

## Frequently Asked Questions:

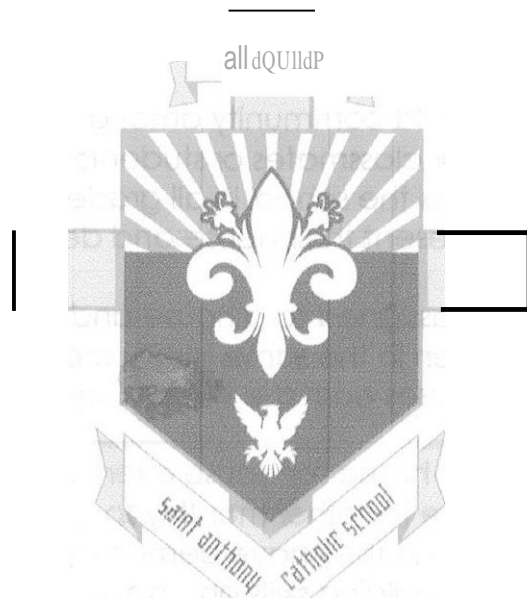
- **What is the House system?** The House system is a way for us to build community among our students. Using the House system, not only do students get to know their classmates or students in their grade level, but they build significant relationships with children across the school in all grades. Each House will select their own colors, motto, mascot and banner to represent their House and depict their saint.
- **How do the Houses work?** We have twelve Houses. Each child is assigned to a house and will remain with that house during their academic career at St. Anthony. Children in the same family are in the same house. Students earn points that are accumulated to help Houses earn the House Cup awarded at the end of the year at the Awards Ceremony.
- **When do they meet?** Children meet with everyone else from their house for House events such as House Challenges, Meetings, Olympic Day and more. Students come together monthly to get to know one another, collect and distribute point sheets. Members discuss ways they have demonstrated characteristics of the House. Students will work on character and team building skills and have time to meet with Deans & Senior Members to share personal experiences.
- **Are teachers assigned to a House?** Every member of the staff is assigned to a house. The staff, just like the students, will be in the same house for their stay at St. Anthony. Staff members serve as the House Deans. It is the Dean's job to build a relationship with each child in the House. The small number in each house permits them to devote more time to each child. The House Deans take a holistic approach to working with the students in their Houses by supporting the academic and behavioral development of each student.
- **Who are the Senior Members?** Our 6th grade students provide leadership for the Houses. As role models these students get House members involved in activities and reinforce positive behavior. All other students serve as Junior Members.
- **How do students earn points?** Students can be "caught being good" by showing good character including showing good citizenship, respect, manners, helping others, proper uniforms, taking care of school property and much more. If good behavior is witnessed, then students are given point sheets that are collected by their House.
- **How many points are given?** Students can be awarded points from 1-5 depending on the character that was demonstrated. Special competitions or events may be available throughout the year to allow Houses to earn points i.e. Box Tops. Each month, if the house as whole receives no office or Choices referrals, the House will receive 10 points.
- **Can students lose points?** Points may also be taken away when a child is referred to the office or receives Choices detention. The number of points depends on the action and previous office referrals.



## Saint Anthony House System

One of the major goals at St. Anthony is to create a sense of community on our campus and among our students, faculty, and parents. Similar to house systems at Harvard and Yale, the House system is an effective way to build stronger community spirit within a school. Through Houses, children not only develop closer friendships with students on their grade level, but they also develop significant relationships with children in all grades. Houses provide students the opportunity to develop stronger connections with members of the faculty who belong to the same House. The House faculty follows the progress of the students in their House through the grade levels. This leads to closer mentoring, less anonymity, and a stronger network of support for every child.

We have twelve Houses named after Catholic saints that students can learn from and emulate. Children in the same family will be in the same House. Houses are divided between the classroom groups at each grade. Children meet with their House on a regular basis. At the beginning of the year these meetings are to learn the names of others in the House and get to know one another. House meetings and challenges throughout the year utilize the tenets set forth in the "Six Pillars of Character Education."



Our house system utilizes the *Character Counts* program to teach six core ethical values that are vital to become healthy, successful members of society:

### Trustworthiness

- Be honest.
- Don't deceive, cheat or steal.
- Be reliable -do what you say you'll do.
- Have the courage to do the right thing.
- Build a good reputation.
- Be loyal-stand by your family, friends & country.

### Respect

- Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule.
- Be tolerant of differences.
- Use good manners, not bad language.
- Be considerate of the feelings of others.
- Don't threaten, hit, or hurt anyone.
- Deal peacefully with anger & disagreements.

### Responsibility

- Do what you are supposed to do.
- Persevere: keep on trying!
- Always do your best.
- Use self-control.
- Be self-disciplined.
- Think before you act -consider the consequences.
- Be accountable for your choices.

### Fairness

- Play by the rules.
- Take turns and share.
- Be open-minded; listen to others.
- Don't take advantage of others.
- Don't blame others carelessly.

### Caring

- Be kind.
- Be compassionate and show you care.
- Express gratitude.
- Forgive others.
- Help people in need.

### Citizenship

- Do your share to make your school & community better.
- Cooperate.
- Get involved in community affairs.
- Stay informed; vote.
- Be a good neighbor.
- Obey laws and rules.
- Respect authority.
- Protect the environment.

Along with character development activities, students at St. Anthony can earn points toward their House for good behavior as they compete for the coveted "House Cup."