

# HURRICANE WATCH



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

December 2024

Monthly Newsletter



## WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

- Head of School Update
- December Calendar
- School Happenings
- LOR Stocking Drive
- Athletics
- PTO Updates
- High School Counseling

## Head of School Update

*By Dr. Justin Mitchell*

Greetings, First Baptist Community!

As we enter into December, our hearts and minds turn toward the season of Advent—a time of anticipation and preparation. The words of the prophet Isaiah remind us of the hope we celebrate: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God,

*Continued on Page 2...*

The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah T 9:6). Advent is a season where we reflect on God's faithfulness and the promise of new beginnings brought to life in the birth of Christ.

Here at First Baptist School, Advent is more than a countdown to Christmas. It's a season where we nurture our students' understanding of Christ's love and their calling to reflect His light in the world. Classrooms are alive with Scripture, songs, and service projects, all pointing us to the true meaning of the season.

This time of year is always busy but I will encourage you to make the time to join us for a cherished tradition at our school, the annual **Lessons and Carols Service**, on **Friday, December 15th, at 6:30 pm in the First Baptist Church Sanctuary**. This evening of Scripture and song brings our community together to celebrate the story of Christ's birth. From the voices and talents of our students to the message of hope woven through the evening, it is sure to be a heartwarming experience. Please mark your calendars and invite your friends and family to join us for this special event.

As we approach the close of this year, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for each of you. Whether you are a student, parent, teacher, or supporter, you are an integral part of what makes First Baptist School such a vibrant and faithful community. Your prayers, partnership, and dedication to Christian education allow us to continue the work God has called us to do.

May your Christmas season be filled with warmth and joy as you celebrate the greatest gift of all—the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. As we welcome the New Year, let us continue to carry the light of Christ into every corner of our lives.

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

Wishing you a blessed Advent and a joyful Christmas!

Be blessed,

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



# CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2024

15	Lessons & Carols Service	6:30 pm
16-19	First Semester Exams	
19	Last Day of School, Half-Day	
20	Exam Make-Up Day Teacher Workday	
23	Christmas Break	



[View Athletic Calendar](#)





# IN THE KNOW

## school happenings



### Family Friday (K2-8) - Friday, Dec. 13th

Join us for Family Friday hosted by our senior class! Lunch will include pizza (extra slices available for purchase) with side, dessert, and a drink. Christmas cookie decorating kits will also be available for \$3! Sign-up [here!](#)

### Day of shopping - Saturday, Dec. 7th

Take the stress out of the holiday season by getting your Christmas shopping done while your children enjoy a morning filled with fun activities catered specifically for K5-6th graders! This event is designed to keep the young ones entertained and engaged while you take care of your holiday errands. [Register here!](#)



### Lessons & Carols Service - Sunday, Dec. 15th

Please join us for our annual Lessons & Carols Service on Sunday, December 15th at 6:30 pm. This First Baptist Christmas tradition is a beautiful service that features many of our 1st-12th graders held in the FBC Sanctuary.

## 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



**LOWCOUNTRY ORPHAN RELIEF**

# *Stocking Drive*



We're filling stockings for Lowcountry Orphan Relief!  
Lists have been sent out by teachers and items will be  
due by December 6th!

Don't forget! Items for the Lowcountry Orphan Relief Stocking Drive  
are due **Friday, December 6th!**

Learn more about LOR and the Stocking Drive [here!](#)



# Trotting Through the Holidays



# HOLIDAY FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Come see the FBS Giant Postcard designed by our high school art students at the James Island County Park Holiday Festival of Lights!

Now through December 31st at James Island County Park!







**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 December 13th! 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.

Join the Hurricane Association!

[MEMBERSHIP FORM](#)



Last chance to grab tickets for the FBS Baseball Oyster Roast happening this Saturday, December 7th from 4-8 pm on Truluck Island!

Grab your tickets [here!](#)

Save  
*the* Date



*First Baptist Athletic Hall of Fame*

INDUCTION CEREMONY  
CLASS OF 2025

February 1, 2025

First Baptist School  
James Island Campus





# Parent Teacher Organization



## Here come the holidays!

FBS Families,

As the holidays quickly approach, I want to ensure that all families have access to the lists of Favorite Things for our amazing staff and teachers! You can find their lists of "Favorite Things" [here](#).

Wishing you every blessing this holiday season!

*Lindsay Lower*

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](#).

First Baptist School PTO  
**Spirit Shop Night**  
at Charleston Candle Co.  
December 9, 2024  
4:00-6:00 pm  
218 St. Philip Street,  
Charleston, SC 29403

*Sonny in Paris*

# College Counseling

SHANNON ROY  
COLLEGE COUNSELOR

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we enter this festive season, I hope you find time to reflect on the many opportunities and challenges your students have embraced this year. December is a time to pause, celebrate progress, and prepare for the exciting months ahead.

## **For Our Senior Families**

Navigating senior year brings its own set of joys and challenges. Our seniors are preparing to take flight, and that can be both thrilling and daunting for us as parents. It's natural to worry about whether they're ready, but it's also essential to give them the freedom to explore their path.

Sometimes, we need to ask ourselves: Are we holding them back from an opportunity because we're not ready to let go? Growth requires risk, and our seniors may need encouragement to spread their wings. Whether they are exploring colleges, careers, or other post-graduation options, I always strive to present a variety of pathways—some they may not have considered—and help them see how to make those dreams a reality.

Coming off the Thanksgiving season, let's practice gratitude for the opportunities our students have before them. Whether their choice is close to home or far away, let's empower them to own their decisions. Remember, my door is always open to help answer questions, provide support, or guide your family through this exciting chapter.

## **For Our Juniors and Their Families**

January will kick off a critical time for juniors as they begin their journey toward college and career readiness. Here's how parents can help their students prepare:

### **What to Expect in January**

- Junior College Counseling Meetings: We'll dive into interests, goals, and college/career planning.
- SAT/ACT Planning: Discuss timelines and test prep strategies.
- Building College Lists: Exploring schools that align with academic, social, and financial fit.
- Exploring Careers: Identifying fields of interest and potential career paths.
- Encouraging Extracurriculars: Building a well-rounded portfolio for applications.

### **How Parents Can Support**

- Foster open conversations about their aspirations.



# College Counseling

SHANNON ROY  
COLLEGE COUNSELOR

- Encourage them to research colleges and careers over the break.
- Discuss financial realities and budgeting for college.
- Help them reflect on what environment will help them thrive academically and personally.

## **For Our Sophomore and Freshman Families**

This is the time to build resilience. Academic rigor isn't just about taking hard classes—it's about learning how to persevere when things get tough. As parents, it's tempting to shield our children from challenges, but struggles can help them grow into resourceful, capable adults.

## **Fostering Resilience at Home**

- **Encourage Problem-Solving:** Let them try to solve their own academic or social challenges before stepping in.
- **Model Positive Responses to Failure:** Share stories of how you overcame difficulties in your own life.
- **Celebrate Effort Over Perfection:** Highlight progress rather than focusing solely on outcomes.
- **Teach Balance:** Help them understand the importance of managing academics, extracurriculars, and downtime.

## **Parent Support**

Parenting in today's world isn't easy, but there are resources to help. Look into workshops, books, or local groups that address raising resilient and well-rounded students. Resilience will serve your student well in college and beyond, helping them adapt to life's inevitable ups and downs.

## **Closing Thoughts**

December is a time for reflection. Let's cherish the growth we've seen in our students this year and prepare for what's to come. If you have questions or need guidance, please don't hesitate to reach out—I'm here to support you every step of the way.

Wishing you a joyful Christmas and a New Year filled with hope, opportunities, and success.

Warm regards,

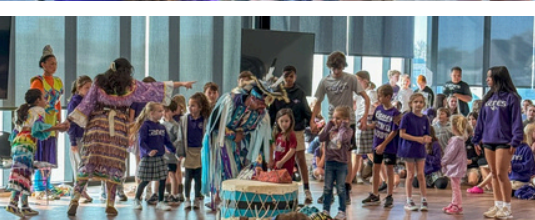
*Shannon Roy*

Director of College Counseling  
First Baptist School  
843-410-1606 Ext. 1108





# Around Campus





FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

# RESOURCES



FACTS  
LOGIN



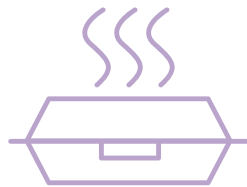
STUDENT  
HANDBOOK

## 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.