

NEWSLETTER

All newsletters are available at
www.mwmdance.com



21 February 2009

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Diary 2009

Term 1
27th January – 9th April

Isabel Anderson – Variations
22nd February

2nd Hand Costume Sales
28th February

Vocational Exams Entries Close – 1st Session
7th March

Rose Fund AGM
17th March

Isabel Anderson
26th – 29th March

Term 2
28th April – 10th July

Term 3
27th July – 2nd October

Tentative Graded Exams TBA
4,5,6 August

Term 4
19th October – 18th December

Bursary Semi Final
December TBA

Dress Rehearsal
11th December
Civic Theatre

End of Year concert
12th December
Civic Theatre

NCD Graduation
13th December

All information is correct, to the best of our knowledge, at time of printing. Please check the studio timetable & noticeboards regularly

★ Dear Parents and Students

Sincere thanks to all the students who assisted on last Saturday to raise money for the people suffering with loss in the Victorian bushfires. In our motto of "Sharing, caring and more plie" we used a great deal of plie in the classroom and lots of sharing and caring in the car park. The money raised was then matched by Tony & Michele Bayliss bringing the total so far to \$1624, with the 'Kings of Leon' raffle still to be finalised. We would like to thank you all for your very generous support of this cause. Also, thank you to the raffle donors; Tony & Michele Bayliss, Erika Sayers, Jenny Pickering and for all of your cooperation by freeing up the car park for this worthy fund raiser. All money raised was sent directly to the Red Cross.

★ Raffle Winners!

Congratulations to the following raffle winners: Kings of Leon tickets - TBA, Water Colour painting – Jane Evans, Strawberry Mousse Cake – Moylan Family, Avon Products – Elise Frawley, Tupperware – April Moylan, Moisturiser – Kailey Jack. The winner of the 'Guess the number of jelly snakes' competition was Jessica Brent (135 snakes).



★ 2nd Hand costumes & Dance clothing

At this time of the year many students need costumes for the up coming competitions, or you may just want to sell some 2nd hand dancewear, ballet shoes or costumes for "dress ups". For your convenience we will set aside 28th February for costume sales and also ask for the car park to be vacated on this day. You have permission to set up your own stall for as long as you wish to sell off out grown items or dress up costumes; everyone try to get the costumes you need for the upcoming competitions. No costumes are to be left with us afterwards, prices are to be set by the seller. If it is a new Tu Tu you are to purchase your teacher must check this before purchase. Therefore, Tu Tu's sales, only, would require a deposit and contact details given to the seller. The Tu Tu would then be looked at by the student's personal teacher in the next private lesson. If the lesson is on Saturday this could be arranged on the same day. No Tu Tus or costumes are to be left in the costume room.

★ Important meeting

Please set aside Tuesday evening 17th March at 7pm in studio 3. The meeting will be both a parent/teacher meeting as well as the AGM for the Rose Walton-Memorial Benefit Fund, and a social cup of tea. I will address the events of the year, discuss the criteria for scholarships answer questions, and you will get an overview of the wonderful work of the Benefit Fund. Please take the time to read their attached newsletter. We welcome any new families to the meeting and will finish with a cup of tea as I will mingle to answer any further questions.

★ Timetable

As the classes settle we are always looking at a few alterations according to the need. Enrolments are closed for **Tiny Tots – Saturday, Grade 3 ballet, Grade 4 ballet, Grade 5 ballet, Intermediate Foundation, Intermediate, Level 1 Contemporary, Level 4 Contemporary, Level 4 Jazz, Level 5 Jazz, Level 5 Contemporary**. Students wishing to enroll in any of these classes will be asked to audition and invited to join only if the class will not be slowed in pace. Some students will be offered private lessons until there is a vacancy, and placed on a waiting list.

★ Scholarship Concert

I will hand out at the parent teacher meeting the transparent criteria for MWM scholarships and explain clearly every aspect. Junior de File and Tiny Tots will also perform as well a few surprises.



★ Isabel Anderson – Variation Classes

Entries for IAA are due 21/2/09 to the office – late entries can not be accepted.

Variation Classes for students are this Sunday, 22nd February as follows:

Inter Found: 10.30 – 11.30am, Intermediate: 12 – 1pm, Adv Found: 1 – 2pm, Adv 1: 2.30 – 4pm

NB: Students competing in IAA must attend this class to learn the variation, it cannot be learnt in private lesson time. Students who do not attend Sunday's class will not be able to compete in the awards.

★ Emails by Newsletter

We have now set up our email service for newsletters. If you would like to receive your newsletter via email but did not include details on your enrolment forms, please see Christine in the office. We will also be emailing accounts for term 2. If you do NOT want your account emailed please inform the office.

★ Level 1 Contemporary Class

We are aware that this class is very large and are looking at separating it into grades a.s.a.p.

★Grade 3-4 Contemporary Class

We have now split Grade 3 and Grade 4 Contemporary. We understand that families have other commitments on Saturdays and changes to the timetable can therefore cause concern, however felt that splitting this large class was to the student's benefit. If your Grade 4 child is unable to stay for the new contemporary class they are, of course, welcome to stay in the Grade 3 class at the usual time. We realise that there may be a couple of weeks before classes are absolutely defined while families adjust to the new times. Signs regarding the change in classes were placed in the foyer and the teachers were told to accept students in either class until this newsletter went out. Grade 4 Contemporary class will be at 12.15 – 1pm Saturday, with Miss Zoe Jones.

★Groups

The following groups will be entered in the Sydney Eisteddfod: 12/U Classical, 12/U Contemporary, 14/U Classical, 14/U Contemporary, 14/U Jazz, Open Age Jazz Open Age Classical, 17/U Contemporary. Check the lists on the notice board and during the next week you will receive an invoice for the group lesson and the entry fee.

CLOSING DATES (solos)

Newcastle Eisteddfod:
27 February

McDonalds Challenge
(Sydney): 16 March

★Guest Teacher

Miss Kempton will replace Miss Jarmaine for 2 weeks from 2/3/09 – 13/3/09. She will watch and take notes on all appropriate lessons during the next week to be fully prepared for this position.

Miss Jillian Kempton trained with Marie Walton-Mahon Dance Academy for all of her formal training, including Advanced 2 R.A.D. before furthering her studies with the Australian Ballet School. Ultimately Jillian decided on a modelling career and has just returned from London. You may have seen her before in such magazines as 'Harpers Bazaar'. We feel Jillian has a great deal to offer the students as a guest teacher.

★ Adult Classes

Some parents may not be aware of the adult classes in Contemporary and Ballet. These classes are well structured and fun. They are also a great way of understanding what your child is learning in class. Adult Contemporary classes are Wednesday 5.45 – 6.45pm with Miss Veronica Mahon and Adult Ballet classes are Wednesday 6.45 – 7.45pm with Miss Jenna Mulholland.

★Student Development

It has been a rewarding experience to view the classes. Through writing notes for the teachers, discussions on the students on-going personal development, constant feedback and communication between us all, we enable the students to keep moving forward. This will also give me a chance to monitor all students and request an interview if your child is in need of assistance.

★Miss Linnert – “So You Think You Can Dance...”

Congratulations, to Miss Linnert on another wonderful piece of choreography on “So you think you can dance...”. Miss Linnert will return to classes next week.

2008 Concert DVDs

DVDs will be available approx.
6th March @ \$60 each
Order forms available from office

★Teacher Absences

If a teacher has to be away, as with Miss Linnert, their covering teachers have been fully prepared by the teacher and are ready to pick up where she left off. We ask for your cooperation in not cancelling these lessons as I believe it is to the benefit of your child to continue tuition with the very capable relief teacher. The missed, lessons therefore will not be made up.

★Drama Classes

Drama Classes will begin Saturday, 14th March. If you wish to attend please enter your name on the appropriate list on the notice board. I will work with Mr Buckingham on a plan for the **Senior Drama students** where they work on the emotions needed for their Demi Characters and other dances. Remember, you cannot be a professional dancer these days without accomplished acting skills.

★NCD Diploma Course

Due to MWM inquires for the future extended studies with NCD, I would like to outline the following:

Understanding the process of University entrance

The Diploma received by the students of the National Collage of Dance is a recognised VETAB accreditation and will be accepted by the Universities of Australia for entrance into relevant courses as with all VETAB approved Diplomas. It is important however for the students to understand the process and options as most of our students will be expecting to defer University whilst pursuing a career in dance. It is perhaps easier to outline this through the following points:

Option 1: Immediate entry to university the year after completing the Diploma

- Students in this situation should complete a university application during their final year of study at NCD
- Students accepted to University will then have the option to defer for one year only which means a place will be held for them for the 12 month period in the relevant course.
- If the students do not attend University that following year the deferring will laps as will the University application and the student will have to apply for University entrance again.

Option 2: The student intends to dance and is wanting to attend University in years to come

- This student is best not to apply for university immediately as the application will continuously laps each year until they are ready to accept and attend and therefore should only apply for University when intending on going.
- The NCD Diploma has an estimated "shelf life" for approximately 10 years and therefore students can apply for University entrance at any stage during that period.

NOTE: The University entrance via our Diploma is also dependent on the continuation of the courses relevant for entry. For e.g. the Diploma is recognised as an entry to the Bachelor of Arts Degree. If during the 10 year period the Arts degree is for some reason no longer offered then obviously students can not be accepted into that course. This is a risk when deferring or waiting many years to apply.