



ADDRESS OF THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROPRIETORS OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS NIGERIA (NAPPS NIGERIA)

CHIEF 'YOMI OTUBELA FCMA

IN COMMEMORATION OF 2024 CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION

It is with immense pleasure that I, on behalf of the executives and esteemed members of NAPPS Nigeria, congratulate the Nigerian children on the occasion of the 2024 Children's Day celebration. It is a day dedicated to celebrating the brightest lights of our nation, our children.

This year's theme, "**Global Citizenship: Inspiring Students to Think Globally and Act Locally by Creating Art that Reflects Their Understanding of Global Issues,**" resonates profoundly with the mission of NAPPS and the future we envision for our young minds.

Today, we are not just celebrating our children; we are acknowledging their potential to shape a better world, one that values empathy, sustainability, and creative expression.

In an increasingly interconnected world, the concept of global citizenship is more relevant than ever. It is our collective responsibility as educators, parents, and leaders to cultivate a sense of global awareness and responsibility in our children. We must inspire them to see beyond their immediate surroundings and understand the broader context of their actions and decisions.

Global citizenship is not just a lofty ideal; it is a practical necessity in our modern world. As global citizens, our students learn to appreciate the diversity of cultures, understand global issues such as climate change, inequality, and human rights, and take proactive steps to contribute positively to society.

By thinking globally and acting locally, they become agents of change, capable of addressing both local and global challenges with creativity and compassion.

Art is a powerful medium through which students can express their understanding of global issues. It transcends language barriers and connects people on an emotional level. By encouraging our students to create art that reflects their perspectives on global challenges, we provide them with a platform to voice their ideas, concerns, and solutions.

Through their paintings, drawings, sculptures, and digital creations, our students can convey messages that inspire change and foster a deeper understanding of the world. Art allows them to process complex issues creatively and share their vision for a better future. In doing so, they not only develop their artistic skills but also enhance their critical thinking, empathy, and cultural awareness.

As educators, we have a crucial role to play in nurturing global citizens. Our schools must be environments where students are encouraged to explore and discuss global issues, engage in collaborative projects, and express themselves through various forms of art. We must integrate global citizenship education into our curricula, ensuring that it is not just an add-on but a core component of our teaching.

NAPPS Nigeria is committed to supporting our schools in this endeavour. We will provide resources, training, and opportunities for our teachers to effectively integrate global citizenship and art into their classrooms. By doing so, we empower our students to become informed, responsible, and creative global citizens.



Today, as we celebrate Children's Day, I call upon all stakeholders, educators, parents, policymakers, and the wider community to join hands in this important mission. We need to ensure that we work together to provide our children with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities they need to thrive in a globalized world. We must inspire them to think globally and act locally, using their creativity to make a difference.

To our dear students, you are the future of our nation and the world. Your ideas, your creativity, and your actions matter. I encourage you to embrace your role as global citizens. You must also learn to use your art to tell stories, raise awareness, and inspire change.

I want you to remember that every small action you take can have a big impact.

We will like to take this moment to extend our heartfelt appreciation to AFRIKINDNESS UK for their steadfast collaboration with NAPPS Nigeria. Their support and partnership have been instrumental in advancing educational initiatives, enriching the lives of countless children, and fostering a brighter future for our nation.

In conclusion, I call on stakeholders to continue to celebrate the potential within each child and reaffirm their commitment to nurturing that potential as we look forward to a future where our children lead the way in creating a more just, peaceful, and sustainable world.

Happy Children's Day to all our wonderful children!

May God continue to bless you all.

Thank you.

Chief Yomi Otubela, FCMA

National President, National Association of Proprietors of Private Schools, Nigeria. (NAPPS Nigeria)