

HURRICANE WATCH

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

May 2026

Monthly Newsletter



WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

- Head of School Update
- May Calendar
- School Happenings
- Student Travel
- Fine Arts Highlights
- Auxiliary Programs
- PTO Updates
- Advancement Updates

Head of School Update

By Dr. Justin Mitchell

Greetings, First Baptist Community!

As we approach the end of another school year, I find myself reflecting with gratitude on all the Lord has done in the lives of our students. Psalm 126:3 reminds us, "The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy." That verse feels especially fitting as we look back on a year filled with growth, not only academically and physically, but spiritually as well.

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It is a blessing to watch our students live out their faith in small but meaningful moments: holding a door for a classmate or teacher, saying "bless you" when someone sneezes, offering a kind word, or encouraging a friend. These simple acts are beautiful reminders of the Christ-centered community we are called to build each day.

The end of the school year is always important. It is a time to finish well, celebrate accomplishments, honor hard work, and look back on the ways God has been faithful. May is also one of the busiest and most joyful months at First Baptist School, filled with exams, awards, class trips, and graduations. Exams are scheduled for May 9-12. Please keep our students and teachers in your prayers as they complete the final academic responsibilities of the year. The High School Awards Ceremony will be held on May 13 at 9:45 AM in the FBC Sanctuary. We will also celebrate our 7th-8th grade students at their awards ceremony on May 15 at 8:15 AM in the FBC Sanctuary, and our 4th-6th grade students on May 21 at 8:15 AM in the FBC Sanctuary. Parents and family members are encouraged to attend as we celebrate the success, hard work, and achievements of our students. We are especially excited to celebrate our graduates. Graduation is a meaningful milestone, and we are proud of the way our students have grown, persevered, and prepared for the next chapter God has for them. Our graduation schedule is as follows:

K5 Graduation: May 22 at 9:00 AM in the FBC Sanctuary
8th Grade Graduation: May 27 at 9:00 AM in the FBC Sanctuary
High School Graduation: May 29 at 7:30 PM in the FBC Sanctuary

We are also excited about the progress of our Middle School Classroom Building. We are on track to have the building ready to go by the middle of June, pending no permitting delays. An in-person meeting will be held on May 11 for rising 7th and 8th graders to answer questions and provide information about the transition. This new space will be a valuable addition for our students and will allow for continued growth on our campus. We will share more updates once it is fully ready for operation.

We are also grateful to share that the exterior construction of our weight room on James Island is now complete. We are currently in the process of electrical work, insulation, and HVAC installation. In addition, we are partnering with the Hurricane Association to ensure the interior of the building is well-equipped to meet the needs of our student-athletes. This space will be a tremendous blessing to our athletic program and will help us continue supporting the growth, discipline, and development of our students.

Please note that the last day of school for the Downtown Campus has been moved to May 21. This adjustment is being made to avoid the increased traffic connected with the opening day of the Spoleto Festival.

As we close this school year, I want to thank you for the continued partnership we share with each of you. Your support, involvement, encouragement, and prayers make a lasting difference in the life of our school. It is truly a blessing to serve alongside you as we seek to educate, disciple, and encourage our students to grow in wisdom, faith, and character.

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.



CALENDAR

MAY 2026

19-22	Second Semester Exams
21	Last Day of School
22	Kindergarten Graduation
24	Baccalaureate Service
25	Memorial Day – School & Offices Closed
26	Exam Make Up Day & Teacher Workday
26-29	Teacher Workdays
27	Eighth Grade Graduation
29	High School Graduation



[View Athletic Calendar](#)



IN THE KNOW

school happenings



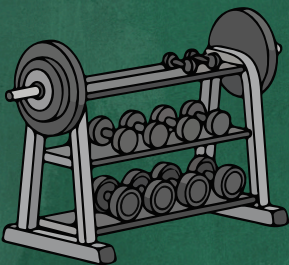
LAST CALL! Field Day Family Friday

1st-8th grade families are invited to join us for a Field Day family lunch! Meal includes Chick-fil-a chicken nuggets, chips, fruit, and cookies! Ticket sales will close on Monday, May 4th. **Tickets**

School Supplies for 26-27 School Year

We have partnered with School Toolbox again for school supplies boxes. Below are the links to order for your grade level.

5th-8th Supplies | **K2-4th Grade Supplies**



High School Weight Room Fundraiser

The Hurricane Association is working on outfitting the new weight room and is asking for some help. It will be a great space for our student-athletes! Donations can be made [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





First Baptist High School

*Art
&
Photography
Show*



SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026
DROP-IN
2-4 PM

FIRST BAPTIST HIGH SCHOOL AUXILARY GYM

OPEN VIEWING DURING SCHOOL HOURS
WEDNESDAY, MAY 6 - FRIDAY, MAY 8

FOOTBALL BBQ FUNDRAISER



Help support First Baptist Football! Our football program is hosting a BBQ fundraiser to raise money for the program. Each BBQ plate includes BBQ, two sides, and a roll! Orders will be ready for pick-up after school on May 15th.

[Place your order here!](#)

Rita's Roots

Spring planting with Rita's Roots! We planted cucumbers, tomatoes, bush beans, scallions, a variety of lettuces, a variety of peppers, snapdragons, borage, dill, basil, fennel, strawberries, and a variety of flowers.





You're **Invited!**



Family Fishing Day

SATURDAY
06 JUNE

— 2026 —

BEGINS
8:30

— AM —

WINGATE PLACE
3850 RIVER RD. JOHNS ISLAND

RSVP

LUNCH
PROVIDED!

BRING RODS + BAIT!



WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

June 22 – 26



9 am – Noon

SHINING A LIGHT ON
WHO JESUS REALLY IS

ILLUMINATION STATION

JOHN 8:12

MORE INFO
AND RSVP





First Baptist School

Auxiliary Programs

Spring enrichments are winding down, and we are thrilled with the engagement of our students this school year. If your student participated in any of our enrichment programs this school year, we'd love your feedback!

Enrichment Feedback Survey



FIRST BAPTIST Summer

DAY CAMPS  CHARLESTON, SC

We still have room in many of our Seas the Day camps! From engineering and drama to boat building and sports, our weekly camps offer something for every interest, ensuring your child has an inspiring and unforgettable summer.

Learn more and register at firstbaptistsummer.org!

Registration for 2026 Summer Camps is NOW Open!



COED AGES 6-16 SKILL-BASED INSTRUCTION



NIKE SOCCER CAMP

Charleston, SC

FIRST BAPTIST HIGH SCHOOL

HOSTED BY **CTD** | SOCCER ACADEMY

June 29th - July 3rd



CTDSOCCERACADEMY.COM

1-800-645-3226
USSPORTSCAMPS.COM

WHERE IN THE WORLD



are the Hurricanes?

We love seeing our students take their learning beyond the classroom! Over the past few months, we've had multiple student trips, including adventures to Camp Kanuga in NC, Washington D.C., and even central Europe. This summer, another group will be traveling to France!

Be on the lookout for even more exciting student travel opportunities coming soon.





FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL FINE ARTS



Spring Dance Showcase

Congratulations to all of our student dancers and teachers for an
amazing Spring Dance Showcase!



Congratulations to our First Baptist Band students who were selected to participate in the 1st Annual Charleston County Beginner Band Clinic: Knox Brewer, Saylor Murphy, Stella Liptak, Tucker Thomas, Stone Barrett, and Emmett Fox. These students joined 121 young musicians from 16 Charleston County schools to prepare music and then present a concert in just one school day. Way to go!



For any rising 5th-12th grade students interested in joining the band program next year, please contact the FBS band directors.

Mr. James Cannon
cannonj@fbschool.org

Mr. Patrick Duncan
duncanp@fbschool.org



Parent Teacher Organization



The Final Countdown

FBS families,

We are in the home stretch of the 2025-2026 school year!

Field Day for K3-K5 was hosted on Friday, May 1. Field Day for 1st-8th grades will be hosted on Friday, May 8, in combination with Family Friday lunch on the James Island Campus! Parent volunteers are always welcome! [Volunteer for Field Day](#)

Over the past several weeks, the PTO has also celebrated the following holidays and outstanding FBS faculty / staff:

Administrative Professionals Day - April 22:

- Mrs. Kayla Houghton (Downtown campus)
- Mrs. Danyelle Blitch (James Island campus)

School Principals' Day - May 1:

- Dr. Justin Mitchell (both campuses)
- Downtown Campus: Mrs. Susan Brooks
- James Island Campus: Mr. Will McCombs & Mrs. Marshelle Grant

Continued on the next page...

School Nurse Day (coming up) - May 6:

- Please join us in celebrating Nurse Laura Lempesis, Nurse Chelle Carter, and Nurse Caroline Clum

Before closing out the school year, I want to extend a special thank you to the Room Parents! Thank you so much for your time, energy, and care this year. Your help organizing activities, supporting the teacher, and creating a welcoming classroom environment has made a meaningful difference for all the students!

With gratitude for a wonderful 2025-2026 school year,

Lindsay Lower

PTO President

Field Day Fun!



FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL OF CHARLESTON'S

Teacher's

LOUNGE

THURSDAY, MAY 14TH, 4-6PM



- Enjoy sips & sweets while shopping & supporting your school!
- Teachers, parents & staff enjoy 10% off their purchases
- 10% goes back to your school!



Lounge With Us®

520 FOLLY RD. UNIT 130, CHARLESTON, SC 29412

ADVANCEMENT

UPDATES

Mr. Jimmy Crook
Director of Advancement



The 25/26 Loyalty Fund Campaign will officially close on May 31, 2026. Although we did not reach our overall goal for this year, we did a 31% growth in dollars raised over the 24/25 campaign. We are proud to report that there were numerous new donors while also retaining our traditional support from alumni, parents and grandparents. We will be recognizing our Loyalty Fund members in the upcoming Annual Report, and also hosting our traditional biennial oyster roast to thank our contributors this fall. If you have not made your contribution and would still like to support the 25/26 campaign please consider an online donation, or mail your check sometime before May 31st.

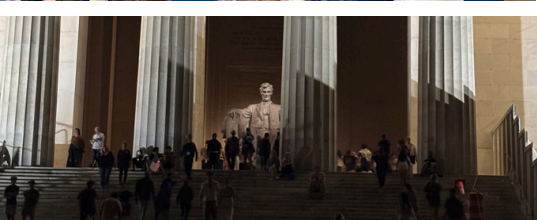
The First Baptist School's Board of Visitors held it's annual meeting on April 22nd at the Harbour Club in Charleston. This dedicated group of supporters provide an essential part of our Tuition Assistance Fund in support of our efforts to help those students in need. We would like to especially thank the following for making the luncheon a memorable experience for everyone in attendance. Thank you to Mrs. Courtney Fuller's 1st Grade Class in reading the 23rd Psalm and singing "My Jesus is Alive." Also, we want to thank Josh Laney and Sarah Ellen Weatherhotz for representing the Class of 2026 and giving the invocation and student address respectively. Susan Brooks and Will McCombs gave the Downtown Campus and James Island Campus reviews, with Kip Hooker giving the FBS Long Range Plan review. Once again, thanks to our presenters and those BOV members who could join us.

For more information please contact Jimmy Crook at crookj@fbschool.org

Jimmy Crook
Director of Advancement
crookj@fbschool.org



Around Campus



FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

RESOURCES



FACTS
LOGIN



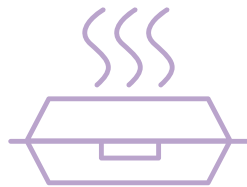
STUDENT
HANDBOOK

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.