



WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

- Head of School Update
- October Calendar
- School Happenings
- Homecoming Week
- Auxiliary Programs
- PTO Updates
- Advancement Updates
- College & Career Readiness

Head of School Update

By Dr. Justin Mitchell

Greetings, First Baptist Community!

As we move deeper into the school year, we are reminded that growth is one of God's greatest works in our lives. In Philippians 1:6, Scripture tells us, "Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ."

Continued on Page 2...

This promise reminds us that growth is a continual process. Every lesson learned, challenge overcome, and relationship strengthened is another step forward in God's plan for each of us.

It is remarkable to reflect on how much has already been accomplished in these first months of school. As students settle into routines and engage in meaningful learning experiences, we see confidence, responsibility, and resilience developing throughout our classrooms. These qualities are the direct result of dedicated teachers, supportive families, and students committed to becoming the very best versions of themselves. As a school dedicated to Academic Excellence with a Christian Perspective, we celebrate not only academic achievement but also the personal and spiritual growth taking place every day.

September was filled with opportunities that strengthened our school community. Both campuses participated in See You At The Pole, joining students and families across the nation in prayer for our schools, communities, and leaders. Moments like these remind us that our greatest source of wisdom and direction comes from the Lord. We also enjoyed gathering during Family Friday. Events that bring families, students, and staff together reinforce the strong sense of community that makes First Baptist School such a special place to learn and grow.

We are pleased to share that the Middle School building on James Island received the Certificate of Occupancy, and we began classes there on September 30th. This has been a significant transition, and we appreciate the hard work of the staff and the understanding and support from parents, which have made it all worth it. These enhancements help ensure that our students and staff can focus on what matters most: teaching, learning, and building meaningful relationships.

Our fall athletic programs continue to demonstrate the values we strive to instill in every student. Whether competing on the field, court, or course, our athletes represent First Baptist with determination, sportsmanship, and character. We are grateful for the coaches who invest countless hours mentoring and encouraging our students both inside and outside of competition.

As we continue moving forward together, we are encouraged by the words of Isaiah 43:19: "Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it?" God is continually at work, creating opportunities for growth, renewal, and purpose. We see evidence of His faithfulness throughout our school community every day. Thank you for your ongoing prayers, support, and partnership in the mission of First Baptist School. We are grateful for the privilege of walking alongside your family as we help students grow in knowledge, character, and faith.

We invite you to stay connected with current events by following First Baptist School's social media channels and visiting our school website. #WeAreFB

Be Blessed!

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

Dr. Justin Mitchell
Head of School

Middle School Move

On the morning of September 30th, our middle schoolers were met with an exciting surprise — it was finally time to move into their new building on the James Island Campus! Although the original plan was to be settled in by the start of the school year, the wait was well worth it. Students and teachers alike are thrilled to officially call their new space home!





CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2026

9	End of Quarter 1
5-9	Homecoming Spirit Week
10	Homecoming Dance (Grades 9-12)
14	Half-Day for K2-12, PSAT for Grades 8-11 Professional Development for Faculty & Staff
15-16	Fall Break - No School
19-23	Downtown Campus Book Fair
23	Grandparents Day
25	FBS Friends & Family Oyster Roast
30	PTO Dress Down Day Pelican's Snoballs (DT Campus)



[View Athletic Calendar](#)



IN THE KNOW

school happenings



Moonlight & Magnolias Homecoming Dance (Grades 9-12)

Students in 9th-12th grade are invited to attend the Homecoming Dance on Saturday, October 10th from 7:00-10:00 pm in the James Island Campus Aux Gym!

Downtown Campus Book Fair

Our Scholastic Book Fair will be on the Downtown Campus October 19-23! If you are available to volunteer during the book fair, please sign up [here](#)!



James Island Campus Parent Bible Study

A parent Bible study for our James Island campus parents are Mondays at 8:30 am. Please join us!

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

First Baptist School Spirit Week

OCTOBER 5-9, 2026

mon
05



Jersey Day

tue
06

DT: DECADES DAY (ANY DECADE!)
Jl: RHYME WITHOUT REASON

wed
07



Battle of the Colors

K2-K5 & 7th

1st-2nd & 10th

3rd-4th & 11th

5th-6th & 12th

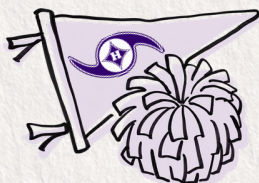
8th

9th

thu
08

DT: DOLLY/WESTERN DAY
Jl: Country vs. Country Club

fri
09



Purple & White Day

All week our campuses will be supporting James Island Outreach. Please bring a canned good (meat is high priority)!



Friends & Family



OYSTER ROAST

AT THE ISLAND HOUSE

OCTOBER 25, 2026

4:30-7:00 PM

Please join us for the FBS Friends & Family
Oyster Roast, a warm, come-as-you-are
celebration of the community that makes our
school so special.

[GRAB YOUR TICKETS!](#)



FALL FEST

INFANTS - 5TH GRADE

FREE!
BRING FRIENDS!

GAMES!
INFLATABLES

**TRUNK OR
TREAT!**

WOW!

**CANDY +
PRIZES!**

Saturday **OCTOBER 31, 2026**

JAMES ISLAND

10AM-NOON

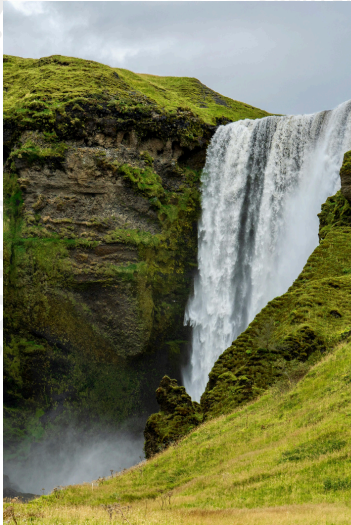
2055 GEORGE GRIFFITH BLVD.
JAMES ISLAND, SC 29412

CAMPUS

REGISTER



UPCOMING Travel Opportunities



Northern Iceland

Spring 2027 | Grades 9-12

Our high school students are invited to join us as we explore Northern Iceland! This 8-day trip will allow us to visit multiple cities and explore all Northern Iceland has to offer.

Please contact Christi Crawford at crawfordc@fbschool.org for more information!



Austria, Switzerland, & Germany

Summer 2027 | Grades 6-12, and their families

Sixth graders and up, along with their families, can experience a 10-day adventure through Austria, Switzerland, and Germany next summer! Travelers will visit historic cities and sites, see breathtaking scenery, and make memories to last a lifetime.

For more information, please contact Hannah Salters at saltersh@fbschool.org!

**Interest
meeting on
10/6! [RSVP
here](#) and get
\$200 off your
trip!**

SEPTEMBER

Helping Hurricanes

This recognition goes to Downtown Campus students who exemplify qualities such as loyalty, honesty, compassion, great classroom manners and Christian Values.

Congratulations to our September Helping Hurricanes!



Cooper
William
Ms. Gouldbourne
Jakob



SECOND GRADE SERVICE LEARNING

Second graders are once again collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House this year!

If you would like to donate pop tabs, please bring them in gallon size Ziplock bags and drop them in the black bins near the library.



HURRICANE ASSOCIATION

TAILGATE RAFFLE



**\$1,900
VALUE!**

Tickets are \$5 each \$20 for 5. A person can purchase an unlimited amount. You do not have to be present to win. Tickets will be available online and at concessions during home games. **Winner announced October 23rd!**

ENTER TO WIN:

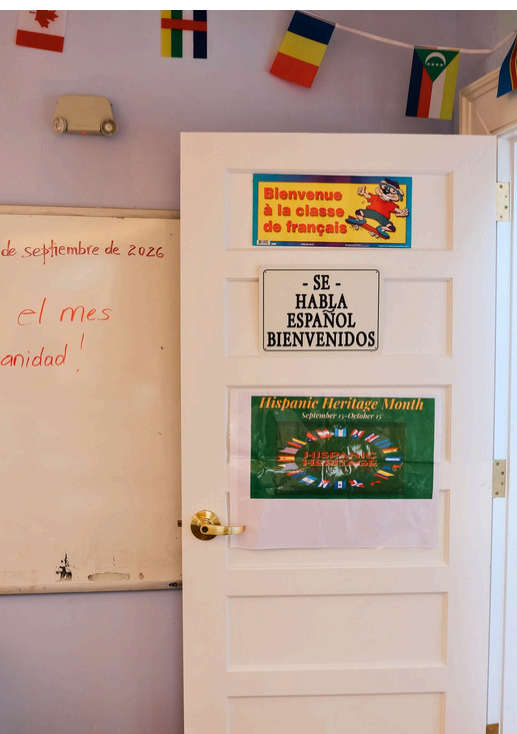
- 10 x 10 Tailgate tent
- Traeger Portable Wood Pellet Grill/Smoker
- Portable Power Station, Solar Generator
- 4 FBS Mugs
- \$100 FreeFly Gift Card
- Propane heater
- 55" Television
- Tailgate chairs (4)
- Yeti Cooler

GRAB YOUR TICKETS!



Hispanic Heritage Month, observed annually from September 15 to October 15, has been a time of rich cultural exploration for students at our Downtown Campus. In Spanish class, they have been diving into the diverse histories, traditions, and contributions of Hispanic Americans.

The learning came to life when Ms. Linda paid a special visit to share about her home country of Guatemala. Students had the unique opportunity to ask questions and gain a deeper understanding of Guatemalan customs and history, making for a truly memorable and enriching experience.





DOWNTOWN CAMPUS *Garden*



September Planting

Rita's Roots stopped by in September to help our K4-1st graders get our garden prepped for fall! Classes took turns filling the garden boxes with new soil, vegetables, flowers, and more!

Growing Our Garden

We have some exciting plans coming up for our garden that we can't wait to share! In the meantime, if you'd like to help us continue growing our garden, please visit our [Amazon Wishlist](#)!



Amazon Wishlist

If you would like to help support our garden, please visit our [Amazon Wishlist](#) to keep our garden supplies stocked!





Holiday Break Camp Registration (Grades K3–4th)

- Gobble & Gather Camp (Nov. 23–24): Registration opens Nov. 1st!
- Jinglebell Junction Camp (Dec. 21–22): Registration opens Nov. 30th!

Cool Ray Visiting Extended Day

The Stingrays mascot, Cool Ray, will be here Friday, November 13th! All K2–6th grade students are welcome to join in, though please note that the regular extended day rate will apply

Looking Ahead: Spring & Summer Sign-Ups

Registration for Spring Enrichments will open Jan. 4, 2027. Summer Camp registration will open Jan. 25, 2027 for enrolled FBS families.



Interested in our 2027 summer programs? Learn more at firstbaptistsummer.org!

[illegible]

2025-26 PTO Year-in-Review



College & Career Readiness Department Newsletter

MR. CHRIS CHAMBERS
& MRS. SHANNON ROY

What's Happening in October?

October is a month of discovery and future planning in College & Career Readiness (CCR). Here's what students in grades 7–12 will be working on:

- **7th and 8th grades:** Students meet with me twice a week for CCR class. We're exploring their interests and strengths, building executive functioning skills such as organization and time management, and learning about different careers. In October, students will begin using YouScience to discover more about their natural aptitudes.
- **9th grade:** I'll begin individual meetings with freshmen in October. We'll use YouScience as a starting point for conversations about their strengths, possible career paths, and choices they may want to explore in high school. No one needs to have a career picked out in ninth grade; the goal is to become more curious and informed.
- **10th grade:** Sophomores can use this month to check in on their academic habits and start connecting their interests with potential courses, activities, and career paths. A conversation at home about what they enjoy doing—and what they might like to try next—is a great place to start. Looking ahead, expect to have your Individual Career Planning (ICP) meeting with Mr Chambers in Q3.
- **11th grade:** Juniors should continue exploring colleges and other options after graduation while keeping their academic goals in view. Fall is a good time to reflect on which classes and activities have been most meaningful and begin thinking about what they want from their next step. Juniors will begin ICP meetings with Mr. Chambers in Q2.
- **12th grade:** It is College Application Season! Mr. Chambers is currently working with seniors whether they are submitting college applications or pursuing alternative post-secondary pathways. Parents - you're encouraged to be in those discussions! Keep your eyes on Early Action deadlines for all of your colleges - many EA deadlines fall on October 15. You are encouraged to complete all applications by October 15 if possible. Students should also allow time for transcripts, recommendations, and any other required materials, which are due within 2-4 weeks of their application deadline.

What is YouScience?

YouScience uses short, game-like activities to help students identify how they naturally think and solve problems. It connects those aptitudes with careers and educational pathways they may not have considered. We'll treat the results as a tool for exploration and conversation, not as a label or a decision about a student's future. Families can watch this [short introduction to YouScience](#).

CCR



FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL



Mahjong & Moms

NIGHT
OUT

ONLY 48 SEATS
AVAILABLE!

DON'T WAIT TO
RESERVE YOUR
SPOT!

NOVEMBER 9, 2026

5:30-8:30 PM

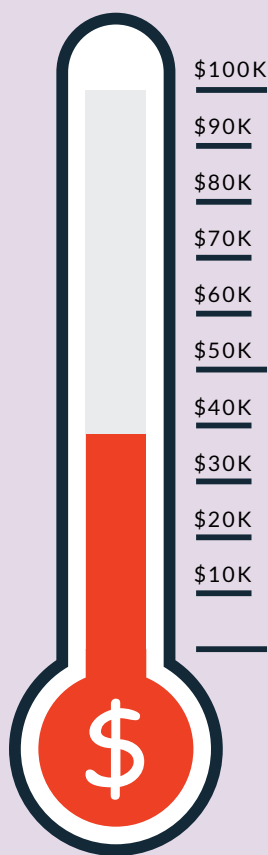
[TICKETS](#)

Interested in sponsoring Mahjong & Moms in November? View our sponsorship opportunities [here](#), and please submit by October 23! Please reach out to Mary Pat Calvert at calvertmp@fbschool.org.

ADVANCEMENT

UPDATES

Mr. Jimmy Crook
Director of Advancement



The 2026-2027 Loyalty Fund Campaign continues to move towards our goal of reaching \$100,000. We are pleased to announce that the **campaign has raised \$37,000** at this early date in our annual campaign. All past donors to the Loyalty Fund have received a special invitation to our upcoming **Friends & Family Oyster Roast** to be held at The Island House on October 25th. This year we will also have live music and a bouncy house for those who are young...and young at heart. We are looking forward to thanking those past supporters again, and recognizing any donors who renew their commitment again for the upcoming year. We hope you all can join us!

On September 30th, the **Board of Visitors** and school staff gathered for the inaugural Fall Luncheon at 82 Queen. The event featured updates on recent school changes, goals for the upcoming year, long-range plans, and the new James Island campus chapel project. Those interested in supporting First Baptist School's mission of "Academic Excellence with a Christian Perspective" through the Board of Visitors can contact Jimmy Crook at crookj@fbschool.org.

For all **alumni** who drop by the Alumni table during the Homecoming football game and update their contact information with the Alumni Office we have a **special FBS Rally Towel** we would like to give you as a small token of our appreciation.



The **2025-2026 Annual Report** is available now!
View the report [here](#).



[Donate Online](#)



ADMISSIONS UPDATES

With the 2026-2027 school year underway your Admissions Directors are busy planning for the 2027-2028 school year. **If you have a sibling of a current student that you are considering enrolling for the 27-28 school year, please make sure the Admissions Team has an active inquiry on file for you.** We want to keep you in the loop when the application opens in November. Re-enrollment for current students is scheduled to open in January.

As always, please reach out if you have any questions!

Sally Casias, casiass@fbschool.org
Director of Lower School Admissions

Beth Switzer, switzerb@fbschool.org
Director of Middle & High School Admissions



JAMES ISLAND CAMPUS OPEN HOUSE

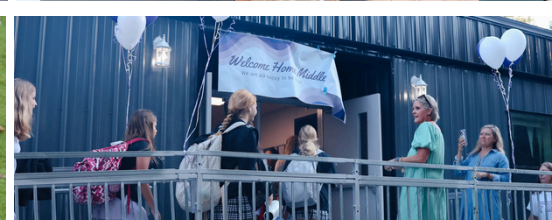
We were thrilled to welcome families interested in our Middle & High School programs to an Open House at our James Island Campus on Thursday, September 24th from 5:00-6:30 pm. **A total of 17 families attended** the event, taking the opportunity to meet our faculty, staff, and fellow FBS families, as well as explore our campus firsthand.

If you know any middle or high school families interested in applying for the 2027-2028 school year, please encourage them to reach out to Beth Switzer at switzerb@fbschool.org!

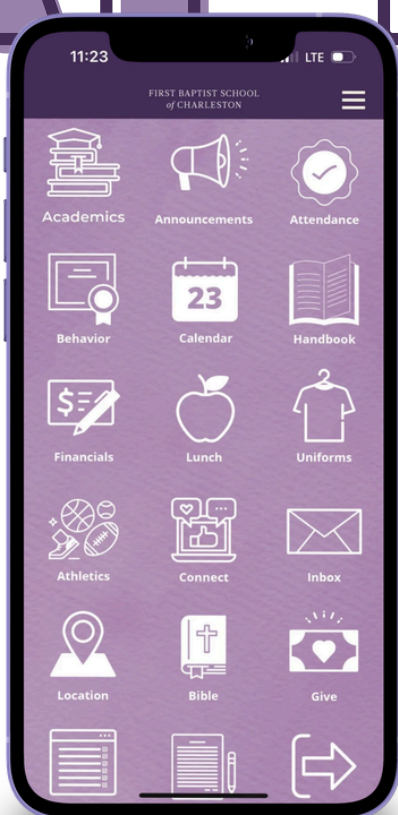




Around Campus



FBS APP



Stay up-to-date with the First Baptist School App! This is a **FREE** app that ties in to FACTS where you can find information on academics, athletics, resources, and more!

If you already have the app, please be sure you are updated to the most current version for best functionality.

Get the app here for [iPhone](#) or [Android](#)!

FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

RESOURCES



FACTS
LOGIN



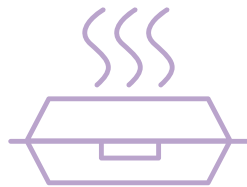
STUDENT
HANDBOOK

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.