



WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

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Head of School Update

By Dr. Justin Mitchell

Greetings, First Baptist Community!

As we step into the vibrant season of fall, we are reminded of God's perfect timing and the beauty of change. Ecclesiastes 3:11 says, "He has made everything beautiful in its time." At First Baptist School, we strive to create an environment where our students grow academically, spiritually, and personally. Our

Continued on Page 2...

mission of "Academic Excellence, with a Christian Perspective" guides everything we do, and this past month has been filled with growth, achievement, and community. We are excited to share the blessings of September while looking ahead to October.

We are pleased to see consistent progress as we continue undergoing exciting changes with six new classrooms under construction on our James Island Campus. These new spaces will help accommodate our growing student body and provide an enhanced learning environment.

Our teachers and students are diving deeper into their studies, and we are incredibly proud of the dedication and hard work displayed across every grade and content area. Their commitment to academic excellence continues to shine. We have many enrichment opportunities planned for our students including local and long-distance field trips. This month, our K3 and K4 classes will visit Legare Farms going to the pumpkin patch as part of their instructional unit learning how pumpkins grow. Also this month, our K5 Classes will be attending a performance of Frog and Toad at the Dock Street Theatre. Later in the year our middle school students will travel to Washington DC and our high school students will travel to Boston, New York, and Europe. Our seniors are excited to be on their way in May to Orlando for the annual Disney Senior Trip. So we have lots of great opportunities for learning and growing both in the classroom and beyond.

As we continue the theme of celebrating our school's 75th anniversary, we pause to reflect on our legacy of providing Christ-centered education to the Charleston community. On September 19th, we hosted our first FBS Legacy Breakfast. For this inaugural event, we hosted current FBS students and their parents who attended FBS. It was a great time of sharing memories, reconnecting, and ushering in the next generation of FBS alumni. We look forward to sharing more exciting events in the coming months to mark this milestone!

The first week of October is an exciting week at First Baptist as it is time for Homecoming 2024! Homecoming is a special time for students, faculty and staff, coaches, parents, and all of our alumni to join together in celebration of our school and our incredible athletic success over the years. We want to extend a special welcome to our returning alumni. This school would not be what it is without the foundation the alumni paved to get us to where we are today. We are all so proud of the success our students achieve upon graduating from First Baptist. The football team will take on John Paul II at 7:30 on October 4th and we can't wait to see you all there.

In addition to Homecoming this week, we are hosting our annual Hurricane 5K this Saturday morning (10/5). We are excited to show off our beautiful James Island campus as we welcome over twenty schools in the spirit of competition. We thank Coach Erin Jackson, her runners, and all our Cross Country volunteer parents for all the hard work they have put into making this race a roaring success. Our cheer team is nearing their first competition of the season later this month and we can't wait to see them perform. Girls golf has begun as they look to lower their scores each time on the green. Volleyball has battled through a tough schedule and is looking to make waves in the heart of their region season. The swim season has heated up and many of our swimmers have hit state cuts in a multitude of events.

In the spirit of community and compassion, we ask that you join us in praying for those impacted by Hurricane Helene in the Upstate of South Carolina and the mountains of North Carolina and Tennessee. Many families are facing significant challenges as they recover from the effects of this storm. Let us lift them up in prayer, asking for God's comfort, strength, and provision as they rebuild. Additionally, please accept my warmest thanks for coming together to send much-needed supplies to those affected by Hurricane Helene. We had a tremendous show of support and I know that the families receiving the items will be grateful.

In closing, we are so grateful for the dedication and hard work of our students, teachers, and families, all of whom make First Baptist School a vibrant and nurturing place to learn and grow. We look forward to the many blessings October will bring and are excited for all that lies ahead this school year.

We invite you to stay up-to-date with current events by following First Baptist School's social media and our school webpage. #WeAreFB

Be blessed,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justin Mitchell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".



CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2024

9	End of Quarter 1
10	PSAT for Grades 8-11 Half-Day for K2-11
11-14	Fall Break - School & Offices Closed
20	FBS Friends & Family Oyster Roast
21	Downtown Campus Picture Day
22	James Island Campus Picture Day



[View Athletic Calendar](#)



IN THE KNOW

school happenings



Lower School Night

K-6th grade families are invited to Lower School Night on Friday, October 18th beginning at 5:30 pm before the FBS home game against Clear Dot Charter! There will be jump castles, Kona ice, free face painting, and more!

Grandparents/Special Friends Day

Grandparents Day will be held Friday, October 18th! K3-K5 Grandparents Day details and sign up can be found [here](#). 1st-4th grade information and sign up can be found [here](#).



SCHOLASTIC

Scholastic Book Fair (October 15-18)

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming and the excitement is building, so please come and support this celebration of literacy with us! More info and online purchasing can be found [here](#). If you are available to volunteer, please sign up [here](#)!

FIRST BAPTIST SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow along with our daily happenings on our social media pages! Below are the official school social media pages.

SCHOOL



FINE ARTS



ATHLETICS



WANT TO SHARE YOUR PHOTOS WITH US? BE SURE TO TAG US AND USE OUR SCHOOL HASHTAG!

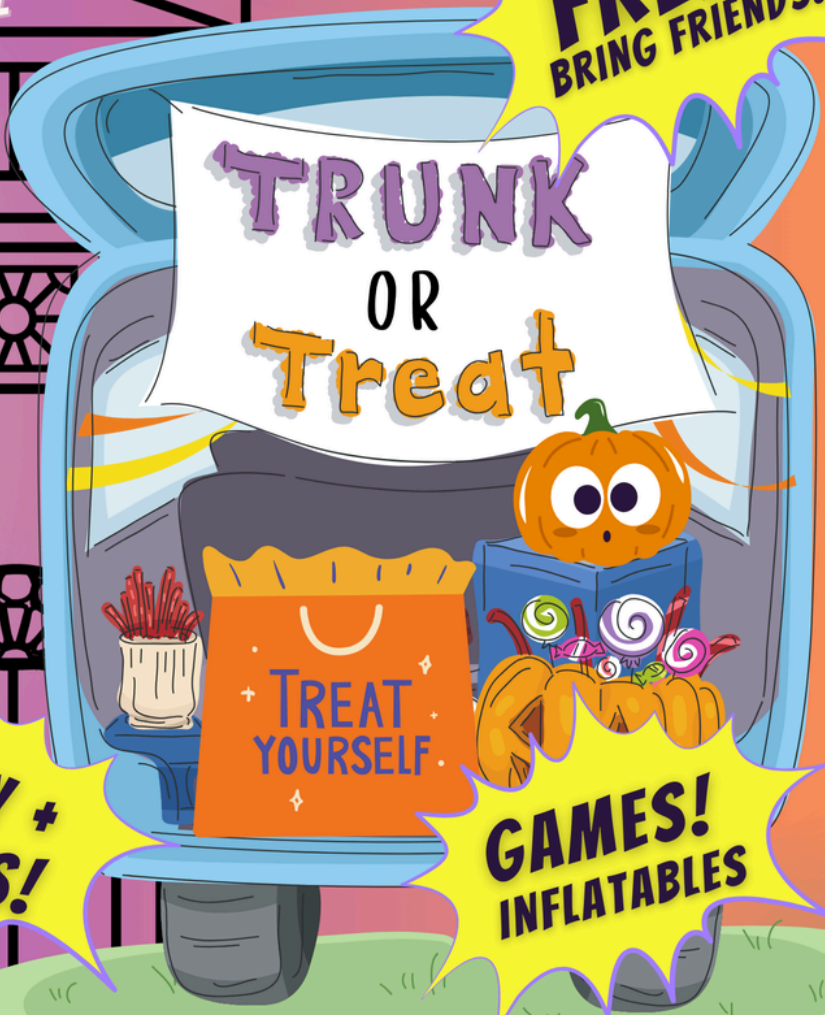
#WeAreFB



FALL FEST

INFANTS - 5TH GRADE

FREE!
BRING FRIENDS!



CANDY + PRIZES!

**GAMES!
INFLATABLES**



Sunday **OCTOBER 27, 2024**

JAMES ISLAND
2055 GEORGE GRIFFITH BLVD.
JAMES ISLAND, SC 29412

CAMPUS

Register Now

4-6 PM

---> CHANCE
TO WIN A \$50
CHICK-FIL-A
GIFT CARD!





ATHLETICS

HURRICANES



Hurricane Association Fall/Winter Raffle

The Hurricane Association is having a Fall/Winter sports raffle which will support the Hurricane Association and the FBS Athletic Department!

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for 5. You are allowed to purchase an unlimited amount of tickets. Winner will be announced on October 18th at the final home game! You do not have to be present to win. Tickets will also be available for purchase at the concession stand/merchandise table during sporting events.

The items will include:

- Yeti Cooler, provided by John Acker with State Farm
- Wood Burning fire pit + 2 bundles of wood, provided by Pools of Charleston
- S'mores kit + 2 Yeti cups + \$250 Publix gift card, provided by the JV and Varsity Volleyball team families
- \$100 Amazon and \$100 Walmart gift card, provided by Rob Marchant with Marchant Chevrolet
- Blackstone Table Top Grill, provided by Shoreline Mosquito Defense

Total Raffle bundle value: \$1200!!

Tickets available [here](#) and at home game concessions.



**Grab your Tailgate Spot
for the 2024 season [here!](#)**



CROSS COUNTRY

HURRICANE 5K

On October 5th, Cross Country hosted their 4th Annual FB Hurricanes 5K Invitational Meet. There were 25 teams in attendance and over 370 runners registered to attend the race. Last year, the Boys Varsity Team took 1st Place in this meet. This meet has provided a great way to showcase our beautiful campus and introduce other schools to First Baptist School. The meet was hosted with the support of the FBS families, community, Athletic Department, Hurricane Association, FB Boys Varsity Basketball Team, and a multitude of others who heled make this meet a success!

Congratulations to James Tyler for winning the Varsity boys race while setting a new school record! George Doyle also won the JV boys race! Also congratulations to both the Varsity boys and JV boys for finishing in 3rd place! New personal records: James Tyler, Zack Cline, Matthew Roof, Brody Jackson, Walker Timbes, Isla Hunt, George Doyle, and Tyler Katz!

SCISA REGION II AAAA CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP

We will be hosting the SCISA Region II AAAA Cross Country Championships on Wednesday, October 16th. This is the first year we have hosted and we are excited to celebrate our own senior runners, James Tyler, Edings Walpole, Tanner Honeycutt, Cooper Crawford, and Henry Hunt as well as the other region school's seniors that night. The schools that are in our region are Northwoods Academy, Porter Gaud, Ashley Hall, Pinewood Prep, and Palmetto Christian. The girls race begins at 5:15 PM and the boys race at 5:50 PM that evening. I hope that our faculty and student body will come out and show their support. Last year the boys team earned Region Champs and 3 of the top 7 runners made the All Region Team.





FBS FRIENDS & FAMILY

OYSTER *Roast*

Save the date for the FBS Friends & Family Oyster Roast at The Island House on Johns Island!

October 20, 2024

[Tickets](#)

**Ticket sales
close 10/11!**

FBS Dance Program

will be performing during
half-time at the October 18th
home football game!

Come support the Canes
Dance Team!



Gobble & Gather



FBS Thanksgiving
Break Camp

November 25-26

Registration coming soon!



Parent Teacher Organization



That's a wrap on CharlestonWrap!

FBS families,

It is officially Fall, and the PTO just wrapped up the Charleston Wrap fundraiser! As a result of your generosity, we raised **\$16,794.35!**

These funds will be utilized to support several initiatives of FBS, inclusive of the following:

- STAR and Accelerated Reader (K4-8th)
- Downtown Garden (Preschool-1st)
- Classroom Enrichment (2nd-6th)
- Social Institute (7th-12th)

I am extremely grateful for the Charleston Wrap Committee Co-Chairs, Julie Smith and Stephanie Wood, who did an incredible job with prize distribution each day during the sale!

Congratulations to the Charleston Wrap **TOP SELLING STUDENT, Charlie Stone** in Mrs. Davis's K4 Homeroom Class!

Based on top sales, the following downtown campus classes will

receive an ice cream sundae celebration:

- K4 - Mrs. Davis
- 4th Grade - Mrs. Kropiewnicki
- 6th Grade - Mrs. Speer

On the James Island campus, Mr. Boatwright's 11th grade homeroom class had the highest sales for the high school, and will receive a pizza party!

As a result of school cancellation on September 27th, we will have our September **make-up Dress Down Day on October 15th!** Families can save time (and money) by paying in advance for all Dress Down Days for the year!

As we gear up for the holiday season, I find myself extremely grateful for the support of our entire FBS community!

Please don't hesitate to reach out to the PTO if you have any questions! pto@fbschool.org

Lindsay Loewer

PTO President

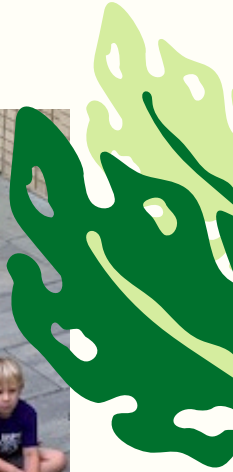


Dress Down Days

If you would like to sign up for a whole year of Dress Down Days (K5-12), you can register and pay in advance [here](#).

See Our Garden Grow

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Lower School Garden last month! Students are already busy adding a whole bed of herbs, flowers, and hearty vegetables with Rita's Roots!



For the Love of Children

LET'S GET BACK TO THE BASICS

by Crystal Hawkins, Lower School Spanish



As a child who grew up in instability and chaos, I am compassionate to the children around me. My heart aches when I see children falling through the cracks of our current culture, especially when they are falling through the cracks because of the decisions adults are making. Parenting and educating is excruciatingly difficult, but I think we would all benefit from going back to the basics. Here are five principles that I am striving to remind myself of and implement as a mom and a teacher:

1) **Children feel safer with boundaries.** Although it can be easy to give up and let them have what they want when they want it, children actually thrive with loving boundaries. They need to know that an adult is in charge and is acting in their best interest in order to feel safe. Children don't know how much sleep they need in order to function or what nutrition their bodies need to develop properly, but the adults in their lives do. Bedtimes, proper nutrition, outside play, limits on screen time, and hygiene habits are all boundaries that we should have in place as safety nets for our children to thrive.

2) **Children should not have to carry around adult issues.** We live in a world with information overload. Unfortunately, our children have access to information online that is too heavy for most adults. When I was a child, I didn't even know who the president was. Yet today, many elementary aged children are worried about politics, world wars, climate change, gun violence, and so much more. These are burdens that adults should be carrying for them, not inviting them into. They have their entire adult lives ahead of them to worry. As children, they should enjoy being

children. As adults, it is our job to limit what information they have access to. Which brings me to my next point...

3) **Children need to be protected from the internet.** Remember when smoking cigarettes was cool? There was a cartoon camel and a handsome cowboy who smoked cigarettes. Every movie made in the 70's and 80's had incredibly attractive characters with cigarettes in their hands, looking sultry and having the time of their lives. My grandparents started smoking as children and it was perfectly acceptable. They grew up seeing cigarette advertisements where doctors promoted the health benefits of smoking. It wasn't until about 50 years ago that the first Surgeon General Warning came out claiming cigarettes to be bad for your health. Far too many naïve people died of lung cancer because it was easy to get swept up into the excitement of the "everyone is doing it so it must be okay" mentality. Very few people slowed down to think that maybe, just maybe, sucking smoke into your lungs is not a good idea. We find ourselves in the same predicament with the rise of the internet, smart phones, and social media. The first Surgeon General Warning has been issued recently claiming the negative effects of social media on children and teens. Yet as parents, we feel pressured to hand our children tablets, cell phones, and laptops so that they don't feel left out. Many schools still allow cell phones and laptops to be used recreationally in the classroom. What if there are things in life worse than being left out? What if we could prevent the "cancer"?

4) It is good for children to be bored. In our current culture, every second is jam-packed. Children go from school, to aftercare, to

For the Love of Children

LET'S GET BACK TO THE BASICS

chess club, to dance, to sports without breathing room between activities. This kind of schedule is not healthy for adults, much less children. We want our children to experience everything, but in doing so, we deprive them of the best gift... boredom. It is not until a child gets bored that his creativity gets sparked.

Remember what it was like to be told to play outside until dark? It felt like a punishment at first, especially on a hot summer day. But without the opportunity to get bored, we would have never invented that dumb game everyone in the neighborhood loved playing or discovered how delicious the berries were on the mulberry bush behind the broken down school bus. Children need time that is not micromanaged and without electronics in order to get bored. There will be some complaining and flopping around at first, but eventually the creativity will come alive. They will begin to draw, or paint, or play an instrument, or climb a tree. And if they can't find something creative to do, you can get them to help out with some chores around the house. I find that the threat of chores usually sparks creativity right away.

5) **Children (and all humans) are happier when they help others.** It is too much weight to carry as a little person to feel that the whole world revolves around you. Compassion for others and caring for things are skills that have to be taught. Left to our own devices, we humans are dangerously self-centered creatures. But we are actually happier when we help others. As adults, we can foster care for people and things by asking children to do simple chores at home and at school. We can also find ways to volunteer and meet needs in the community. Challenging children to do a random act of kindness each day can be a way to train them to look out for those around them. Wouldn't the world be a better place if we looked for ways to help each other? Wouldn't we all be happier?

I hope you have found these principles to be empowering and encouraging. Let's bring back the simplicity and joy of childhood. After all, we're the adults, right?

College Counseling

SHANNON ROY
COLLEGE COUNSELOR

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

I hope this message finds you well as we move further into the school year. Our seniors are making significant progress with their college applications, and I'm pleased to share that I'm almost done meeting with each of them individually. It's been a busy and exciting time for the Class of 2025, and I want to ensure that all our seniors feel fully supported as they continue navigating this important process.

Parents, there are several ways you can help your student during this time:

- **Offer Encouragement:** The application process can be stressful, so your encouragement and positivity can go a long way.
- **Visit Colleges:** If possible, schedule college visits to help your student get a feel for campus life and what each school offers.
- **Engage with College Reps:** We have several college representatives visiting First Baptist in October. Encourage your seniors (and juniors) to register for these visits on SCOIR. The reps from the following institutions will be here this month:
 - Clemson University
 - Wake Forest University
 - Furman University
 - The Marines
 - Palm Beach Atlantic University
 - Hampden-Sydney College
 - Queens University of Charlotte
 - George Washington University

This is a wonderful opportunity for your student to make personal connections and gather more information about potential schools. For Juniors, click [here](#) to see questions to ask a College Rep and get your student thinking about what they want in a college.

For our freshmen, visits will begin after Fall Break. I'll be checking in with them academically and introducing them to what a transcript is and how it will play an important role in their future college applications.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about college planning please don't hesitate to reach out. I'm here to ensure every student feels supported throughout this journey.

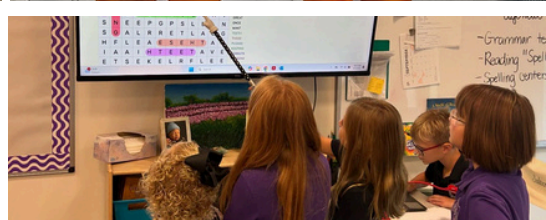
Warm regards,

Shannon Roy

College Counseling
843-410-1606 Ext. 1108



Around Campus



FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

RESOURCES



FACTS
LOGIN



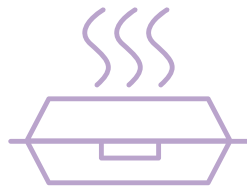
STUDENT
HANDBOOK

PTO

PARENT TEACHER
ORGANIZATION(PTO)



SMART TUITION
LOGIN



SCHOOLHOUSE
FARE LUNCH



DRESS CODE



FACULTY/STAFF
DIRECTORY



ACADEMIC
CALENDAR



ONLINE
GIVING

These resources can always be found on the [Resources](#) page of our website.