

Dear Parents,

We are so excited to announce that we will resume our "House System." in which every student and staff member takes part in creating a strong community of learners. Through this initiative, each student is sorted into a house. Houses will have students of all grade levels in them as well as a variety of staff members. Students and staff will work together throughout the year to build strong bonds and relationships that will allow them to feel more connected to our school. Our goal is for students to feel as if they truly know all the staff and students in our school and that we are united as one. Houses will meet throughout the year to participate in team bonding activities, work on IB character trait development and complete special projects together.

Houses at Buist represent International castles/monuments as we are the Buist Knights and work to do The R.I.T.E. Stuff (PBIS Expectations for Behavior) Each house will have its own name, colors, and symbol.

Students will also be earning points for their houses. Points are a way that we will be reinforcing the positive behavior that our amazing students show. There will even be a friendly house competition between all the houses to see who will be our eventual "House Cup Winner" for the school year.

On Thursdays, students may wear an alternate polo shirt or house tee shirt along with their regular uniforms. We encourage you to participate in this experience as well by asking your child to tell you about their assigned house, the castle it represents, and the color they wear on Thursday, Spirit Day.

Our school community is not just the students and staff, but you, the parents, as well! We look forward to working together with you to grow our community.

House	Color
Blarney	Green
Chaumont	Orange
Warwick	Blue
Red Fort	Red
White Heron	Yellow
Valdivia	Purple
Neuschwanstein	Black

Respectfully,

The Buist House Committee

WHAT IS THE HOUSE SYSTEM?

Like the houses of *Harry Potter*, the Buist House System is a school-wide positive behavior support system that helps increase the positive climate and culture of a school. All students and staff are divided up into groups, or houses, through a process of sorting. House leaders include staff members from all grade-levels and subject-areas. Once sorted into a house, the magic happens!

Competitions, house activities, staff to peer, and peer to peer relationship building opportunities help to build positive relationships and a strong sense of community at Buist. Students and staff will meet as a house to build character, create a strong bond and form positive relationships. Students and staff will learn social responsibilities as they work to earn points for their house with the eventual goal of becoming the "House Cup Winner" for the school-year.

The House System gives students a support system that will last. Unlike a class that changes from year to year, this group of students and teachers will stay together for the duration of their time at your school. This stability and strong support system, helps students feel like they are at home while at school, feel safe, feel supported and feel as if they are a part of a larger team. All of these benefits will help students feel more connected at school and in turn increase engagement and academic achievement.