

**NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL WHITEFIELD  
PRINCIPAL'S DESK- FEBRUARY 2024**

Dear Patrons & Students

In the words of the great industrialist, Charles Kettering, "We should all be concerned about the future because we will have to spend the rest of our lives there"

But, looking at you, I know that the future is safe.

As we approach the homestretch of the Academic Session 2023, I would like to speak to you about the future and your role in it.

In a recent Peanuts cartoon, Charlie Brown approached his psychiatrist, Lucy, for some advice about life.

**Lucy:** Life, Charlie Brown, is like a deck chair.

**Charlie:** Like a what?

**Lucy:** Have you ever been on a cruise ship? Passengers open up these canvas deck chairs so they can sit in the sun. Some people place their chairs facing the rear of the ship so they can see where they've been. Other people face their chairs forward. They want to see where they are going. On the cruise ship of life, Charlie Brown, which way is your deck chair facing?

**Charlie:** I've never been able to get one unfolded!

When Kirk Douglas, the movie actor, was awarded an Emmy for a dramatic role he had played on television, he responded with these words: "I keep asking myself, 'What I have done lately? Is there anything left to do?'"

Well, I have this to tell children of all ages—pre-school, in school, in college, and out. That nothing is done, finally and right. That nothing is known, positively and completely. That the world is yours, all of it. It is full of all sorts of things for you to find out and do or do over and do right.

That there is not now and never has been a perfectly run railroad, newspaper, bank, theatre, factory, grocery store; that no business is or ever has been built, managed, financed, as it should be, must be and will be, someday - possibly in their day.

That what is true of business and politics is gloriously true of the professions, the arts and crafts, the sciences, the sports. That the best picture has not yet been painted; the greatest poem is still unsung; the mightiest novel remains to be written; the divinest music has not been conceived even by Bach.

"You've got to wonder. You've got to question. You've got to explore. And every once in a while, you've got to colour outside of the lines," "That's what school is for: discovering new passions, acquiring the skills, making use of this incredible time that you have to prepare yourself and give yourself the skills that you're going to need to pursue the kind of careers that you want."

“Learn so you expand your horizon.” A sentence I heard many times. And also, one which made me wonder, how can I do that? And what can I gain from that? “I don’t want to be another adult who stands up and lectures you like you’re just kids, because you’re not just kids,”. “You’re this country’s future. You’re young leaders, and whether we fall behind or race ahead as a nation is going to depend, in large part, on you.”

We are living in the most exciting, explosive, dynamic, dramatic dispensation in the history of the world! What a time to be preparing for life! Good luck for all of the years ahead of you and pray you will be ready for these rich adventures.

Please remember, however, that the future is beyond our grasp unless we take advantage of today, opening new doors to growth and accomplishment.

Best wishes!