

PARENT HANDBOOK



First Baptist
Junior Academy
& Developmental Learning Center
of Jacksonville

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INTRODUCTION

WELCOME

Welcome to First Baptist Junior Academy and Developmental Learning Center of Jacksonville. What an exciting time this is for you and your Preschooler! As you entrust your precious child to our care, you should know that we will pursue excellence in providing an early childhood experience that sets the tone for a nurturing and loving environment conducive to life long learning. It is our goal at First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC to provide a variety of activities that will encourage a love for learning and healthy development. The objectives are planned to promote intellectual, social, emotional, physical, and spiritual growth. We are looking forward to working with you in helping your child have a happy and successful year.

MISSION STATEMENT

To partner with Christian families by providing a Christ-centered education of excellence where students will discover and embrace their God-given gifts and develop intellectually, socially, emotionally, physically, and spiritually, intentionally building strong foundations of faith.

ADMINISTRATIVE PREROGATIVE

The intent of this handbook is to give general, overall guidelines to which the students and parents will adhere. However, since new situations may occur, and circumstances may arise not covered specifically by this handbook, the Administration reserves the right to exercise its administrative prerogative in responding to any new situations.

NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

First Baptist Junior Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national, or ethnic origin in its administration of educational, admission, athletic, or financial policies or in any other school programs.

PHILOSOPHY

First Baptist Junior Academy partners with Christian families to provide for the individual needs of each child entrusted to our care. We strive to focus on the individual needs of each child in the light of God's Word. We desire for each child to learn about Jesus and how HE wants us to live.

First Baptist Junior Academy will provide loving, consistent, tenured, and trained preschool teachers committed to a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Our goal is to develop students with hearts for God who grow as Jesus did in wisdom, stature, and in favor with God and man.

In the Preschool years, learning is best accomplished through play and multi-sensory involvement. We seek to develop the whole child, and for this reason offer an environment of multi-sensory activities, engaging opportunities, and flexible curriculum that celebrates individual progress. Opportunities are available for each student to experience success and challenge on a daily basis.



PARENTS'/GUARDIANS' STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

First Baptist Academy
of Jacksonville

Please read the following statements. If there is any statement you cannot personally support, please initial it and discuss it with us in your family conference.

1. We have received and read the *Statement of Beliefs* of the school; we are willing to have our child educated in accordance with them and we will attend a Christ-centered church regularly; we will actively participate in the spiritual formation process of our child and realize that success in this area begins with the home, and continues with the church and school.
2. We agree to support to the best of our ability the school's entire program through prayer, time, and financial contributions to the expenses, understanding that we are partners in the educational process.
3. We will fully cooperate in the educational activities of First Baptist Academy by doing our best to make Christian education effective in the life of our child.
4. We will require our child to support the spiritual activities of the school (Chapel, Bible classes, Scripture memory, etc.).
5. We will pay all of our financial obligations to First Baptist Academy on or before the date due. If we are ever unable to do so, we will notify the FBA Office, giving a reasonable explanation for the delay and stating when payment will be made.
6. I have read the Parent/Student handbook in its entirety and agree without reservation that the school has my support in both the interpretation and enforcement of the policies as it relates to my child. I have carefully reviewed the Honor Code found in the above mentioned handbook and support such without reservation.
7. The school reserves the right to place our child at the appropriate grade level and designate the appropriate teacher(s).
8. The school reserves the right to dismiss any student when either the parents/guardians or the student does not cooperate with the policies of the school.
9. We will be faithful to attend all parent functions at First Baptist Academy, as best as we can. These include Open House, Parent Teacher Fellowship meetings, Parent Conference requests, Information Nights, etc.
10. If we become dissatisfied with First Baptist Academy in any way we will resolve the matter with the person(s) involved as outlined in the Parent/Student handbook rather than spreading criticism and negativism (Matt. 18:15-17; 5:23-24). We agree to follow the process of resolving conflicts as set forth in the First Baptist Academy Dispute Resolution Policy.
11. First Baptist Academy's Biblical role is to work in conjunction with the church and home to mold students to be Christlike. Understanding our role in the parent-school partnership, we agree to abstain from sexual immorality, including homosexual orientation (I Thess. 4:3-8, Lev. 20:13, Rom. 1:27). We understand that First Baptist Academy reserves the right to refuse the admission of an applicant or to discontinue enrollment of a student.
12. We will seek to support and advance First Baptist Academy in every area possible—spiritually, academically, physically, and financially.

COVENANT

A covenant is a binding agreement between two parties. It signifies a solemn oath and sincere pledge of mutual respect and cooperation. First Baptist Academy covenants to provide the best it can for your children in the way of facilities, curriculum, faculty, athletics, social functions and instruction. We further pledge to do all that is possible to support your home in growing every student in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. As the legal parents (guardians) of our children, we covenant to support First Baptist Academy in its efforts at Christian education. We agree that it is our responsibility to strive diligently toward the observance of the *Parents' Statement of Support* as God enables us by the power of the Holy Spirit. If for some reason we become dissatisfied, we promise to handle the matter as privately and lovingly as possible. If support or resolution cannot be reached, we recognize it is our responsibility to leave First Baptist Academy and seek a school in alignment with our personal convictions. Together, as a school and as parents (guardians), we pledge to submit our lives to one another and to the final authority of the Word of God.

PROCEDURES

ORIENTATION/MEET THE TEACHER

This event is held before the first day of school, affording all students and parents the opportunity to meet their new teachers in the classrooms. Information will be sent to you in advance regarding this event and other orientation activities.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Junior Academy and DLC Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Two Year Olds and Preschool 3 - parents may choose from a two day (2 yr. olds) or three day (3 yr. olds) morning program from 8:30 - 12:00, or a full day program, with as many hours needed within operating hours.

VPK - Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten is from 8:50 - 12:00. An Extended Day program is also available with extended hours before and after those time frames, within operational hours.

ENROLLMENT

First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC operates on a first come, first served basis. Others may be placed on a waiting list. All children must register properly before admission. An annual, non-refundable registration fee of \$100 must be paid annually during enrollment/re-enrollment. VPK is exempt from this fee; however, a \$50 registration fee for Extended Day still applies, if applicable.

ATTENDANCE

It is very important that your child arrives at school on time and attends regularly. Frequent absences and tardies will be a hindrance to your child, other students, and the teacher. If your child is sick or on vacation, please notify the school by 8:00 a.m.

VPK Students must adhere to the following guidelines:

Tardiness: Class instruction begins promptly at 8:50a.m. Children should arrive at 8:30 for snack time. Any child arriving after 8:50 will be considered tardy and must be signed in at the reception desk in the Junior Academy and DLC Office. While we understand that it is occasionally unavoidable to be late, more than three times in a month is not acceptable and requires a conference with the Director.

Early activities provide time for socialization and "settling in" to class. This transition from home to school is an integral component of every school day. If your child is late, he/she misses opportunities for daily organization, catching up with his/her friends, and one on one time with the teacher. Habitual tardiness implies that school attendance is not important and contributes to attitudes toward school and punctuality that are less than desired.

Early Withdrawal: The end of the class day is as important as the beginning. Wind down activities that summarize and reinforce concepts and skills from the day take place. Looking ahead to tomorrow's events builds enthusiasm and helps prepare a child for what may happen tomorrow. Children who leave early must be signed out in the school office prior to release from the classroom. We know that from time to time an appointment or emergency necessitates that your child must leave early; however, more than twice a month is not acceptable and requires a conference with the Director.

Late Pick-Up: VPK class ends promptly at 12:00 PM unless the child is enrolled in the Extended Day program. If your child is not picked up by 12:10 PM, JADLC late fees will apply (\$5 charge plus \$1/minute, per child).

Absence: Excessive absence is not conducive to proper learning progression and educational success for your child. Please read the following items carefully:

1. Each calendar month, a child's parent or legal, custodial adult may document excused absences that should total no more than twenty percent of the school days per month. Absence is excused due to the following reasons:

- A. Illness or injury of the child or the child's family member which requires hospitalization or bed rest;
 - B. Physician or dental appointment;
 - C. Infectious disease or parasitic infection;
 - D. Funeral service, memorial service, or bereavement upon the death of the child's family member;
 - E. Life-threatening illness or injury of the child's family member;
 - F. Compliance with a court order (ex: visitation, subpoena, etc.);
 - G. Special education or related services;
 - H. Family vacation, not to exceed five (5) excused absences per school year;
 - I. Extraordinary circumstances beyond the control of the child or the child's parent.
2. If a student accrues absences totaling more than twenty percent of the school days in any month, a person other than the child's parent must document the excused absence. The person must be unrelated to the child or the child's parent, and the documentation must show that the person has personal knowledge of the reason for the child's absence (ex: letter from a physician). The parent must also meet with the Director to determine the amount of absences that will be permitted beyond that month. The ELC mandates that a child be present for a very specific number of days per year.
 3. A VPK student who is absent for five (5) consecutive, instructional days without notifying First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC will be considered withdrawn from the VPK program.
 4. When a VPK student becomes ineligible due to absence, the parent/guardian will have the option of prepaying tuition (\$165/week), rather than withdrawing from First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC.
 5. VPK parents/guardians must complete and sign a Parental Choice Certificate for EACH month. These forms will be provided on the last instructional day of each month to sign. Your signature on this form verifies attendance and directs the Early Learning Coalition of Duval County to direct payment for the month's VPK Program for your child to First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC and that you continue to choose First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC to provide your child's VPK for the upcoming month.

TUITION

The Junior Academy and DLC tuition is due on Monday of the current week. Payment is considered late if not received by the close of our office on Tuesday evening. Late payments are subject to a late charge of 10% of the total account balance. There will be no reduction or rebate for absences or vacations. At the discretion of the Director, a child may be dismissed for delinquent fees or non-payment after the third consecutive week.

WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURE

Two weeks prior to the withdrawal date, parents should make direct contact with the Junior Academy and DLC Director. The parent should pick up a withdrawal form from the office. The withdrawal form must be returned to the office when completed, no later than two weeks before the date of withdrawal.

POLICIES

DROP OFF/PICK UP

Preschool students MUST BE escorted to their classroom. Please park your car in the Preschool Garage and walk your child to their classroom door. Do not leave siblings unattended or your car engine running. You *MUST* sign your child in on the sign in sheet. For dismissal, park your car in the same manner and go to your child's designated pick up room. Children are released to authorized adults only. You *MUST* sign your child out.

AFTER HOURS

The center closes at 6:00 p.m. promptly. Our employees are not paid after this time by the Junior Academy. After 6:00 p.m., there will be a late charge of \$5.00 plus \$1.00 per minute per child to be paid immediately to the teacher in charge of your child.

CURRICULUM

We believe that young children learn best by *doing*. Our core curriculums are from biblically-based, thematic frameworks called *Weekday Early Education (WEE) Learn*, developed by Lifeway Early Education Resources, and *Footsteps for Fours*, developed by Bob Jones University Press. We also utilize Handwriting without Tears to supplement our handwriting program with our three and four year olds. These excellent research-based programs are written by outstanding, professional preschool educators. These skillfully compiled guides are filled with rich experiences aimed at meeting the total educational and developmental needs of the preschool child. A Bible story and related Bible Truth are correlated weekly with each theme. Some of our thematic units include family, seasons, animals, cities, transportation, neighborhoods, community helpers, the earth, the senses, and many more! The teachers also use a variety of supplemental materials in developing their units of study.

HEALTH POLICY

The Junior Academy and DLC has established the following regulations regarding children who are ill or become ill while in attendance:

In order to maintain a healthy environment for all of our children, if your child is exhibiting any of the following symptoms, please allow him/her to recover at home before returning to the First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC:

- Fever of 100.4 or higher (children must be fever free without medication for 24 hours BEFORE returning to school)
- Upset stomach within the last 24 hours (including diarrhea, vomiting)
- Unidentified rash
- Sore throat, stiff neck, difficult/rapid breathing, coughing/sneezing, fatigue
- Colored discharge from the nose or eye
- Open wounds without proper bandages
- Any other unusual sign or symptom of illness

★ A child must be symptom free 24 hours before returning to school.

If the child should become ill while in attendance at school, he or she will be isolated from other children and the parent or designated contact person will be notified and required to pick up the child immediately. Parents are to provide current emergency numbers.

If recommended by school health consultants, parent/guardians will be notified if an incident of infectious disease has been reported to the Junior Academy and DLC. In return, please notify the office when your child has been diagnosed with strep, measles, chicken pox, pin worms, pink eye, head lice, or any other contagious illness. After certain illnesses or injuries, a doctor's release will be required for a child to attend.

MEDICATION

If it is necessary for over-the-counter or prescription medicine to be administered at school, parents will need to complete appropriate paperwork. All medication must be in the original container, and prescription medications must be labeled for the child to whom it is given. Directions and accurate measurement must be provided. Medications are kept out of reach of children. Administrative staff is trained to administer medications and follow specific policies.

Food allergies should be discussed at registration and also noted on the medical history form.

DRESS CODE

The school dress code is intended to provide neutrality for all students clothing (economically and socially) and limit the distractions associated with a non-uniformed school environment. First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC Administration has the right to determine any trend, fashion, or fad inappropriate for school activities.

Two and Three Year Olds

Boys and Girls:

Tops and Bottoms: Comfortable play clothing; please avoid aggressive characters or titles. Girls should wear modesty shorts under dresses and skirts.

Shoes - Closed-toed shoes; Flip-flops, and bedroom slippers **are not permitted**.

Pre-K

Girls

Slacks/Shorts/Capris/Jumpers - Navy, black, khaki, or uniform plaid (skirts, skorts, shorts, and dresses

will be no shorter than 3" above the knee.) Please wear modesty shorts under dresses and skirts.

Shirts - Collared Polo (solid colors of red, white, or black, FBJA logo optional) or white blouse;

Turtlenecks (solid colors of red, white, or black, FBJA logo optional) may be worn UNDER polo shirts;

Sweatshirts and sweaters (red, white, or black) to be worn over collared shirts (plain front, solid color, without hoods, FBJA logo optional).

Dresses - Red, white, or black polo dresses with modesty shorts (FBJA logo optional)

Boys

Slacks/Shorts - Navy, black, or khaki (shorts will be no shorter than 3" above the knee.)

Shirts - Collared Polo (solid colors of red, white, or black, FBJA logo optional) or white oxford,

Turtlenecks (solid colors of red, white, or black, FBJA logo optional) may be worn UNDER polo shirts;

Sweatshirts and sweaters (red, white, or black) to be worn over collared polo or oxford shirts (plain front, solid color, without hoods, FBJA logo optional).

Undershirts must be plain white, and must not be visible at any point except at the collar.

Accessories:

Boys: No earrings or spacers on campus or at FBJA events.

Girls: Leggings, tights and socks must be solid colored in FBA dress code family colors (red,

white, black).

Boys and Girls:

Shoes - Closed-toed shoes

Flip-flops and bedroom slippers are not permitted

Hair

Boys: Hair must be above the eyebrow, may come to the middle of the ear and at the collar.

Hair may be highlighted or colored with natural hair colors.

Girls: Hair may be highlighted or colored with natural hair colors.

Please Note: Gothic-type apparel including belts, wrist bands, tattoos, etc. are not permitted.

Parent/Volunteer Dress Code: Parents who volunteer at school or who need to be on campus for a period of time are expected to follow the same guidelines as students and faculty/staff. Please pay special attention to the length of dresses or skirts and blouses/tops that are low cut, see through, or that do not cover the stomach.

Children wearing apparel that does not meet the dress and safety code will have to change into appropriate clothing. Please help us avoid upsetting your child by adhering to the standards listed above. Habitual violations of the dress code require a parent conference with the Director.

SMOKING

Smoking is not permitted on First Baptist Church/First Baptist Junior Academy & DLC property.

DISCIPLINE/SAFETY AND SECURITY

DISCIPLINE

At First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC, we use positive discipline, redirecting behavior, and providing alternatives to the children. We believe that good discipline consists of consistent, positive training in the right direction. Our staff must have the right to correct a child's behavior, when and if necessary, in order to maintain a pleasant atmosphere. By providing an environment where participation in activities is consistent, fun, and rewarding, good behavior becomes a natural part of the experience. We use **positive** reinforcement and praise to encourage appropriate behavior. It is our policy:

1. To use positive communication techniques. We want the child to become calm, express his or her feelings, and take responsibility for actions.
2. To redirect the child to another activity.
3. To allow the child to make limited choices.
4. To give the child a brief period of separation from the group, if necessary, to consider his or her actions and then be able to return to the activities.

If a child displays inappropriate behavior on a regular basis, the parents will be consulted for help and support. The following activities are prohibited: physical punishment, humiliation, ridicule, or profane, threatening or abusive language, or punishment associated with food, naps, or toilet training. Our goal is to have every child achieve positive growth in all areas. With that goal in mind, we must work together to guide each child toward personal success.

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

The Junior Academy and DLC maintains an affirmative policy to protect children from abuse and neglect, as required in the Florida Statutes. All suspected cases of abuse or neglect will be reported to the appropriate authorities.

ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY

The environment at the JADLC must be one in which all individuals are free to work, learn, and develop relationships without fear of intimidation and humiliation as a result of unwanted or unacceptable behavior from others. It is essential to the well-being of all that students, parents, teachers, and staff members treat each other with due respect for rights, individuality, and personal dignity.

SECURITY

At the time of enrollment, each parent will have a fingerprint scan (using a biometric reader) to gain entrance through the controlled access doors of First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC. Only persons with a fingerprint scan will be allowed entrance into the Preschool area. All other persons must ring the buzzer and wait for assistance. If preschool children are brought or picked-up by someone other than parents (i.e. relatives), they must check in with First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC office personnel. Parents must notify First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC by phone or in

writing if someone other than a parent is coming to First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC.

SAFETY DRILLS

Emergency Evacuation Drills will be conducted once a month on a regular basis. This is done for the safety of your child in an effort to familiarize our students with proper procedures in emergency situations.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS

The First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC does not necessarily follow the Duval County Public Schools with regard to Emergency School Closings, because Duval County's decisions are based on a wide range of factors (busing, etc.) that may not always affect JADLC families. At times, emergencies such as severe weather, fires, power failures, or law enforcement issues can disrupt operations. In extreme cases, these circumstances may require the closing of the school. A message will be sent to all faculty, staff, and parents via email and/or a phone call. If you have questions, you are free to call the school office for instructions.

PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEO

The First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC students are photographed and videoed on a regular basis both by students and professional agencies. These photos and videos are used to promote the school by showing many of our great activities. If a student's family does not wish such pictures to be used in school publications or promotions, parents should complete the applicable section on the enrollment form.

RECORDS

All parents are required to complete an Enrollment Packet annually. Each page of the packet must be completed in its entirety. Additionally, a Church Reference Form, Immunization Form, and Physical Form are required to be on file by the child's first day of school.

ANIMALS ON CAMPUS

Although we enjoy animals and teach our students about animal care and safety, animals are not allowed on campus. Please keep in mind that safety is our number one concern at First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC. Therefore, pets are not allowed on campus whether it is in the school or in the parking areas. Animals can cause an unsafe feeling to students who may be afraid of them, they can cause a sanitation issue which will put us in violation of a State Health Code, and/or they may cause an injury to someone, bringing a liability issue for yourself and our school. Registered "guide dogs" i.e. "seeing eye dogs", are allowed and must register at the Junior Academy Office and DLC before going to a classroom. Any animals used for teaching purposes need to be approved by the Director before being brought into the classrooms.

SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS

BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW INTEGRATION

First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC is a Christ-centered school. As such, it is vital that there be focus and implementation of Biblical Integration in all areas of academic accomplishment. The primary means to accomplishing Biblical Integration at the JADLC encompasses the provision of a Christ-centered atmosphere for school personnel, students, and families. This atmosphere will be realized and enhanced through consistent prayer, Bible stories, training, nurturing, and shepherding of students and their families. A second path to attaining Biblical Integration is through the deliberate merging of the Biblical Worldview into all areas of curriculum content as the instructional staff consistently strives to inform and influence student learning. This will be achieved by intersecting the truths of Scripture with the teachings of the various curricula. Biblical Integration includes the immersion, demonstration, and influence of Biblical doctrine and truth as it relates to all aspects of learning.

SPIRITUAL CLIMATE

Truth is our cornerstone at First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC in the person of Jesus Christ. As the world around us continues to deteriorate, we must continue to be a lighthouse. Through the JADLC's hiring practices based on being born again, our teachers and staff reflect the truth by the way they are expected to live on campus as well as off-campus. The Bible classes, the integrated truth into all of the curriculum, innovative chapels, community service, and our partnership with the church all point in the same direction: integrity and truth. Our goal is for our students to see the importance of Christian values.

CHAPEL

Chapel services are held weekly. This is a great time of singing, hearing a Bible story, and learning how to apply these truths to our lives today.

COMMUNICATION

INFORMING

We encourage you to take the time to thoroughly read all materials sent home so we can best serve your family. You will receive a school newsletter and calendar to keep you informed of news, special events, and holidays. Teachers and Administrators will also send home various communications as needed.

Please do your part to keep us informed, as well. If there are unusual circumstances at home - illness, a traveling parent, a late or restless night, for example - mention it, write a note, or email it to the Director or your child's teacher. The information will be handled confidentially and will give insight to possible "rough spots" in your child's day.

We always appreciate your insights, comments, questions, and concerns, but drop off and pick up are busy times. If you need to talk to one of our staff at length, please call at an appropriate time or schedule a conference.

RE-ENROLLMENT

When you enroll your child at the JADLC, is for the calendar school year. You will receive instructions in January as to re-enrollment procedures for the new year. Children wishing to withdraw for summer months must follow withdrawal procedures.

GENERAL

MEALS

If here for the full day, your child will be served a hot lunch and two snacks daily. Preschoolers present for the morning programs will receive one snack. If food allergies are an issue, please note concerns on the Medical History Form and communicate this information during the family interview.

NAPTIME

Children rest each day from approximately 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM. A cot will be provided. Parents will need to supply a sheet and small pillow (if desired) and **blanket** (required). These items will be sent home on Fridays to be laundered. All items must be placed and zipped in the school-issued tote bag. If the child wishes to bring a stuffed animal for rest time, it must fit into the zipped tote bag. If a tote bag is lost during the school year, it must be purchased at a cost to the parent of \$10.

TOYS

Toys should be left at home unless special permission is granted by a teacher for events such as "Show and Tell". During such events, toys must be stored in cubbies until the teacher-appointed time.

SCHOOL PICTURES

Every child has a school picture taken during the year. Group pictures, by class, are also taken. Notifications will be given a couple of weeks in advance of the picture

date, and order forms will be sent home. If you choose to participate, orders should be placed at the time pictures are taken.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost articles may be reclaimed in the Junior Academy and DLC office. Items in Lost and Found that are not labeled with students' names will be sorted and distributed to areas of need at the end of every month.

SPECIAL DAYS

PARTIES/GIFT-GIVING

The First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC Director must approve all class party plans.

A child's birthday is very special. Students who wish to celebrate their birthday may bring a snack for the entire class for lunch or snack time. Please contact your child's teacher in advance. School parties are not an occasion to exchange gifts; however, treats and party favors are acceptable at the end of the day or at another time designated by the teacher as long as each child in the class receives one.

No personal party invitations are to be distributed at school unless every child in the class receives one or all students of the same gender receive one. Our goal is that no child would feel excluded by his/her peers from any such gathering.

Flowers and/or gift baskets/balloons may not be delivered to students during class on any school day or at any school-sponsored event or program. Any deliveries may be picked up in the Junior Academy and DLC office.

First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC does not celebrate Halloween. Decorations depicting witches, skeletons, jack-o-lanterns, and haunted houses are not permitted on campus.

First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC celebrates Christmas as the blessed occasion when Jesus, God's Son, came to the earth as a baby. Through His life, death on the cross, and subsequent resurrection, those who place their faith in Him are saved for all eternity (John 3:16) from the penalty of sin which is eternal hell and separation. As such, our activities, parties, and projects should draw attention to Jesus, not man. Gift exchange among students will not be held. Teachers will be directed not to open student gifts in front of the entire class, in order to avoid any hurt feelings by students who may not have been able to purchase a gift for the teachers.

SHOW AND TELL

Preschool teachers will advise you in writing if and when it is your child's Show and Tell Day. Please check with the teacher if you are uncertain about the schedule.

Show and Tell may never include weapons or other materials that depict or portray violence, disrespect, or rudeness, nor advertise items or behavior inappropriate for young children.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Teacher Appreciation Week will be celebrated annually. Please see the calendar for specific dates. All activities during the week will be coordinated by the Junior Academy and DLC Administrators.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY

First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC believes family involvement in children's educational experiences is important. Grandparents' Day was organized to honor the significant role that grandparents play in the lives of children and to give them a peek at their grandchildren's school lives. Held annually, Grandparents' Day includes a reception, classroom visit, and a special presentation from each age group.

PRE-K GRADUATION:

At the end of the school year, First Baptist Junior Academy and DLC will have a Pre-K Graduation. This is a very special time for children and parents. A graduation gown will be provided for each child to wear the evening of the ceremony. The cap and tassel will be yours to keep at the end of the evening.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT**VOLUNTEERS**

Parents are always welcome at school as an observer and/or a participant in a special activity. During the early weeks of school, we discourage long visits as they disrupt the bonding of children to each other and their teachers, but there are many opportunities throughout the year for you to help in the classroom or in a general way at school.

Most often, it is best to arrange your visit at school with the teacher or Director. Please do not bring siblings when you come to observe or assist. Make the time you spend at school special for your child. In addition, it is difficult to focus on the children and task at hand while giving adequate supervision to younger children. Our classrooms and playground are set up for specific age groups and activities. Materials and equipment accessible to the children may not be safe and/or suitable for other ages.