

## St. THOMAS SCHOOL

### INDIRAPURAM

#### SWACHHATA AWARENESS MESSAGE

What separates two people most profoundly is a difference in sense and degree of cleanliness.

— Friedrich Nietzsche

Cleanliness is the symbol of dignity, health and safety. Proper hygiene and sanitation are also the indicators of social and economic development. Mahatma Gandhi took cleanliness to the level of spirituality. He had a firm belief in the proverb: **'Cleanliness is next to godliness'**. He wrote, "We can no more gain God's blessing with an unclean body than with an unclean mind. A clean body cannot reside in an unclean city."

Gandhi wrote that Indians probably lead the world in terms of personal hygiene. But he was shocked at our behavioral aberration regarding cleanliness. We keep our home scrupulously clean, but when it comes to cleaning public places or our surroundings, the position is just the reverse. We do not hesitate to litter a road or public place. Even 72 years after Independence, the sanitation scenario is depressing. Littering, open defecation and pollution and contamination of drinking water are common and rampant. The Mahatma's dream of a clean India remains unfulfilled.

We at St. Thomas School ensure that we instill the importance of cleanliness in our learner's constructive mind and pledge to bring Swachhata not just at our home, school and surroundings but also in our thoughts.