



# First Baptist School News

15002 First Baptist Lane, Laurel, MD 20707

Website: [www.fbslaurel.com](http://www.fbslaurel.com) email: [fbslaurel@yahoo.com](mailto:fbslaurel@yahoo.com)

(301) 490-1076 – Phone (301) 725-3414 – fax



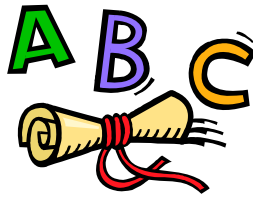
## Congratulations! December Students of the Month

### Kindergarten

Michael Bethune  
Josiah Phunkulh

### First Grade

Lailah Hammond  
Maya Patel

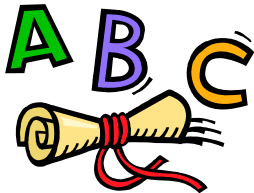


### Second Grade

Danielle Jones

### Third Grade

Olukemi Ajibawo



### Fourth Grade

Riley Dwonzyk

### Fifth Grade

Nicole Sauls

### 6th and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Brandon Sauls

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Justin Burriss  
Special Achievement in  
Mathematics & Science



## Middle School Midterms

Midterm Exam Week – January 12-16  
Parents please encourage your  
students to study for mid-term exams.

## *Inauguration Day*

*January 20, 2009*

In celebration of the Presidential Inauguration, First Baptist School of Laurel is offering ***Liberal Leave***. The absence will not count against the student's attendance record. If students are absent on Inauguration day, we are asking that they complete a reflection assignment. Please contact your teacher for the assignment.



For students that attend school on January 20, 2009, we are working to set up a television feed to the chapel to view the inauguration of the 44<sup>th</sup> President of the United States.



Be well, be safe if you attend the inauguration parade in the Capital and we hope that you and your family will enjoy observing this memorable historic event together.



**Martin Luther King Holiday**  
School will be closed on Monday,  
January 19, 2009 in  
commemoration of the life and  
contributions of Rev. Martin Luther  
King Jr's legacy of nonviolence and  
equality of all people. For additionl  
information on the life and  
experience of Martin Luther King,  
several websites are listed below:

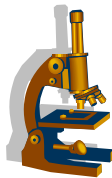
<http://www.thekingcenter.org/holiday/index.asp>  
<http://holidays.kaboose.com/martin-luther-king-jr-day.html>  
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/mlk/filmmore/index.html>

\*\*The websites listed should not be viewed by children  
without parent supervision.



### **Science Fair 2009**

Preparations for Science Fair 2009 have  
begun. Kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade students  
will participate in the Elementary School  
Science Fair on March 26, 2009. Stay  
tuned for Science Fair packets with  
detailed information on the policy(s) and  
procedures. The packets will be sent  
home with your child in the upcoming  
week(s).



## **NEW Website**

The school website is up and  
running. Go to  
[www.fbslaurel.com](http://www.fbslaurel.com) for  
school updates and current  
information on school  
happenings.



### **Hot Lunch**

Next Hot Lunch meal is Wednesday,  
January 14<sup>th</sup>. Money will be due to the  
school by 3:00 pm on Monday, January  
12<sup>th</sup>. Money received after 3:00 pm on  
Monday January 12<sup>th</sup>, will not be  
accepted. The price for hot lunch is  
\$4.00 and includes two (2) tacos, corn,  
dessert, and a drink. If you would like  
an additional taco they will be \$1.00.

### **Partners in Prayer**



*Just a reminder that every second Tuesday  
is "Partners in Prayer". "Partners in  
Prayer" is a time for parents to get together  
once a month on the first Tuesday of the*

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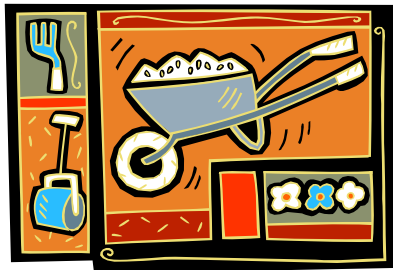
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*month and pray for the first Baptist  
Community. Parents meet in the chapel.*

*The next "Partners in Prayer" is on  
February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:15 am.*



## Dads Building Serenity Garden

Thank you to all the Fathers who built the garden boxes for the Serenity Garden. The Serenity Garden and horticultural learning center for students will facilitate students learning about nature, plant & vegetable growth cycles and a dedicated space for prayer and meditation. Parents when you visit the school, look between C and B wing of the school and see the initial development of the serenity garden. Now we are on to Phase II of creating the Serenity Garden.

### Phase II

We need Fathers on Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup> - Martin Luther King Holiday. In Phase II, we are filling the garden boxes with topsoil. Please contact the school office or the lead father(s) of Phase II,

Joshua Martineau

[joshua.martineau@us.army.mil](mailto:joshua.martineau@us.army.mil) and  
Devin Tucker [dft7@msn.com](mailto:dft7@msn.com) to sign up  
to assist with creating this learning  
environment for your children.



## WEEKLY CHAPEL Service

Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade has a weekly Chapel service on Wednesday at 8:45 am. Middle School has Chapel every Thursday at 1:00. All parents and family are welcome to worship with their children in the chapel.



## Mid-Year Parent Assembly

**The mid-year parent assembly meeting is on January 15, 2009 in the school chapel from 6:30-7:30 pm. Several topics will be discussed in the meeting including: 2009-2010 registration, financial state of the school, overall school climate, assessments, summer enrichment, and student activities.**

# President's Day

**NEXT SCHOOL HOLIDAY**  
FEBRUARY 13<sup>TH</sup> & 16<sup>TH</sup>



## **School Closing for Bad Weather**

**We will close the school for inclement weather in accordance with Prince George's county public school district's closing and delays. When you watch TV or listen to the radio on inclement weather days, please look for what Prince George's school district is doing – we will do the same action. It is our hope that this policy will help parents and faculty who need consistent notice of the school closing (or delay) during early morning hours.**

## **Math Bee**



Our school Math Bee has been rescheduled for February 2009. Stay tuned for more details.



## *Artist in Residence*

The week of January 26, 2009, the students will be taught a special

course in music by our artist in residence, Slim Harrison. At the end of this week the students will perform a concert on January 30<sup>th</sup> @2:00 pm. Parents are welcomed to attend.



## **Fundraiser Results**

### **Books-A-Million**

Thank you for Christmas shopping at Books-A-Million and helping in our school fundraiser!

The school held a fundraiser on Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at the Laurel Books-A-Million located at 351 Montrose Ave, Laurel, MD 20707. Twenty percent of the proceeds benefited our school, approximately \$350.



### **Student Art Fair**

Again thank you parents for your support of your children and the school. The Student Art Fair fundraiser accumulated \$373.00. The fundraising efforts will go towards the goal of \$20,000 seed money for creating our school endowment.



### **Prayer Corner**

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**In addition to Partners in Prayer (first Tuesday of every month at 8:15 am) we ask families to pray that God will continue to grow our school by adding additional families to our First Baptist School community in the 2009-2010 school year.**



## Christmas Program

A big “THANK YOU” to all the parents and families for coming out and supporting the students in their Christmas Program performance. We had over 540 persons in attendance of the Christmas Program. All the classes and the band performed superbly in expressing their love to God for his gift of Jesus.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Cup of Coffee

“2<sup>nd</sup> Cup of Coffee” is a monthly morning meeting to discuss ideas and issues with the school administration. In lieu of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cup of Coffee planned for the month of January, we have scheduled a Mid-Year Parent Assembly

on the evening of January 15<sup>th</sup>; 6:30-7:30 pm.

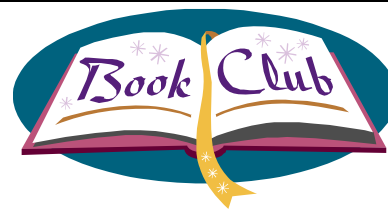
The next date for “Second Cup of Coffee” is Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars.



## PTO Meeting

The next PTO meeting is January 13<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30 to 5:30 pm in Room C217.

## New AfterSchool Activities



Mrs. Rocco will begin the afterschool book club for 2-3 grade students. Space is limited so sign up quickly.



Mrs. Riddle will begin the  
afterschool sign language club  
for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades. Space is  
limited so sign up quickly.