

Vientiane, June 3 2020

Dear parents,

First of all, we wish to express our hope that you, your families and loved ones are well. As I write these lines, all our children have come back to school after more than two months of distance learning.

I would like to sincerely thank the School Management, the teachers and all the other actors who helped us during distance learning. We can be satisfied for a job well done despite initial hardships. I would like to highlight the hard work and availability of Ms Le Roy, our Principal, throughout this period and most especially over these last several weeks during which she worked non-stop to make the school reopening a reality.

The lockdown and distance learning changed the way our School is run. Despite the closing, we have had to deal with unchanging costs, above all the salaries of our teachers and personnel. We were, however, also able to save some money on operating costs.

We cannot turn a blind eye to the fact that this period had an influence on our personal and financial situations.

In the spirit of equity, the Management Committee (COGES) wishes to extend a 'reasonable and measured' helping hand which will not place the School's finances in jeopardy. This School is ours. We, the parents, teachers and personnel must work on maintaining its financial stability.

For this reason, the Management Committee has taken several decisions in line with A.E.F.E recommendations to its entire network of schools:

School fees will be discounted for all families for the period from April till June. The percentage of this discount corresponds to the different levels of student autonomy during distance learning and parental time required to help their children.

- For **Maternelle (Kindergarten):** **30%**
- For the **Primary School:** **20%**
- For **Collège (Junior High):** **15%**
- For **2nd and 1st Forms:** **10%**

In concrete terms, this savings for the parents represents a total loss of \$130,000 in school fees.

This amount will be taken off the school fees for the 2020/2021 school year, given the proviso that these are not paid by an employer.

This amount is above and beyond the partial reimbursements previously announced of school bus, extra-curricular activities and examination fees (especially for **final year students**).

We are all part of a community of families who believe together in this educational project. The diversity of families in our School is one of our great resources and must remain so. This community, which you have chosen, is united and thus teaches our children the importance of the values of solidarity, team work and mutual assistance.

The lockdown was not easy for anyone, but we know we can count on your patience and understanding.

Rest assured that the Management Committee and School Management are standing by to help you and thus concretize the values of solidarity which are so dear to the French school system.

With all our thanks,

The Management Committee President,

Mathieu CHATENET