

HURRICANE WATCH



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

May 2024

Monthly Newsletter



WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

- Head of School Update
- May Calendar
- School Happenings
- Prom 2024
- Athletics
- Advancement
- High School Counseling

Head of School Update

By Dr. Justin Mitchell

Greetings, First Baptist Community!

As we approach the final stretch of the academic year, I am filled with gratitude for the journey we have undertaken together this year. May is always a bustling month, teeming with activities and responsibilities as we prepare to conclude another successful school year.

Continued on Page 2...

We have once again enjoyed so many of our spring traditions at FBS. Some of the timeless favorites include The Very Hungry Caterpillar play, presented by our Pre-K and Kindergarten classes, the National Junior Honor Society Induction, Prom, the Middle School Dance, Music Department Concerts, the Spring Dance Showcase, and the High School Art Show. We now shift our gaze to the finish line, so quickly approaching.

Our students will soon embark on their final examinations, putting into practice all the knowledge and skills they have acquired throughout the year. It's crucial that they approach this period with diligence and determination, as their hard work will undoubtedly yield fruitful results. In addition to exams, many classes will be wrapping up their end-of-year projects and presentations, showcasing the culmination of their learning experiences. These endeavors are a testament to the dedication and creativity of our students and teachers alike.

One of the most significant milestones of the academic year is the high school graduation ceremony, scheduled for May 31st in the First Baptist Church Sanctuary. Seating is limited and tickets will be required for admission. This hallmark event is a celebration of our seniors' achievements and a poignant moment as they transition into the next chapter of their lives beyond FBS. We look forward to commemorating their accomplishments and bidding them farewell with fond memories and best wishes.

As we navigate through the flurry of activities yet to come in May, let us not forget the importance of reflection and gratitude. We read in Ecclesiastes 7:8 (NIV), "The end of a matter is better than its beginning, and patience is better than pride." This verse reminds us to cherish the journey, to celebrate endings as well as beginnings, and to approach each moment with humility and perseverance.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Together, let us finish this academic year with a sense of accomplishment and anticipation for the possibilities that lie ahead. 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, flowing style with a large initial "J".



CALENDAR

MAY 2024

21-24	Second Semester Exams	
24	Kindergarten Graduation Last Day of School	9:00 am
26	Baccalaureate Service	5:00 pm
27	Memorial Day - School Offices Closed	
28	Exam Make-Up Day	
29	Eighth Grade Graduation	
31	High School Graduation	7:30 pm
28-31	Teacher Workdays	

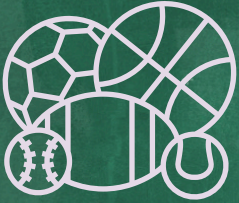


[View Athletic Calendar](#)



IN THE KNOW

school happenings



B-Team Banquet

B-Team athletes and their parents are invited to attend the B-team Banquet on May 14th on the Downtown Campus! Please RSVP [here](#).

4th Grade American History Wax Museum

Come see American history brought to life through our wax museum project on May 10th at 10:45 am presented by our 4th Graders! The wax museum will be located in the Downtown Campus fellowship hall.



Camp Jumpstart: Summer Enrichment

Our Summer Enrichment camp will be back this summer as Camp Jumpstart! Rising K5-8th grade students are invited to attend this one week camp to revisit skills and get a head start on skills for the upcoming school year. Register [here](#)

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

#WeAreFB

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



Finding Kinship

by Dr. Leonard Kupersmith, High School Principal

Last week, while playing hooky, the non-stop, multimedia news cycle proclaiming the end of the world as we knew it, replete with strife and hatred, went offline. Instead, geniality and respect, good cheer and cooperation, celebration and love reigned. It was Woodstock devoid of sex, drugs, profanity, and mire. In Wilkesboro, North Carolina, Merlefest, the annual four-day gathering of the royalty of Bluegrass music and their heirs, reminded us of how well we can get along. It suspended cynicism and dread with pervasive good will. For four idyllic days, the central North Carolina hills were alive with “roots” music. Merlefest is a marquee music festival created by the resident Bluegrass patriarch, Doc Watson, as a memorial for his son, Merle, who died in a tractor accident. Merlefest assembles many of the foremost bluegrass musicians—veterans who have been preserving and burnishing the memory of Flatt and Scruggs, the Carter family, Bill Monroe, and Ralph Stanley— and new stars that illuminate the horizon. For this 36th Merlefest, the new torchbearers were Molly Tuttle, Larkin Poe, and the Langan Band, from Scotland. (NB: Billy Strings played Merlefest a few years ago.)

Eighty thousand tickets were sold last year; this year, with hardly an inclement hour, the event seemed to have longer food lines and less space to maneuver. Local volunteers greet us, direct us, protect us, and feed us. Quite a coming together of a pop-up community. Diversity is the order of the day: people from all over the country and beyond; all professions; all backgrounds; all ages; a broad dispersion of income levels; and certainly the rainbow coalition of cultural and political leanings.

We signed no oaths, pledges, waivers, codes of conduct, or contracts; engaged in no training or sensitivity sessions. Invisible leadership, a variant of Adam Smith’s “invisible hand,” left it to the lovers of the community and the message of the music to act right and respect fellow Merlefest goers. Drivers gave people the right of way; pilgrims stepped aside to allow others to pass. Management of the festival made no noise. Music was our conductor. At no point was there the strident voice of authority. There was no hint of coercion or constraint. We were in Wilkesboro from Thursday at 4 until Sunday at 7 to enjoy music that has entertained us since the 17th century in these rolling hills and adjacent territory. The music is called “roots” music for a reason. It reminds us of who we are and the best ingredients of our character. At various moments

n our national history as well as our current vicissitudes, our best selves have lapsed or were in a few primal stages defective at birth. However, in times of peril, we have invariably come together against common threats. To be sure, those occasions are circumstantial. On a regular basis, we have united around common devotions. That essence is still in our national fabric but it's eroding and unraveling. We will appreciate what we had when it's no longer there.

Surely we can find kinship and common interest in our routines and rituals, outside of institutional communities like schools, places of worship, civic and service clubs, and HOAs. As strong as institutions are in building communities, they also serve to exclude. This weekend in our sister state indigenous Music cast a magical spell for a brief, shining moment dispelling differences and highlighting common pleasures. Maybe we can try stepping outside of our immediate circumstances and focus on the common beauties and perils of being human. Surely we can see that we all deal with life, love, and loss. We celebrate the gift of living more abundantly in the company of others than we do in solitude.

Note on your calendars to celebrate together:

May 8: SGA elections for the 24-25 school year (students and faculty/staff in attendance)
Location: the Gym

May 19: Athletic Letters presented 3:30 in the Aux Gym Sponsored by the Hurricane Association moderated by Coach Haley

May 20: Academic honors: senior awards; top three GPAs in each grade; arts, athletics, and STEM recognitions. This ceremony also includes induction of new student government leadership.
8:30 in Aux Gym

Monday, May 20: C day—all classes meet to review for the finals following the Awards event.
Awards ceremony: 8:25-9:25

May 26 5:00 p.m. Baccalaureate seniors and parents held at First Baptist Church

May 30, Thursday, 9:30 Graduation rehearsal at First Baptist Church—the Honorable Will McCombs presiding

Following rehearsal, seniors and their families will assemble at Wingate Place located at 3850 River Road

May 31 Graduation: 7:30 held at First Baptist Church



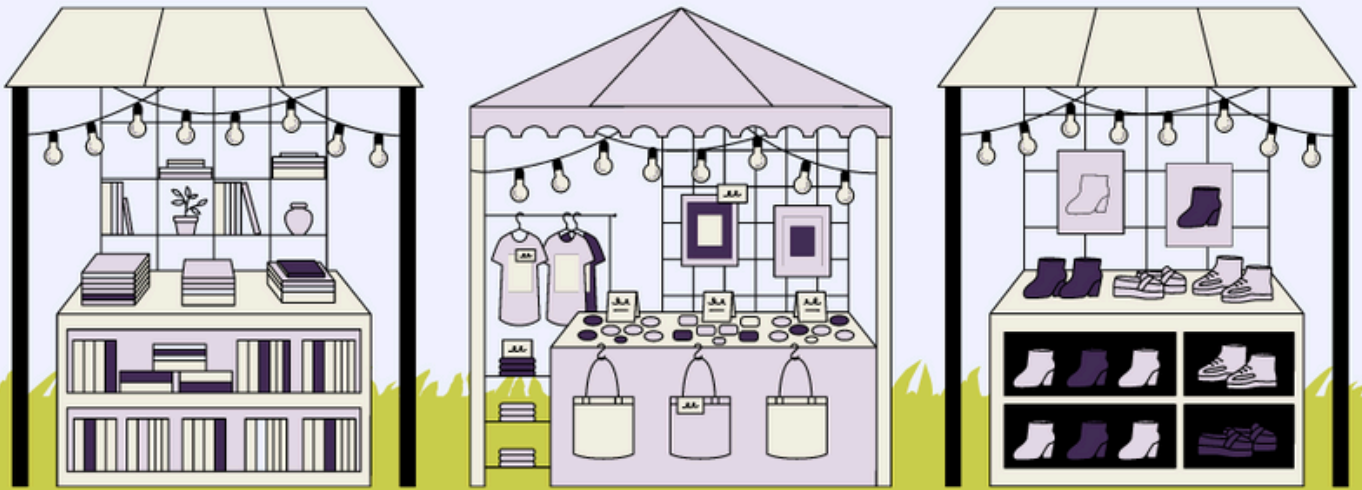
Prom

2024



First Baptist School of Charleston

COMMUNITY YARD SALE



SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM
2051 GEORGE GRIFFITH BLVD.

Join us for a fantastic yard sale right in our community! It's the perfect opportunity to find hidden treasures, score amazing deals, and support local sellers.

Hosted by FBS Hurricane Association

[Sign up to be a vendor!](#)



Spring
FOOTBALL

PRACTICE
FOR GRADES 5TH-8TH



SATURDAY
MAY 11

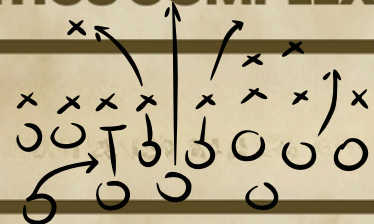
9:00AM-12:00PM



AT JI ATHLETICS COMPLEX



**A ONE-DAY CLINIC TO LEARN
FOOTBALL FUNDAMENTALS & SKILLS**



ONLINE REGISTRATION
NO LATER THAN MAY 3

**LEARN FROM OUR CURRENT
VARSITY TEAM & STAFF**

FOR DETAILS VISIT: FBSCHOOL.ORG/CAMPUS-EVENTS

VOTING NOW OPEN!
CLOSES SEPT. 1, 2024

FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL OF CHARLESTON

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

2025

Vote! →

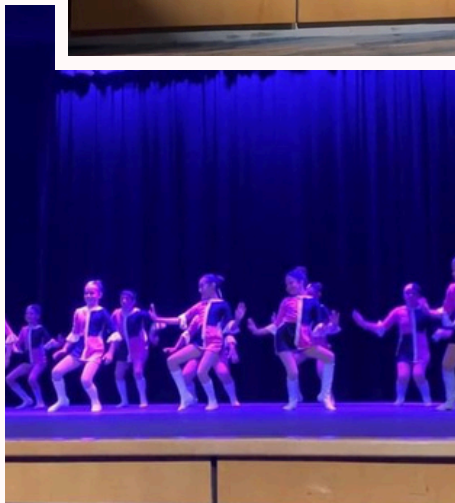
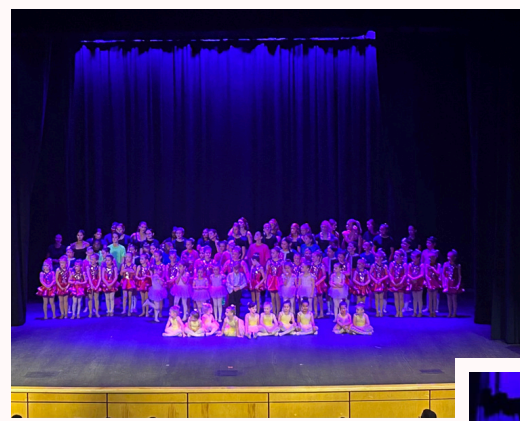


The First Baptist Athletic Department is proud to announce that voting is now open for the second class of the First Baptist Hurricane Athletic Hall of Fame. Voting will close September 1, 2024.

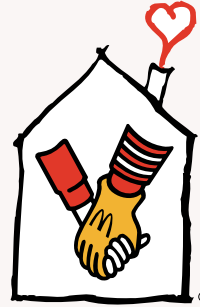
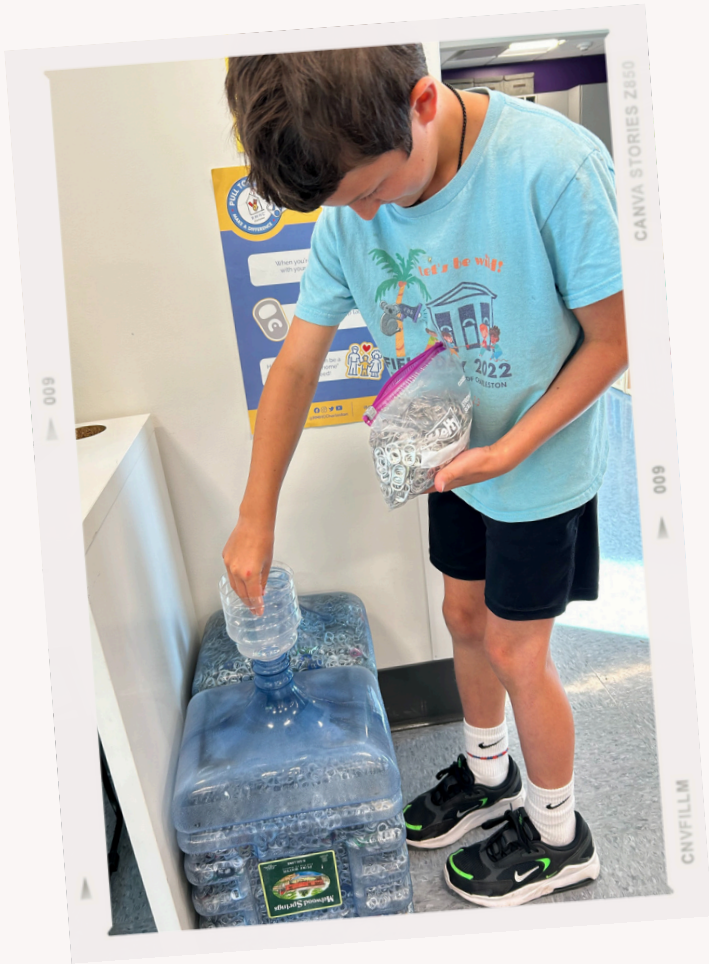
*Student nominations must have graduated by 2018 at the latest. *Coaches/contributors must have completed their time (at least 5 years) at FBS prior to the Fall of 2018.

DANCE SHOWCASE

2024



The FBS Spring Dance Showcase, featuring 95 students in K3-12th grade was presented at Burke Auditorium on Sunday, April 28th. The two act production included pieces celebrating dancing through the seasons and dancing through the decades. Dancers performed for family, friends, and teachers, completing a year long exploration of the artistic process! Six high school students were also recognized for meeting criteria for induction into the First Baptist Chapter of the National Honor Society for Dance Arts; Madi Orris, Jocelyn Cram-Smith, Passion Belton, Zy Massie, Katie Brandon, & Khaki Rumph. The FBS dance program, established in 2010, is under the direction of Mrs. Susan Cram-Smith. We are excited to officially welcome guest teacher, Mrs. Monica Ball to our James Island faculty in August and are looking forward to the creative collaborations between these two teachers and our talented students next year!



RONALD MCDONALD
HOUSE CHARITIES®

2ND GRADE POP TAB PROJECT

Thank you FBS Families for your donations of pop tabs. The second grade classes look forward to delivering them to the Ronald McDonald House on the 21st of this month.

Please continue to bring pop tabs through the 20th .

College Counseling

SHANNON ROY
COLLEGE COUNSELOR

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

As we bid farewell to another academic year, I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Class of 2024! Your hard work, dedication, and resilience have brought you to this significant milestone. It's with great pride that I announce the list of colleges our graduates will be attending this fall:

- App State
- Belmont University
- Charleston Southern University
- Clemson University
- Claflin University
- College of Charleston (including Honors College)
- High Point University
- Limestone University
- North Carolina Central University
- Ole Miss (University of Mississippi)
- Palm Beach Atlantic University
- Purdue University
- University of South Carolina
- University of Tampa
- Western Carolina University
- Winston Salem State University
- Wofford College

Your achievements are a testament to your abilities and the support of our entire school community. We wish you all the best as you embark on this exciting new chapter of your lives.

As we celebrate the success of our graduating seniors, it's also important to look ahead to the next steps for our rising seniors, juniors, and sophomores.

For our rising seniors, the summer months are crucial for college preparation. I encourage you to start by organizing your activities resume, highlighting your extracurricular involvements, leadership roles, and any significant achievements. Additionally, consider opening a Common Application account over the summer to familiarize yourself with the platform and get a head start on your applications. Keep an eye on your inbox, as I'll be emailing out a list of "summer work" that should be completed by August 1st, in preparation for the upcoming application season.

Rising juniors, it's time to gear up for your college search journey. By now, you should have completed the YouScience assessment, which provides valuable insights into your strengths and interests and possible career paths. Over the last weeks of school, I'll be meeting with you to discuss your results and help you navigate the college search process using SCOIR, our comprehensive college exploration tool.

Sophomores, as you continue your academic journey, it's never too early to start thinking about your future goals. Please be on the lookout for a Google Form from Ms. Grant regarding scheduling for the upcoming school year. Your input will help us ensure that you're on track to pursue your interests and aspirations. Scheduling is currently underway and we anticipate releasing schedules by June 15th.

As always, my door is open for any questions, concerns, or guidance you may need along the way. Together, we will work towards your college and career aspirations, one step at a time.

Wishing you all a restful and rejuvenating summer break!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shannon Roy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

College Counselor
First Baptist High School

ADVANCEMENT

UPDATES



11th Biennial Live and Silent Auction

Thank you to everyone who attended the 11th Biennial Live and Silent Auction last month! It was a wonderful evening of community and raising money for First Baptist School! We sincerely appreciate the generosity of our sponsors and donors. Funds raised will help in multiple ways to further our goal of providing quality education with a Christian perspective.

Final Numbers

Income	\$111,194.57
Expenses	\$43,260.68
Profit	\$67,933.89

Admissions Updates



Thank you!

We wanted to send a huge “thank you” to all of our First Baptist families. Our enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year is the highest it has been in quite some time. We are so proud of everything FBS has to offer, but we know that a large part of our success and interest is attributed to our families and word-of-mouth referrals. We sincerely appreciate our FBS families and community!

We still have a few spots left in 2nd, 4th, and 7th. If you know a family that may be interested, please have them send in an [inquiry](#).

We’re excited to see FBS continue to grow. Please reach out to our admissions team if you have any questions!



Around Campus



FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

RESOURCES



FACTS
LOGIN



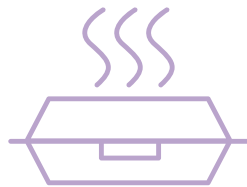
STUDENT
HANDBOOK

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.