



CHRISTMAS 2022

Dear godmothers, godfathers and friends of Le Sourire,

"How can you take care of so many children? Among many other questions, this one is regularly asked to me during my stays in Switzerland.

Our "School of Life" pedagogy combines schooling and extracurricular activities in a community life with its indispensable basic rules.

The children who are entrusted to us attend government schools in the surrounding villages, vocational schools, the university in Chiang Rai or another institution depending on the subject chosen. From Monday to Friday, the children are therefore away from the home during the day. They return between 4pm and 5pm to do their homework, wash their clothes and take a shower before dinner.

The daily evening meeting with all the young people is always very positive. All the difficulties are put on the table allowing criticism and disagreements, but also compliments and congratulations. Through these kind and benevolent exchanges, the children manage to get out of themselves, free themselves and learn to know each other better.

The Saturday activity day is an exception. Several teams are formed, thus uniting children from very different backgrounds in the same group. A leader leads the children and sets a good example. The teams are regularly changed according to the diversity of the occupations and the seasons.

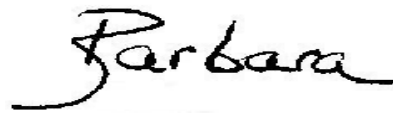
In Thailand we have three seasons - rainy season from May to October, cold season from November to January and hot season from February to April. Each season has its own activities. **Rainy season:** work in the rice fields, planting cassava and maize, mowing the lawn, maintaining the greenhouse, weeding, herding cows and buffaloes, setting up and maintaining fencing systems, etc. **Cold season:** heavy hay work - collecting fodder and putting it in piles, transporting it by truck and storing it in the two large sheds. Several farmers regularly allow us to "glean" from their fields. **Hot season:** the essential watering, the creation of fire areas, which consists of clearing a certain area around the fire pit to make people, animals and buildings safe during fires.

It is also the period of the end of the school year followed by the summer holidays with the departure of some and the arrival of others among the children. This means thorough cleaning of the buildings, washing of blankets/raps, preparation of uniforms for the start of the new school year. The repair of garden tools and brush cutters is the business of those who are trained in mechanics.

The integration of young people from all backgrounds into life allows them to discover their skills and abilities, to develop self-confidence and a sense of responsibility, and the rules of collective life become natural. The culmination of this experience is selflessness, the goal of our initiation, not possible without LOVE.

With Prapapone, we are fully aware that you embody, each in your own way, a part of the foundation called LE SOURIRE. Let us express our deepest gratitude to you again and again.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'B'.A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Prapapone". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'P'.