

Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Weekly Sunday Buddhism Class 7:30-8:30 a.m.

February 17, 2019

Rev. Satoshi "Ka'imipono" Tomioka

Friends are wonderful

Good friends will help in your time of need. Likewise, you need to help friends when they need you

"when need arises, it is nice to have friends. Whatever happens, it is nice to be contented. (Dhammpapada 331)

You might encounter hardships or problems when you're at school or out playing. It's nice to know that friends will help you when you're feeling down. For example, friends will make sure you are included in games, and lend you school supplies when you forgot them at home. A true friend will be kind and help you when you are in need. A true friend will also be the first to warn you when you say something inappropriate or misbehave. Remember to help your friends whenever they need your help.

Once children are socialized in a group-oriented school environment, they soon develop close relationships with certain friends. These friendships exceed the level of mere classmate or playmate, and signify a deeper bond. It's wonderful to have friends who are willing to assist you in times of need. In Buddhism, we treasure good friends who serve as companions in pursuit of the Buddha's truth. Teach children that good friends help each other and check each other's behavior in the interest of mutual betterment.

-Buddha is our teacher, page 38-39