be perfect. Just do your best. Nothing comes easy, so even if things are tough don’t you dare give up on what you really want. Remember where you came from, and don’t lose yourself. If you are having one of those moments, remember, *思い出のマーニー*. ♥ Hopefully it will make us feel a bit closer. I hope that you’ve learned to properly care for us. Don’t ever settle for less than what you are worth; aim for the stars. I’m almost sure that you need to hear this right about now. Ashley, you are capable of so much more than you give yourself credit for.

 I’m currently the world’s best procrastinator, and even now I have a great deal of things to get done, but for heaven’s sake I hope that you have already kicked aside this bad habit. If not, please do, because it holds you back from everything that you want out of life. Continue to keep your head forward, and deep into what is important to you. Speaking of which, by now I’m sure you’ve done plenty of things that have made you extremely uncomfortable, so congratulations! I’m truly proud of you. Continue to do what makes you feel squeamish and enjoy the puzzles. I hope you’ve grown a lot more. And don’t forget to dream on.

With love,

~Your Past Self