

# GODMOTHER'S GIFT

## A GIFT THAT WILL LEAVE A PATH FOR THE FUTURE AND BEYOND



On all of these tags, there happens to be names of every student that participated in the COP 28 Project with the then Classe de 2nde which is the Tle Class of 2025.

### A wonderful gift

Today, Tuesday, 18th November of 2025, our godmother, Florence Millet gave us a beautiful gift, she had planted in Mt.Elgon (Uganda) and in the region of Champagne (France) trees with all of our names engraved on the trees.



And along with the tags, she sent to us many seeds to plant in the High School’s garden. There are many types of seeds: from fruits to vegetables and even flowers. For example, among the seeds, there was: « basilica », cocoa, passion fruit and even tomatoes. All these seeds are useful in many ways because some are medicinal, aromatic, spicy etc... She also gave us an encyclopedia about flowers to help us to understand more of botany, « the science of flowers and plants » and gardening. In the end, apparently she sent to us more than 15 packs of seeds plus the encyclopedia.

The plan was to plant to kinds of plants two different parts of the High School: first the vegetables, flowers and in the garden for them to grow separately and in better circumstances, we wanted them to grow in the best conditions, with enough sunscreen and not too much and also sheltered from the rain, the storm or the brutal wind. And second, the big trees in the backyard of the school, in front of the classrooms. The idea was to plant trees that will grow for a long time and will stay forever in the backyard of the High School in the hope that the futures generations of students will profit from the fruits that they will produce (like the cocoa). It can be considered as a sort of time capsule (“capsule temporelle” in French...). Of course when the trees and plants will grow we will not be in Henri Sylvoz anymore, but having the idea that we leaved an indelible mark for the future already fills us with pride.



# PLANTING THE SEEDS

With the help of Maman Odette, a casual worker within the local community, we began to plant the seeds.

We had a large variety of seeds that had all qualities and therapeutic virtues or were useful for cooking/eating or were very beautiful for a garden or a balcony.

The choice was hard.

And we had also many tools for gardening: rakes, shovels, pitchforks etc...

When you are planting, you must not be afraid of the dirt, the humidity, heartworms, ants and other many circumstances and disadvantages of manual labor...

The first step is to dig up a small amount of soil with the shovel and put it in one of the pots. Next, flatten the soil and use a little tool or fingers to dig a small hole where we put the seed. After that, we put a small amount of seeds in the hole and we dig again a small amount of soil to refill the hole.

And flatten again the soil...and voila, the seeds are planted.

In total, we filled up almost 50 pots.

That will make a lot of flowers, but we still need patience to see the plants grow.

The process took us an hour long.

In fact, everyone was supposed to plant in one pot, but some were so invested that they planted more than one, it really shows the enthusiasm of students for gardening and their investment in the life of the High School and the citizenship.



## Did you know that?

Did you know that, **vervein**, **basil** and **chrysanthemum** are extremely appreciated plants in medicine and botanical world because of the multi-therapeutics functions of utilization of each of these plants?

Basil (*Ocimum Basilicum*) is a plant used since Antiquity in gastronomy for its good smell, taste and appearance. But basil also have many therapeutic virtues.

Doctors and experts affirms that basil have digestive, relaxing and anti-inflammatory properties.

It helps relieves bloating and intestinal spasms, soothes stress and muscles tension, and strengthens the immune system thanks to its antibacterial and antifungal actions. It is also rich in antioxidants, vitamin K and trace element.

On the other has many relaxing virtues: calming effects (stress, anxiety, insomnia...), digestive benefits (bloating and cramps), and anti-inflammatory properties (skin conditions and pain). It also have soothing properties for the respiratory track (cough, sore throat), and contributes to nervous relaxation and may have beneficial effects on the skin. Vervein is excellent do drink with hot water in a tea.

Chrysanthemum also delicious in an herbal tea. And is a good medicine due to its anti-inflammatory and antiviral properties.



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# A big thank you to our dear godmother.

Since the simulation of the COP 28 in Australia that happened in 2023 with Mrs. Charlet and Mrs. Natif-Coze, our godmother showed us the importance of preserving our planet and the virtues and qualities of nature. Ecology and climate is a matter that include all of us because everyone can make a simple think to preserve the nature: picking up the trash, gardening like we did, clean the school or many other things.

With this gift, she showed us that any simple move is a good move when it is for a good cause and that a single little seed can grow and become something big and prosperous in the future.



Another example is the tree that was planted 6 years ago in 2019 in EPC (the primary school). That was the promotion of CM2s of 2019 that planted this tree and it is the same promotion that planted again the last Tuesday, it can be kind of symbolic, like the end of a circle.

This tree became very tall and strong, it is clearly not the same branch that we left 6 years ago.

And today, children play around this tree that also produces flower, it warms our heart to see the kids that are today at the place we were when we had their age.

We hope that the plants we received and planted will become a source of joy for the future students and will inspire them.



We can also salute and thank the intervention of the Environment Club, directed by Mr Juigner and the kind support of all his colleagues under the same umbrella.

They were very helpful for the transplanting the Cocoa tree seedings & other crops growing in the garden as well as the continued watering process and tending the garden.

Also most importantly, we salute the involvement of the administrative staff

With the support of the leadership of the school Principal, Mr. Stephan Madrias.





The evolution of the garden mural phases...







The Class of GT2 posing for a signature photo with the school Principal



The Environment club at work

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Transplanting of the plants