

Graduations & New Beginnings

Monthly Newsletter July 2025



The school year has come to a close and graduation ceremonies are underway across the island. The Professional Center of St. Francis (CPSFA) celebrated its graduating students earlier this month. Family and friends attended the graduation, and afterwards, culinary students prepared a feast! Sewing students wore clothes that they made, while flower arranging students brought bouquets. Many of these students will start their own businesses. Others have the skills they need to find better jobs.

Graduate of the Sewing program

Dinner with students, faculty, and families



Processional during the graduation ceremony



As the CPSFA looks toward expanding with new facilities and programs, the success of this graduating class models potential for future students. The CPSFA plans to expand the school and add two new buildings. They plan to put the new cosmetology program in one of these buildings. There is so much the school offers: culinary arts, restaurant, bar and banquet service, flower arranging, fashion, sewing, and cosmetology. With so many moving parts, more space is needed to provide these opportunities for the community!



Future entrepreneurs of Haiti!



9th graders from St. Francis and St. Marthe and St. Marie enjoyed a test prep retreat together in Palma.



9th graders practice for final exams in the almost-completed library and computer lab

In Ti Cotelette, Les Saints Innocents School is providing vital education for PreK - 6th grade. These kids are learning the fundamentals, making friends, and eagerly participating in class. However, the school buildings here are aging, and there have long been dreams of improving the learning environment for students. The partnership recently received designs and estimates for a new school building. It is our goal that all kids on La Gonâve have access to high quality education, and are given the tools they need to learn.

While the school year is over, 9th grade and 13th grade students are awaiting their end-of-year exam results. Once the 9th graders pass, they will have completed the Fundamental level of education and will either be done with school, or advance to a trade school or high school.

The students graduating in Palma are the first 9th grade class at St. Marthe and St. Marie. They started as the inaugural class of 7th graders at the middle school in 2022. Three years at St. Marthe and St. Marie Middle School are in the books, with many generations to follow!



Classrooms in Ti Cotelette

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