

CWDA NEWS Oct-Nov.

Congratulations to all students and their teachers on the wonderful tap and ballet exam results. I have still to hand out results to a few students, so please see me as soon as possible if you haven't received yours as yet. Good luck to students in their ADTS exam.

Concert Dates:

Saturday 26th November 1pm and Sunday 27th November 7pm at Laycock Street Theatre. Please arrive one hour early for both concerts with hair and makeup complete.

Dress Rehearsal:

The dress rehearsal will be held at Gosford High School Hall on **Sunday 13th November**, commencing at 9.00am. We will try to let the babies go early but it can be a stressful day so please bear with us. We can only go as fast as the students can have photos taken, and dress for their next dance. There will be times when we ask for certain students to be photographed first so we can continue with the next dance – please be patient.

Cost for dress rehearsal is \$10.00 per student. This day is not a watching day - only mothers may attend to dress their child. Please arrange baby-sitting for siblings on this day. This will be a full hair, makeup and costume rehearsal, as well as photo day. No jewellery to be worn.

Technical Rehearsal:

Thursday 24th November at Laycock Street Theatre 8.00am - 2.00pm. The babies through to 8/under groups will finish at 11.00am.

Cost is \$12.00 per child. This is not a costume rehearsal. Children should wear full class uniform to this rehearsal, including dance shoes, leotard, hair in bun (girls), etc. Sorry no parents watching on this day.

Due to security rules at the theatre parents will not be allowed to enter the backstage of the theatre on this day. Please drop off and collect your child promptly at the stage door. Teachers will take the students backstage in the morning and bring them back to the stage door at 11.00am for younger students, 2.00pm for all others. If parents of younger students are not at the door by 11.00am it will disrupt the rehearsal for all others, as teachers need to resume rehearsals and can't wait at the stage door indefinitely. Please allow for heavy traffic in the morning, so we can start on time.

Please remember that the dress rehearsal and technical rehearsal are for your child's benefit to help them learn the finale, costume requirements, lighting, spacing etc. Whilst inconvenient for us all at this busy time of the year, they are essential for all students to fully understand what is required of them.

Concert Tickets:

Tickets will go on sale on Tuesday 18th October at 10.00am. The tickets are available to purchase online at www.laycockstreettheatre.com

They are also available at Laycock Street Theatre box office and by phone 43233 233. The box office hours are 10.00am - 5.00pm weekdays.

Adults \$31.50, Pensioner/conc. \$27.00, Children \$24.50

Photos:

Photos will be taken at the dress rehearsal. Each child should soon receive envelopes for orders.

DVD Orders:

We are using Eternal Memories who filmed last years' concert. They will again use two camera filming and editing. The cost is \$50.00. They will record the Sunday evening concert and presentation/awards following the concert. Anyone wanting to order a DVD please ask for an order form envelope labelled with name, phone number, number of copies and amount of money enclosed. They prefer cash but if paying by cheque please make it out to Eternal Memories and not to the dance academy. These orders are to be handed to your child's teacher. Your copy will not be available for collection until classes resume next year. Please do not ring me asking for these in the holidays.

No cameras or videos are allowed at the dress rehearsal or at Laycock St. Theatre.

Class Schedule:

The last day for classes for this year will be on **Saturday 10th December, 2011.**

Classes will resume next year on **Monday 30th January, 2012.**

All Fees that are in arrears must be paid immediately. Thank you to those who keep up to date.

Every student's fees for the entire year must be finalised in full prior to the dress rehearsal. This means all fees up to and including 10th December, 2011 need to be paid before 13th November.

Please remember that costume payments will need to be finalised soon. No costume will be handed out until costumes and class fees are paid in full first. I'm sure you can appreciate how difficult this is to organise and unpaid costumes are a nightmare to track each year. ***All tuition fees to 10th December will be expected to be paid prior to handing out costumes.*** This may seem harsh but each year people take advantage of small kindnesses in relation to fees and do not pay fees owing.

Costumes:

All costumes are now complete or nearing completion. Most prices are now on the noticeboard. All costumes must be paid by cash only so we can directly and promptly pay dressmakers.

Please deduct the \$25.00 deposit you have paid previously from the total costs listed on the board. If you haven't paid the costume deposit, then please pay the full amount listed.

Remember to deduct chocolate fundraising if you sold 2 or more boxes. The first box sold goes towards trophies, but each additional box sold after the initial box raises \$30 per box sold eg. 2 boxes total = \$30 towards costumes; 3 boxes total = \$60 towards costumes.

I don't know the final tally for all the extra boxes of chocolates sold as yet, as not everyone has returned their money. Please return this as quickly as possible so that Wendy and Roanne can finalise your fundraising tally.

All costume money is now due and needs to be finalised before 5th November

Dressers at concert:

All mothers are required to dress their own child at the concert. To allow mothers to watch the concert, we find the best method is to organise with another mum to take turns dressing and looking after each other's child. One mum dresses at the first concert, the other mum dresses at the second.

Some mothers have to dress more than one child, or have quick changes or multiple changes. If you see someone struggling please offer to help, this allows the concert to flow faster and is less stressful for all.

I will put a sign on the noticeboard for all mothers to write down which concert they will be dressing at, please write your preferred day on this note.

Helpers at Concert: Each year we have a dedicated but very small group of mothers who help at the concert. Unfortunately we always have a shortfall of helpers despite many requests for help. We need helpers to sign in/out at the stage door and on the door of the Don Craig room; also someone to man the door from foyer to backstage; a couple of mums to usher students side stage so they are ready to perform; someone in charge of each change room. If you can help with one of these tasks at either concert please let me know. If you have an older student who no longer needs your help with dressing, or a younger child who is only in 1 or 2 dances you may be able to help with one of these tasks.

Shoes, Accessories and Hairstyles I will also be putting a list on the board regarding hairstyles, and shoe requirements for all dances. I am just waiting for final word from teachers as they see costumes nearing completion. For all other needs please see your child's teacher. Dress rehearsal is with hair curled (if required for your child's dance). No jewellery or nail polish is to be worn for dress rehearsal/ concerts. **Please don't let your child eat or drink in their costumes.**

Laycock Street Theatre: **No students are allowed in the foyer at any time at the concert.**

This includes before the show and during interval. There is to be absolutely no access through the door that connects the backstage and foyer. You must use the backstage door and walk around outside the theatre to the entrance. This is a strict requirement of hire with the theatre. Only students dressing in the Don Craig room are allowed to pass through this access door.

There will be no watching from side stage allowed at all except for the finale and awards presentation. The only people allowed side stage at any time are backstage crew and the performers who are about to dance next. This is very important as many dancers exit and re-enter throughout their routine and it becomes too congested as well as noisy if people are watching from the wings.

Backstage Access at Concert: Access will be strictly limited to mothers who are dressing, students, and teachers only. This is a security precaution and a condition of hire. I have to provide a list of names of every person wanting backstage access, and each person needs to be marked off the list. We have been told that this rule must be strictly followed and theatre staff will monitor the stage door access this year. Anyone wanting backstage access to either concert please write your name on the list I will soon put on the noticeboard. If your name is not on this list you will not be allowed backstage.

If you have any queries regarding rehearsals or the concert please ask your child's teacher. Looking forward to another entertaining concert!

Regards, Cheryl