

Hey [Friend's Name],

I hope you had the most amazing birthday! I'm really sorry I couldn't make it to your party this year. I was so looking forward to celebrating with you and everyone else, but unfortunately, [brief reason, e.g., I got tied up with a last-minute family commitment / I wasn't feeling well / work ran late].

I truly missed being there and joining in on all the fun. I've seen all the pictures and it looks like you had a blast! You totally deserved it. You mean a lot to me, and I feel bad not being able to celebrate with you in person.

Let's definitely catch up soon-maybe a coffee or lunch on me? I still want to celebrate your special day, even if I was a bit late to the party!

Wishing you a fantastic year ahead, full of happiness and everything you wish for. You're the best, and I can't wait to see you soon!

Take care,
[Your Name]