



# FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

SUMMER NEWSLETTER



2026-2027

K2-12<sup>th</sup> Grade



## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE WITH A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

Our mission is to deliver a rich and rigorous educational experience, grounded in a Christian perspective. Beyond academic excellence, we take a holistic approach to education, fostering well-rounded students through service opportunities, fine arts, athletics, and a variety of extracurricular activities. A key to our success lies in our dedication to small class sizes, ensuring every student receives the personalized attention and support they deserve.

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Dr. Justin Mitchell

Head of School

Mrs. Susan Brooks

Lower School  
Principal

Mr. Will McCombs

Middle & High School  
Principal

Ms. Marshelle Grant

Middle & High School  
Assistant Principal

# Hello Summer!

As summer kicks off, we know the next two months will be filled with family adventures and exciting memories that will fly by in no time. This newsletter is here to help our families get a head start on preparing for the 2026-2027 school year. Inside, you'll find valuable resources to set the stage for a successful year, including links to summer assignments, school supply ordering, technology needs and other essentials to make the most of the months ahead. So let's dive in and get ready for an amazing school year together!



For full resources &  
school contact  
information, please  
visit [fbschool.org](https://fbschool.org).

# Family Resources



## 2026-2027 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Find the academic calendar [here](#). Please note that the calendar is subject to change.



## 2026-2027 DETAILED CAMPUS CALENDARS

Bookmark these live calendars, as they are updated often!

[DOWNTOWN CAMPUS](#) \*\*dates subject to change

[JAMES ISLAND CAMPUS](#) \*\*dates subject to change



## SUMMER WORK

Rising K5-12th graders have summer work to prevent the "Summer Slide". Please visit our website [HERE](#) and go to your respective grade level.



## FACTS APP

Our free branded school app connects you to the school information you need all in one place. Find school news, athletic schedules, student handbooks, lunch ordering, and more - all in the app! [iPhone](#) or [Android](#)



## K5-12 GRADE DRESS CODE

Preschool students do not wear uniforms. We have dress codes for [Lower School](#), [Middle School](#), and [High School](#). Please note that we will have a PTO used uniform sale on James Island in July.



## SCHOOLHOUSE FARE

Lunch ordering information will be sent out closer to the beginning of the school year.



## SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS

[Grades K2-6\\*](#)

[Grades 7 - 8\\*](#)

[Grades 9-12](#)

\*Grades K2-4 are highly recommended to order through School Tool Box. Grades 5-8 are encouraged to order through School Toolbox but are not required.

# Save the Date

## Important School Dates



### Camp Jumpstart

July 13-17, 2026 | 8:30am-3:00pm

Join us for Camp Jumpstart! A great opportunity for currently enrolled FBS students to refresh their skills and get a head start for the upcoming school year for our rising K5-8th graders! Get a jump start for the 25-26 school year with classes in ELA, Math, STEAM, and P.E.! Register [HERE](#)

### Hurricane Night

July 26, 2026 | 4:00

Join us at the James Island Campus for a back to school kick-off for all grades!

- Ring Ceremony for our 2026 Varsity Girls State Championship Team
- Records Board Ceremony for 25-26 Track & Field Team
- Meet Coaches & Fine Arts Teachers
- Join Hurricane Association
- Purchase Football Tailgate Spots
- Join PTO
- Pelican Sno Balls
- PTO will hold a Used Uniform Sale
- The Hurricane Association Spirit Store will be open
- Hamburgers, hotdogs & chips provided by Hurricane Association – candy & sodas will be available for sale.



### DT Campus Snoball Social

August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026 | 3:00 - 4:30 pm

New Downtown families & their mentor families are invited to join us on the Downtown campus for a snoball social and campus tour. This is a drop-in event. We hope to see you there!





# Downtown Campus

## K2-6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

### Welcome from Mrs. Brooks

It is a true blessing to begin my ninth year serving as the Downtown Campus Principal. First Baptist School is a truly special place, and I am grateful for the opportunity to partner with our families in the growth and development of each child. Whether you are returning to our school community or joining us for the first time, welcome! We are thrilled that you have chosen First Baptist School to be part of your child's educational journey.

At First Baptist School, we are deeply committed to nurturing the whole child—academically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually. We consider it a privilege to partner with families as we cultivate a love for Christ, a passion for learning, and a heart for serving others.

Our faculty and staff are dedicated to creating a safe, supportive, and engaging environment where every student can thrive. We look forward to helping your child grow in knowledge, character, and faith throughout the year.

Please know that my door is always open. If you have questions or need support at any point during the school year, I encourage you to reach out. I also hope to see many of you at our Bagels with Brooks gatherings, which provide a wonderful opportunity to connect and build community together. I would also like to take this opportunity to introduce Mrs. Heidi Doyle, our Dean of Students for the Downtown Campus. Below you will find a message from her.

We are excited for all that God has in store and look forward to an amazing school year with your family!  
"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."  
— 1 Peter 4:10

Susan Brooks, Lower School Principal | [brookss@fbschool.org](mailto:brookss@fbschool.org)



### Downtown Campus K2-6th Grade

- 22 Water (K2)
- 48 Meeting (5th & 6th)
- 24 Water (3rd, Specials, & Science Lab)
- Carriage House (K3 & 4th, Specials)
- Main Education Building (K4-2nd Grade)

# Lower & Intermediate School Dean of Students

## Meet Mrs. Heidi Doyle

I am truly honored and deeply grateful to step into the role of Dean of Students for our lower and intermediate school. After more than two decades in the classroom, I have watched countless students grow, learn, and discover their potential, and I carry those experiences with me as I begin this new chapter. What makes this opportunity especially meaningful is that my own children are part of this school community—I see firsthand the exceptional care and dedication our staff brings to every student each day.

Over the past four years since joining the First Baptist family, I have grown to love this place, its values, and the people who make it such a special environment for learning and growth. I am excited to serve in this capacity and to support our students, families, and staff as we continue to build a welcoming, nurturing community where every child can thrive.

Sincerely,

Heidi Doyle  
Dean of Students  
Lower & Intermediate School





# James Island Campus

## 7<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

### Welcome from Mr. McCombs

Welcome to First Baptist School. Whether your family has been with us for years or if you're just beginning, we are excited to have you as a part of our FBS family.

First Baptist School endeavors to prepare students academically, socially, and spiritually. With Honors courses, AP classes, dual enrollment programs, and college and career counseling, we strive to provide the best education to prepare students for life. Students can also participate in athletics, fine arts, and clubs, further honing their giftedness. All while providing academic excellence with a Christian perspective.

We are here to support you on your journey at First Baptist High School. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. We are excited to meet all our new students and welcome back our returning students!

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

The Lord will provide.

Mr. Will McCombs, High School Principal | [mccombsw@fbschool.org](mailto:mccombsw@fbschool.org)

Ms. Marshelle Grant, High School Assistant Principal | [grantm@fbschool.org](mailto:grantm@fbschool.org)

Mr. Kevin Mapp, Dean of Students | [mappk@fbschool.org](mailto:mappk@fbschool.org)



### James Island Campus 7th-12th Grade

- Academic Building located at 2051 George L. Griffith Blvd.
- Athletics & Fine Arts Complex located at 2055 George L. Griffith Blvd.
- Modular Classroom Building

# Technology Information

## Chromebooks

Grades 3-12



All Students in grades 3rd - 11th are required to have a Chromebook.

\*\*3rd grade is encouraged to buy their own Chromebook to be kept at school, but we will have a class set to use during the school day if student needs.

Please click the link below to learn more about the Chromebook options and policies.

[CHROMEBOOK INFORMATION](#)

All Students in 3rd - 11th grade are required to have a Chromebook. 12th grade students are able to continue with the device they currently have (tablets excluded). If you plan to purchase a new device this year, it will be required to be a Chromebook. This is to ensure the PSAT, SAT & MAP software can be added.

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# Campus Transportation

## Campus Shuttle

A shuttle runs between the James Island and Downtown campuses. The morning shuttle, open to all 1st-12th graders, departs James Island at 7:30am and Downtown at 7:50am, with a sign-up form provided at the start of the school year.



The afternoon shuttle from Downtown to James Island is for students in extracurricular activities at James Island, with weekly a sign-up form emailed. Additionally, there is a small shuttle from James Island to Downtown at the end of the school day, with a sign up form provided at the start of the school year.

# Campus Life

## Special Areas & Auxiliary Programs

Outside of the academic classroom, students participate in a variety of special area classes and clubs during the week. Some of our offerings include:

- Art
- Photography
- Bible
- Library
- PE
- Spanish & French
- Computer
- Music
- Clubs
- Band and Choir
- Dance
- Drama
- Debate
- C.R.E.A.T.E.
- STEAM
- Charleston Tours
- RC Sailboat Building
- Wooden Boat Building



## Auxiliary Programs

At First Baptist School of Charleston, our auxiliary programs are designed to provide a seamless extension of the school day, offering enriching experiences for students. Our programs provide supplementary resources and support that enrich the student experience and promote well-being. Learn more [here](#).

Programs include:

- Extended Day Program (K2-8<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- Fall & Spring Enrichment Classes (K5-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- Specialty & Holiday Break Camps
- Summer Camps

# Campus Life

## Highlights & Class Trips

Experience a vibrant school year filled with memorable highlights for every grade level! From Christmas plays, Market Days, and field trips for all to leadership opportunities, honor societies, and class trips for older grades, there's something for everyone. Activities include drama, concerts, academic competitions, and even unique experiences like Boat Building and outdoor classrooms. A year of growth, creativity, and fun awaits!

### K2-K5

- Christmas Play
- Hungry Caterpillar Play
- Thanksgiving Feast
- K5 Graduation
- Pumpkins for Pops
- Grandparents Day

### 1st-4th Grade

- Market Day
- Field Trips to Dock Street
- Wax Museum
- Thanksgiving Chapel
- Band and Choir Concerts
- Drama
- Spelling Bee
- Pop Up Christmas Shop

### 5th-6th Grade

- Class Trips
- Boat Building
- Spelling Bee, & Math Meet
- Enrichment Classes
- Pop Up Christmas Shop
- Pumpkin Palooza Sale

### 7th-12th Grade

- Outdoor Classrooms
- Student Government
- National Honor Society
- Junior National Honor Society
- Class Trips
- Clubs
- Spelling Bee, Math Meet and Quiz Bowl

### 4th-12th Grade Class Trips

Students in grades 4-12 enjoy exciting class travel experiences, including trips to the Columbia Zoo, Camp Leopold, Camp Thunderbird, Camp Kanuga, Washington, DC, St Augustine, Great Smoky Mountains, and Disney World & Universal. Additionally, a Europe trip is taken during Spring Break for high school students & families as well as a summer International Trip for rising 6-12.

### International Travel Opportunities

Plans are underway for our International trips for students and families for the Summer of 2027.

- Iceland for 9th-12th grades. Details can be found [here](#).
- Austria, Germany and Switzerland for 6th - 12th grades. Details can be found [here](#).



# Campus Life

## Athletics

At First Baptist, we believe athletics enhance the school experience and prioritize team success over individual achievements, guided by the principle of honoring God in all we do. Inspired by Philippians 4:13 and 2 Timothy 4:7, we encourage all students to participate, regardless of skill level, and emphasize complete commitment—physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. Our Athletic Department is dedicated to fostering a personal relationship with Christ, promoting good sportsmanship, and equipping student-athletes to excel through motivational coaching. Please visit our [Athletics](#) page to find more information.

### Varsity

- Football
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Soccer
- Softball
- Baseball
- Track & Field
- Golf
- Cross-Country
- Swimming
- Cheerleading

### Junior Varsity

- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Football
- Soccer
- Softball
- Baseball
- Tennis

### B-Team

- Basketball
- Baseball
- Volleyball
- Softball





# Spiritual Life

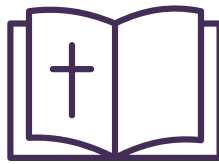
At First Baptist School, we focus on nurturing each child's spiritual growth and Christian faith. Weekly chapel services offer worship, guest speakers, and prayer for the school and community. Our Bible classes and Christian Worldview Curriculum integrate faith into all subjects. Students also receive spiritual support from our student minister and counselor.

Learn more by visiting our [Spiritual Life](#) page.



## Chapel

Lower, middle, and high school students attend chapel once a week. During this time, students engage in corporate worship; interact and learn with the speaker; and pray for our school, community, and families.



## Christian Worldview Curriculum

We integrate the Christian faith into each core academic class - whether that means examining the fine-tuning of the universe in science class, discussing the glory and fall of man in conjunction with a literary study, or examining the characteristics of a servant leader in history.



## Christian Philosophy & Religion Department

First Baptist School nurtures and develops students' understanding of Scripture. In the lower and middle schools, students attend Bible class twice a week, and high school students enroll in a Bible course each year.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11

# School Counseling

## Meet Mr. Jon Durham

My name is Jon Durham, and I serve as School Counselor and Campus Minister. I am an ordained minister as well as an LPC-A. The goal of FBS is to nurture the whole child and one of those ways is through social and emotional health. My goal here at FBS is to be a resource for our students as well as our families. If there is any way that I can assist you during this school year, please do not hesitate to reach out. I know that through the school years some kids have their ups and downs as well as life in general. There are situations that arise in life that are beyond our control and can feel overwhelming at times. I believe that each student is unique and am thankful that FBS understands the importance of social and emotional health along with academics.

If you feel that your child would benefit, I am available to help in processing feelings, emotions, handling anxiety or any issue that is causing you concern. I know many families engage in counseling and therapy in private practices and in no way want to disrupt the counseling process, but if there is an immediate need during school or school specific issues, I would love to be available to assist. I am excited that here at FBS I am able to integrate God's Truth alongside research-based counseling methods. I understand that when working through emotions and feelings can sometimes be difficult, I take great care in respecting privacy and following Ethical and Professional Standards set forth by the American Counseling Association (ACA).

Blessings,

Jon Durham, LPC-A  
School Counselor & Campus Minister  
[durhamj@fbschool.org](mailto:durhamj@fbschool.org)





# College and Career Readiness

Greetings and welcome to the First Baptist family! Whether you are just now joining us or if you have been growing with us for years, you will be warmly welcomed when we open the doors for the 2026-27 school year. It gives me goosebumps to think that this time last year was when you would have found me as the new kid on the block, and now I feel like I have known everyone for decades! To me, this is a testament to the genuine warmth and support that I've come to cherish as a cornerstone of the First Baptist community.

In the College and Career Readiness department, we leverage this supportive environment to challenge each student to define their hopes/dreams, lay out a plan of how to get there, and execute that plan. Our role is not to tell a student what they should or shouldn't do after high school, but to provide students with the framework to research the options that are available to them, the tools necessary to make informed decisions, and the support they need to build their own Individual Career Plan.

Whether a post-secondary journey involves a 2-year degree, 4-year degree, graduate degree, workforce development, apprenticeship, military, or any other alternative, our requirement is that every student graduates with a solid plan and action steps on how to achieve their goals.

I hope that we all enjoy a fun and restful summer and I look forward to working with you all!

Blessings,

Chris Chambers  
College and Career Counselor

# Parent Teacher Organization

The purpose of the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is to support the faculty, staff and students of First Baptist School through our time, talents, and financial gifts. Your generous contributions fund teacher appreciation activities, technology needs, and other requests as they arise.

The goals of the PTO are the following:

- Establish and maintain a working relationship among parents, school and community.
- Support school improvement and promote the finest education possible for the students at First Baptist School.
- Expand technology and supplement equipment and supplies.
- Develop programs and projects that will support or enrich the curriculum.
- Enhance the quality of education by raising funds for school supplies or programs that fall outside the school budget.

Monies raised through PTO membership and fundraisers is donated to the school to purchase/fund items needed by our teachers and students outside of the scope of tuition. PTO funds pay for school RENWEB fees, Accelerated Reader (AR) program, teacher appreciation luncheons, and other items needed as they arise. All funds are spent in a manner which directly benefit the students, staff, and teachers.

Learn more at [fbschool.org/pto](http://fbschool.org/pto)!



## Used Uniform Sale

We will have a used uniform sales hosted by PTO at the Hurricane Night on July 26<sup>th</sup> on the James Island campus at 4:00 pm. There will be athletic gear, collared shirts, pants, skirts, shorts, and sweatshirts.

Parent volunteers needed! Sign up will be sent out closer to the event.