

# House System

The House System initiated last scholastic year with the Year 7 classes, will this year be extended to the Year 8 classes. This system aims at giving students an identity and a sense of pride in a supportive and secure environment. The Houses provide for positive competition and a closer rapport between students and teachers.

Throughout the year Houses will participate and sometimes compete in a number of sporting, academic and cultural activities for points. All competitions and events give the students the opportunity to win house points. Hopefully students will quickly form allegiance to their houses and a sense of fun and friendly competition pervade all house events. Each term the winning House receives the House shield.

At the beginning of the scholastic year students are grouped in houses of around 20 students each. Each house has a teacher mentor and a student captain. The students choose their name and design their logo and choose their colour. They also adapt a phrase as their motto. Each student wears the house t-shirt bearing the house logo and motto, together with the student's name, throughout the year in the various activities organised.

Mentors rather than Form Teachers help to take care of the houses. Their work will partly be to promote and plan house events and activities. Each mentor will get to know closely his/her students and they help to motivate student to reach their potential, act as responsible participants and take leadership roles.

The House system provides our school with a caring environment where everyone belongs. It challenges student to unite and collaborate in teams. The key elements that are focused on are leadership, community, care and respect. Opportunities are created where students can be leaders and appreciate one another for their similarities and differences. The house is a safe zone where students and staff can connect and look out for one another. As a school we all want our student to be successful and this will be easier if they are comfortable and fit in.

With the help of mentors and staff, students will create a house that:

- They are proud to be a part of and represent.
- Discover that winning is not the ultimate goal but working together to compete and do their best is.
- Learn to not only work for themselves but to work for each other by creating support, compassion and encourage initiative.
- Students will realize and learn not to think only for themselves and this will help students not to be self-centred.