



learning for life

embracing core values

your details

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favourite quotations

"From the ashes of disaster, bloom the roses of success". Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

Recently I went to see "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang". This line struck me as very encouraging as when someone makes a mistake, they normally want to just stop doing whatever they made the mistake in whereas this quote tells us to keep on fighting and that in the end you will succeed.

favourite stories

My favourite story is the story of Robin Hood as I think it teaches us many good values. Robin was a lord who had everything anyone could want at a time when people didn't have much. However, he laid this all down just for four of his peasants. As a result, Robin had to live in the forest, never knowing where his next meal was coming from. Even then, Robin isn't unhappy with his lot, he decides to rob the rich to give to the poor. There have been many films made of this and there is a new series released by the BBC. I think this story teaches you to always stick up for what you think is right and to help those less fortunate than yourself.

01 personal development

- positive outlook
- gratitude
- love
- enthusiasm
- happiness/joy
- perseverance
- generosity
- honesty/integrity
- humility/modesty
- wisdom

your choice:

Honesty/integrity is important as people need love, respect and trust. If people lie and are uncovered, they lose people's respect, love and trust.

02 successful living

- creative thinking
- learning
- focus
- work
- ideals
- purpose
- courage
- friendship
- confidence
- self-discipline

your choice:

Learning is important as we all need to learn from our mistakes in order to get anywhere in life. When you make a mistake, you learn from it and won't make that mistake again.

03 turning things around

- problem → solutions
- potential → actual
- loss → gain
- pessimism → optimism
- worry → moving on
- mistakes → learning
- anger → calm
- put it off → do it now
- fear → fearlessness
- stress → stillness

your choice:

All problems need solutions. It's as simple as that. Would Einstein have found the theory of relativity if he only looked at the problems involved? To improve the world, people need to turn problems into solutions.

04 personal relationships

- co-operation
- responsibility
- empathy
- trust
- kindness
- forgiveness
- respect
- volunteering/service
- listening
- openness

your choice:

I always hold doors open for people. This helps people respect you. Friendship is the next step on from respect. Without respect, you have no friends. That would be very lonely.

inspirational figures

William Wilberforce, 1759-1833

When he was 17, Wilberforce went to Cambridge, where he met William Pitt and decided to become a politician. In 1784 he converted to Evangelical Christianity, which played a part in his decision to oppose the slave trade. In 1789 he made his first speech against the slave trade. A month after he died in 1833, all slaves in the British Empire were freed. I think Wilberforce was an incredible person to stand up to a trade on which many people relied for a living. He was ill during his campaign yet he still kept fighting. I think this is truly amazing. I would one day like to try and make a difference, just like Wilberforce.

personal reflection

Purpose

I have noticed lately that everyone needs a purpose. Einstein devoted his life to science, William Wilberforce to the abolition of slavery. We are encouraged to stand out, to make a difference. But is this possible? I have observed that everyone who makes a difference loses something. Wilberforce lost his health, Martin Luther King lost his life. And what about those who tried, but didn't succeed? Just forgotten names in the history book. But still, everyone needs a purpose. Because, you see, all of us have dreams and ambitions. Without this, life is just an empty book. We need to fill our lives with good memories and experiences. At our first speech day, we were told to 'follow our dreams'. This shows me that even if you aren't famous or well-known, you can still get the most out of life. After all, those people who made a difference - they simply followed their dreams. That, I think, is one of my aims in life.

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