

Dear Family,

We all want our children to make friends and be able to get on well with people. It's an important skill to learn. Today in class we talked about what makes someone a good friend.

The friends that your child makes can have a big influence over what they decide to do. As they grow older, if their friends participate in unhealthy behaviour, chances are they will too. It is important that young people know how to make friends with people who will be good for them, and understand what some of the warning signs are for friends who might not be so good for them.

Families can help children develop their social skills. Some children need more encouragement and support than others to build up their confidence. It can be worth trying to find activities which your child enjoys and which involve other young people of the same age. Some ideas include after-school activities and sports. Sometimes there might be fun things to do with other young people in the local youth clubs, leisure centres or library. The more friends your child can make, the more chances they will have to find other children who they can develop positive relationships with.

If you would like to make any comments or get any other information please drop me a line via the school office and I'll call you back.

Best wishes,