



NEWSLETTER #17 - SCHOOLYEAR 2022/23

## January the 6th, 2023 – LIFT's inauguration by Mrs Anne Genetet

Honourable Member of Parliament,  
Director of the French Bureau of Taipei,  
General supervisor of Taipei schools' inspectors' office,  
Director of the Taipei Experimental Education Center for Innovation and Development,  
President of the board of directors,

Dear Amy,  
Principal,  
Dear Emily,  
Dear colleagues,

Welcome to your school!

Honourable Member of Parliament, you came to Taipei in November 2019. You met the French community, among whom some of the pupils' parents were here today. These parents told you about a major preoccupations in their lives in Taipei, their children's education.

The school the french community wanted, and that didn't exist back then, was a non profit school, the costs of which reflected the investment for the education of their children, which is happening in the classrooms. It was a transparent and caring school, where the entire educationnal community - parents and educators - are in the center of its daily and strategic management. Lastly, the dream school by these pupils' parents in 2019 was a school with an ambitious pedagogical curriculum, which rigorously teaches the French curriculum, but in three languages: french, mandarin and english.

Three years later, this school exists, it's the LIFT. Your visit has a special meaning to us, because we can tell how much has been accomplished.

The specifications have been followed. Our school today represents a french schooling option in Taipei, the costs of which for the families is twice less than the other international options, and which will welcome the families with scholarships next year. The LIFT, today, is 45 pupils and 37 families, of which the cultural and linguistic identities, the life trajectories, cross over within the school and flourish into a community of minds, and also a community of hearts. It is all the classes of the elementary school, with the AEFÉ approval - from which we receive a delegation next week - and the opening of the middle school's first year next year.

What we didn't know three years ago, honourable member, and that we could not have told you, is that the school we created and that has today its very spot in the taiwanese educationnal landscape, would interest far beyond the french community.

Because it is the DNA of the republican french school, and that is also one of our greatest pride, we can welcome all nationalities. And if more than half of our pupils are French, we also welcome taiwanese families and more than 10 other nationalities, that all find in the LIFT the educationnal melting pot, the democracy, solidarity and benevolence values, in which they want to see their children grow.



The story of the LIFT is about a school born from the will and the work of the French community of Taipei. The french community, the parents' one but also the one from the business world, that saw in our project a great leverage to attractiveness and internationalization of the city of Taipei. It is also the story of incredibly dedicated educators, that everyday gives reality to a school that cares about each child in its uniqueness and its potentialities. It is also the story of numerous institutionnal taiwanese partners, who support us, guide us, and trust us. It is lastly a new governance, concerted, balanced, and that benefits from Amy Chen as the best possible ambassador. Let them be all thanked for that.

I've had the occasion to participate to other schools' opening, and from these experiences, I keep only one certainty: if no one is irreplaceable, everyone is essential. Obviously, the LIFT could never have existed without the dedication of the pupils' parents and the trust they gave us. The LIFT could not have existed without our sponsors and contributors. The LIFT certainly could not have existed without the unwavering support of the French Bureau of Taipei. But one thing matters more than anything: the LIFT doesn't belong to us; the LIFT belongs to Charlotte in CP, Chloé in CE1, Damien in CM1, it belongs to each of the 47 pupils. These children will tomorrow be a generation of trilingual citizens, enriched from the french school and an international enstivty, to answer to tomorrow's challenges, but also to, simply, build themselves a happy life. It is for that goal and to that goal that we work everyday with passion.

Lastly, I would like to give all my consideration to the principal Emily Man. Dear Emily, we benefit from your hospitality. We like your school, we feel good here. I know it, and I trust it, we will all know how to manage our academical cooperation so that each of our schools enriches from each other in reciprocity and harmony.

I naturally extend these warm acknowledgements to Mrs Chuang and your teams of the Fude school, for your professionalism and your friendship.

These values of sharing, concern for others and dialogue, we now offer you to directly live them, with what France has best to offer (after the republican school!): its cuisine, obviously.

We invite you to share the traditionnal king's cake with all the LIFT's educationnal community.

Ladies and gentlemen, I give you the warm and sincere acknowledgements of the whole LIFT team for your past, present and future support. Thank you very much.

Thomas Chaumont  
Head of school

