

Dear Families/Caregivers,

Friendships are a basic human need that contribute to a student's moral, mental, and social development. Friends enrich our lives and help us learn more about ourselves.

We all need friends! We have been learning strategies for communicating with friends. The strategies to keep communication COOL and develop friendships include:

- **C**onsider the timing
- **O**pen with a greeting
- **O**ffer a question
- **L**isten

Here are a couple of activities to help your child practice communicating to build strong friendships:

- Make sure that your child has lots of opportunities to develop friendships. Consider encouraging your child to participate in clubs or teams to help build friendships.
- Talk to your child about his or her friendships. Ask him or her what he or she looks for in a friend. Ask him or her how he or she embodies the qualities that make a good friend.
- When you or your child is upset, model using the strategies to keep communication COOL to ask quality questions and listen intently to one another.

Sincerely,

Your Child's Teacher