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NEWSLETTER 5 /2008

Jane Grech away..

REMINDER: If I teach your child's class, there will be no classes on Tuesday 5th August, Thursday 7th August or Saturday 9th August. All other classes with other teachers will remain as normal.

Welcome Nicole!

Unbelievably the last two newsletters have also included a welcome to a new staff member, and this newsletter proves no different! Welcome to NICOLLE McKINLAY who joins us with a wealth of experience. Nicole, who is also training to be a primary teacher, has been teaching since 2004 and is particularly well versed in Jazz, Tap and Hip Hop. Nicole will be teaching on Friday evenings from 4-6pm.

Local Business Awards

The finals for the Local Business Awards were held at the Hilton on Saturday 21st June 08. Jane and her husband Brian, Marjorie and her partner Eric, and Jane's mum and dad, Don and Liz, all attended on behalf of the Dance Centre. We had a great night even though we didn't win! Thanks again for voting. This was a great experience!



Ballet Assessments

Our first ballet assessments under the new Australian Dance Assessment (ADV) system were held on Sunday June 29th. Our assessor, who flew in from Melbourne that morning, was very impressed with the overall standard of our children. The children should be congratulated on their composure and maturity on the day - I was very proud of them. We are still waiting on their results... but will sure to post them in Newsletter 6!

Ballet Olympics

The Ballet Olympics were held for Grades Two, Three and Four as an incentive for those children NOT participating in assessments. Below are three of our Grade 4 students (L-R) Kira Bambrick, Amy Cannon and Jacquelyn Cannon. Thankyou to A Class Trophies for supplying our medals.



Holiday Programs

Our two holiday programs (Fairy Day for 5-7yrs and Farm Day for 2-4yrs) were a real success with 120 students attending 8 holiday sessions over two days. Highlights were the fairy mask sessions, where some beautiful creations were made, and the travelling farm, where the children could pat and feed the animals! (oh yeah the dancing was fun too...) Our holiday programs seem to grow and grow as parents and kids are grateful for an activity not too far away that doesn't break the bank (esp. with this cold weather!) Plans are in place for October!

Term 3 Charity

Every term JGDC donates \$1 for every student enrolled towards a charity. I think every mother was affected by the sad and recent passing of Jane McGrath, and felt for her two young children especially. Normally we donate to charities that directly support children; however in this instance we are extending this in an effort that the many mothers that are diagnosed with breast cancer can live a longer life and can watch their children grow up.



Performance Notes

Reminder of Times

Dance Magic

If your child attends Dance Magic on a Monday morning, Wednesday morning or Thursday afternoon, their performance is on Sunday 21st September at 1pm.

If your child attends Dance Magic on a Thursday morning or a Saturday morning, their performance is on Sunday 21st September at 2.30pm.

Over 5's Ballet, Jazz and Tap.

Please find below a reminder of rehearsal times, as published in Newsletter 3. Rehearsal times are on SATURDAY 20th Sept ONLY. Students can attend their rehearsal and then leave the theatre but ALL students must return to the theatre by 4.20pm. On SUNDAY 21st Sept all students must be at the theatre by 4.20pm.

Saturday 20th September - Theatre Rehearsals

910am	Sat 1130 Ballet
930am	Mon 340 Jazz
950am	Mon 405 Tap
1010am	Thurs 345 Ballet
1030am	Tues 345 Ballet
1050am	Sat 1000 G1 Ballet
1110am	Monday 430-500 Jazz
1130am	Monday 500-530 Tap
1150am	Thurs 415 Ballet
1210pm	Thurs 445 Ballet
1230pm	Tues 415 and Sat 1045 Ballet
100pm	Friday 400-430 Jazz
120pm	Friday 430-500 Tap
140pm	Monday 530-600 Jazz
200pm	Monday 600-630 Tap
220pm	Tues 515 and Sat 9 G3 Ballet
250pm	Thurs 545 and Sat 12 G4 Ballet
320pm	Friday 5-530pm Jazz
340pm	Friday 530-600 Tap
420pm	Students arrive for show

Sunday 21st September

4.20pm Students arrive for show

IMPORTANT PLEASE NOTE:

No ticket order forms will be accepted after SAT 16th AUGUST

as we will need to determine if we have extra tickets to make available to those who would like them.

Tickets

Please find attached your ticket order form for our September Performances.

Tickets are \$8.80 for adults and \$6.60 for children over three years. Some parents in the past have expressed disappointment that they are required to pay to see their own children perform. Theatres are very expensive to hire, and I also need to pay the theatre technician, as well as my staff to be available on the day. Teachers, including myself, also put in many many hours of unpaid time in preparing for these events. I work very hard to keep the costs as reasonable as possible. Many may have friends at other dance schools, and therefore know that the 'norm' is actually more like \$18 for adults and \$12 for children.

If at all possible please avoid bringing babies and toddlers as they can be distracting to both the audience and performers. May I also suggest that as seats are limited in number that any siblings that are not interested in attending be 'excused' for the morning/afternoon to a friend's house!

Ticket Allocation

Each DANCE MAGIC child performing is automatically allocated 7 tickets.

Each JAZZ, TAP or BALLETT child performing is automatically allocated 5 tickets.

The reason for the allocation is so that no child misses out on having someone in the audience to see them. Of course, you can order less if needed, and if you do, your remaining allocation will be made available to anybody requiring more tickets.

This year we are trialling tickets as general admission, meaning you will not be allocated seat numbers. Tickets are non refundable once ordered. Tickets will not be allocated until full payment has been received.

If you wish to order more than your automatic allocation of tickets: Please indicate on the order form how many extra you would like. (Please do not pay for these at time of ordering in case I am not able to secure them for you.) Once all families have returned their order forms, I will determine how many remaining tickets there are (from families who did not use entire allocation) Additional tickets will be allocated in the same order in which the original ticket order forms were received. Tickets will be returned in through your child's class, and you will receive notification ASAP of any successful additional ticket requests.

Please use the attached order form to purchase tickets, and return to your child's next class.

DVD

Last year one of our parents, Ilona Harris, videoed our Dance Magic performance and then edited it with titles and students names etc. Ilona has kindly offered this service again, and whilst she wants it known she is not a professional, the end result is really very good! If you would like to order a DVD of the performance, you are able to indicate on the order form.

Some parents have asked me about the possibility of having a professional take a DVD of the performance, which would then be available for sale. I have resisted this as most companies sell their DVD's for \$50 and it also means that if people would like to take their own video, they are not able to due to copyright.

I feel the setup with Ilona provides the best of both worlds as if you have your own DVD recorder you are more than welcome to use it, but those who do not have access to one still have the opportunity to have a recording of their child's performance.

Stockings

EVERY child will be needing a pair of ballet stockings to go with their costumes. If you already have a pair, then feel free to use them. For convenience I am able to order stockings on your behalf, but the order form must be received by Saturday 16th August.

Jazz Shoes Order

I will be placing another order for black jazz shoes, **which are required for students taking jazz and doing the performance.** I am able to order the jazz shoes for \$25 a pair, or alternatively you can purchase them from Dance Solutions, for approximately \$40. To order, have your child stand on a piece of paper and mark at the heel and at the end of the biggest toe, then measure the distance in between toe and heel. Transfer this information to the order form. Please order shoes no later than Saturday 16th August.

Volunteers required

Also on the attached order form you will find a call for volunteers. If you are able to help in any way, please indicate on the form, any help is greatly appreciated to make these performances wonderful experiences for the children. The advantage this year of having the children perform twice is that if you choose to help backstage for one performance, you have the opportunity to view the performance from the audience in the other performance, meaning that no one will miss out on seeing their children.