CO_2 compensation by use of algae

Theme: Engineering and technology
Team:Team 2
School,Country: Maurick College, The Netherlands
Students: Pien Mannaerts, Jorik Franken, Julia van Ravenswaaij, Robert Weber

Globally, the enhanced greenhouse effect is a large problem. The next generation is concerned about the future of our planet. If humanity does not slow down the emission of greenhouse gasses, the temperature on earth will keep rising at alarming rates.
Planes produce a large amount of CO_2. Students from Maurick College (Vught, the Netherlands) travel a lot by plane. The increase in CO_2 in the atmosphere has major consequences for the Netherlands: a rising sea level, the extinction of several species and even food and water shortages. Therefore it is important to limit the contribution to global warming of our school. Global warming should be prevented by removing CO_2 from the atmosphere. Plants seem to be a good solution because of their ability to take CO_2 from the air and convert it into oxygen and sugars. Algae are single-celled plants that are easy to grow and use and therefore ideal.
In our research, the amount of CO_2 uptake of algae will be investigated; how quickly is CO_2 absorbed by algae and what is the role of the temperature? With the generated data, the amount of algae needed to compensate our flight to Florida will be calculated.