



## Newsletter November 2018

Dear parents and students,

Even though the weather is getting colder and we draw closer towards winter, we are well into a busy second half of term and have some exciting events such as our Christmas party, Nutcracker trip and dance exams! Please read on for more info and for some important changes in the timetable for next term.

### Christmas Party

**Dance Dedication  
Christmas Party**  
**Sunday 16th Dec 2-4pm**

**ALL MONEY RAISED GOES TOWARDS  
THE CHAPERONE AND COSTUME FUNDS  
FOR THE NEXT SHOW!**

**Childs ticket £6 Adults go FREE!**

Please bring some extra change for the raffle, cake sale, tea and coffee and face paints

- Disco
- Raffle
- Party games
- Drinks
- Cake sale
- Other fun activities

To purchase a ticket, please put cash in a clearly labelled envelope stating: name, how many children and adults attending, and age of children.  
Payments must be in by the deadline of 30th November

I am pleased to announce that our Christmas party this year will be held at **Whittlesford Village Hall**.

It is a great chance for all of the children and parents at the dance school to have a catch up, make some new friends, and for me to get to know you all a bit better! There will be a disco, party games, extra activities, a cake, tea/coffee sale and a raffle. Yourselfs and the children are of course are very welcome to dress up too!

It is a family friendly event, so the more the merrier, and I encourage that every child has a responsible parent/carer there to join in the fun and help out where possible!

The party will only go ahead if there is enough interest so please do let me know by purchasing your tickets ASAP or by 30th November by the very latest if you would like to come.

**Donations/help-** In order to make the party a success we need:

- 1) Lots of scrummy cakes- If you are a keen baker and would like to donate some yummy treats for the cake sale it would be much appreciated!
- 2) Raffle donations (child or adult gifts) are much appreciated also.
- 3) We are also looking for volunteers to help with the following.
  - Face painting
  - Balloon modelling
  - Painting nails/nail art- could be an older student
  - help at stools- could be a n older student
  - Transfer tattoos.

Please do contact me if you are able to help with any of the above. Myself and the children would love to have your help! I do hope that you can come and join in the festive fun!

### Dance Dedication t shirts, zoodies and bags- deadline for orders for Christmas 30<sup>th</sup> November

Orders must be placed along with payment by the 30<sup>th</sup> November so they are ready in time for Christmas. Personalised names can be printed on bags and zoodies. All prices are on our uniform order forms and on the website.



## **Festive photos- Competition to win a free personalised Dance Dedication Zoody or bag!**

Over the December period we will be holding a festive photo competition. All you have to do is send us the craziest/most unusual festive photo of yourself and/or your child. It would be fantastic if you are showing off your dancing/acting/singing skills in the photo E.g. a ballet pose in the snow etc.

In return we ask that you like our facebook page/twitter/instagram page

All you have to do is send the photo via a message to our facebook page 'Dance Dedication Sawston'.

The winner will be announced in the new term!



## **Watching week**

All parents are invited along to classes on **the week of the 10<sup>th</sup> December** for watching week. Myself, Miss Kathie, Miss Louise the children are very much looking forward to showing you what we have been working on this term.

## **Extra Ballet classes- strongly recommended from grade 2 upwards**

From grade 2 ballet and upwards there will be x2 ballet classes a week. Although taking 2 classes is not compulsory, students wishing to take exams in ballet and progress at a steady rate will be required to take 2 ballet classes a week. Many schools already make it compulsory, there are many reasons for this. Ballet is the foundation of all technical dance forms, it shows up in every style of dance and students that study more than 1 ballet class a week progress, excel, and flourish at a quicker rate than once a weekers. Ballet is the most difficult style of dance to learn out of all the others and although attending classes in other genres benefits a dancer for that genre, they cannot replace the strength, posture and coordination of that learnt from ballet.

The art form requires understanding and use of the very specific parts of the body, and those that study this discipline more than once a week gain increased muscle strength and flexibility, strong technique, body awareness and stamina, as well as many other benefits. Therefore it is strongly recommend that all those wishing to take exams take 2 classes a week.

Please read for the timetable of all classes.

## **Progression of classes**

So you can plan ahead, please see the progression of classes for when your child will be moved up (usually after exams or when their teacher sees fit):

### Ballet

1. Ballet Minis
2. Pre-Primary Ballet
3. Primary Ballet
4. Grades1-6

### Tap and Modern

1. Tap/Modern Minis
2. Primary Tap/Modern
3. Grade 1-6 Tap
4. Grade 1 -6 Modern

### Street

1. Street Minis
2. Street Juniors 1
3. Street Juniors 2
4. Street Seniors

### Musical Theatre

1. MT Minis
2. MT Juniors 1

## **SECOND HAND UNIFORM**

There is a small notice board at all venues where you can either purchase, or put your child's old/unwanted uniform items up for sale. All you need to do on your advert is include the items you are selling, price, and your contact details so that any other parents can contact you for collection and payment.

## **IMPORTANT!!! Up to Date details**

Please can all parents and those attending adult classes fill in a new registration form if you have changed your email address, contact number or address. You can get one of these from your teacher at your next class. The same goes for any learning/medical needs that may have changed. Many thanks.

# Timetable and Term dates

## New Timetable – from Jan 2018

All changes are highlighted in red

### Mondays @ Great Shelford Memorial Hall

4:45-5:30 Primary Ballet  
5:30-6:15 Grade 1 Ballet  
6:15-7:00 Grade 2 Ballet  
7:00-7:45 Grade 3/4 Ballet  
7:45-8:30 Adult Ballet  
8:30-9:15 Adult Tap

### Wednesdays @ Pampisford Village Hall

4:00-4:30 Ballet Minis  
4:30-5:00 Street Minis  
5:00- 5:30 Pre Primary Ballet  
5:30-6:15 Street Juniors 1  
6:15-7:00 Street Juniors 2  
7:00-7:45 **Grade 4 Tap**  
7:45-8:30 Street Seniors  
8:30-9:00 Grade 4 Ballet

### Fridays @ Whittlesford Memorial Hall

4:00-4:30 **Ballet Minis**  
4:30-5:00 **Musical Theatre Minis**  
5:00-5:45 **Musical Theatre Juniors 1**  
5:45-6:30 **Grade 2 Ballet**

### Saturdays @ Icknield Primary School

09:00-09:30 Ballet Minis  
09:30-09:35 Break  
09:35-10:05 Tap/Modern Minis  
10:05-10:45 Pre Primary Ballet  
10:45-10:50 Break  
10:50-11:30 Primary Tap/Modern  
11:30- 12:00 Grade 1 Modern  
12:00-12:45 Grade 1 Tap  
12:45-1:30 Grade 2 Modern  
1:30-2:15 Grade 2 Tap  
2:15-3:00 **Grade 3 Modern**  
3:00-3:45 **Grade 3 Tap**  
3:45-4:30 **Grade 4 Modern**  
4:30-5:15 **Grade 3 Ballet**

## Dates for your diary

### Autumn Term 2018

Term starts : Wednesday 5th Sept  
Half term : Monday 22nd Oct- Sunday 28th Oct  
Term ends : Saturday 15th Dec  
Christmas Party : Sunday 16th Dec  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec- Nutcracker Trip

### Spring Term 2019

Term starts : Wednesday 2nd Jan  
Half term : Monday 18th Feb- Sunday 24th Feb  
Term ends : Monday 8th April

### Summer Term 2019

Term starts : Wednesday 24th April  
Half term : Saturday 25th May- Friday 31st May  
Term ends : Monday 22nd July

### Emails, up to date info and last minute changes

Sometimes our emails go into junk/spam or second inboxes. Please add [dancededicationsawston@gmail.com](mailto:dancededicationsawston@gmail.com) to your contact list and then they should reach your inbox!  
Many thanks.



If you are on Facebook and you haven't already, please support us and like the 'Dance Dedication Sawston' page. If you have a spare minute it would be great if you could leave a review on the page, and share any posts that may interest you.



We are also on Twitter, please follow us Dance Dedication @DanceDedSawston.



We are now in instagram too!  
Dance\_dedication\_cambridge

Facebook, Twitter and the website will regularly be updated with any important info, including any last minute changes e.g. cancellations due to weather etc.

## **UNIFORM AND HAIR**

Please can you ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform to all classes. Dance is a strict discipline therefore the correct uniform should be worn, for the same reasons why children wear a school uniform. The correct uniform list is on the website should you have any queries. **Please note that ALL children in the Street and Musical Theatre classes should be wearing their DD tops with black leggings (girls) or black jogging bottoms or shorts (boys).** Similarly, please ensure your child's hair is neatly groomed and tied back for **all** classes. From Primary Ballet upwards, children should be wearing a classical ballet bun with bun pins and a hair net to make the bun secure. Children wear their hair up so that they can feel the length in the back of their necks and so that their hair doesn't flick in their faces when they dance. Taking pride in appearance demonstrates the discipline of classical ballet.

## **CHILDREN WAITING BEFORE, AFTER OR IN BETWEEN CLASSES**

Please note that if your child waits at the school/halls in between, before or after classes, they are your responsibility. Although it goes without saying that teachers do their best to try and keep an eye out for all children, we cannot be held responsible for any child who is on the premises on their own.

## **The boring but necessary bits.....please read carefully**

### **Please remind yourself of our payment policy**

Please ensure that you take a minute to read through the below and remind yourself of our payment policy. **A big thank you to all of those that pay your invoices in time, it is very much appreciated.**

#### **Payment Policy**

Class days, times, venues and prices are subject to change at any time with or without prior notice, dependent upon the demands of the business.

In the event of illness, bad weather or any other unavoidable events, classes may be cancelled at short notice. Notices will be sent out via text or phone call and email to all those listed on our system at the first opportunity. Please inform us if your contact details change. Notices will also be put on our facebook page and twitter.

If classes are cancelled for any reason we will offer a replacement class instead and no refund will be given. Refunds will only be given if the class cannot be rescheduled for another time.

Refunds are not provided for students' sickness, injury, school trips, holidays etc. In the case of long term sickness or injury please contact us to discuss as soon as possible.

A completed Registration Form must be filled in before or at your first class.

New Pupils may attend a 1 week trial period which is free of charge. At the end of this period you either enrol and pay for the half term or advise us if you do not wish to continue.

Lessons must be paid for 1/2 termly by the invoice due date which is normally before the term starts. **There is a 2 week period from the day the invoice is sent out to when it must be paid. A £5 late fee will be added onto your invoice which must be paid if invoices are not paid by the due date.**

Tuition fees cover classes only, additional charges are made for dancewear, exams, performances etc. These extras (with the exception of uniform) are optional and full details of costs will be provided in advance.

You may pay by cash or bank transfer, the details of which are on your half termly invoice. Change cannot be given in between classes due to time restraints. Instead I will use this as credit towards your next lessons, so it will be deducted off your next invoice. It is best where possible to pay with the correct amount.

**If you wish to terminate lessons half a term's written notice is required or you will be charged half a term's fees.** In sending your child to classes with us it is understood that you agree to abide by the fees policy.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, I look forward to seeing many of you at the Christmas party and at the end of term for watching week.

Yours sincerely,

**Miss Christina  
Principal of Dance Dedication**