

CWDA NEWS Oct-Nov.

Congratulations to all students and their teachers on the wonderful tap, ballet, and ADTS exam results. There were some excellent results across all areas of dance with many top scores and even a 100% result in tap. All students should be proud of their efforts in preparing for these exams.

Concert Dates:

Sunday 2nd December 1.30pm and 6.30pm at Laycock Street Theatre.

Dress Rehearsal:

The dress rehearsal will be held at **Wyong Memorial Hall** (Anzac Ave, Wyong) on **Sunday 25th 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.**

Unfortunately we're unable to have a technical rehearsal at Laycock Street Theatre this year due to the theatre being fully booked. This means we are unable to rehearse our finale and groups on the theatre's stage prior to the concert. We'll also be unable to have a lighting rehearsal.

As a result we'll try to quickly run through finale before the first concert starts at 1.30pm on the day of the concert. We will also try to stage any difficult dances and our babies at this time. This will mean everyone will need to arrive a little earlier than normal on concert day. Arrival times and more information regarding this will be available at a later date.

Whilst this is not an ideal alternative it is the only option available at this time. It will be vital that all students arrive early for this run-through, and also that all students attend the dress rehearsal. These will be the only times everyone will be able to learn the finale schedule.

Photos:

Photos will be taken at the dress rehearsal. Each child should soon receive envelopes for orders. Please bring these envelopes with you on the dress rehearsal day. They can be handed straight to the photographer.

DVD Orders:

We are using a new company to film this years' concert. The cost is still \$50.00 each. They will record the Sunday evening concert and presentation/awards following the concert. Order envelopes will be available soon. These orders are to be handed to your child's teacher. Your copy will not be available for collection until classes resume next year. No cameras or videos are allowed at the dress rehearsal or at Laycock Street Theatre.

Chocolate Fundraising:

We are now finishing our chocolate fundraiser, so please return all outstanding chocolate money. Please remember that the first box sold purchases trophies for every child in the concert as well as special awards. Each subsequent box sold after this will raise \$20 towards your child's costume. (Each box totals \$50 worth of chocolates and we pay Cadbury \$30 to buy the chocolates). I won't know each child's profit raised towards costumes until all money has been returned.

Thank you to Kim Miller, Jenny Fuller and Kate Lowe for running this fundraiser.

Class Schedule:

The last day for classes for this year will be on **Saturday 1st December, 2012.**

Classes will resume next year on **Tuesday 29th January, 2013.**

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 (up to 1st December 2012) must be finalised in full by 18th November.

Please remember that costume payments will also 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 1st 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:

Many costumes are now complete or nearing completion. Some prices are now on the noticeboard. All costumes must be paid by cash only so we can directly and promptly pay dressmakers. Please do not pay in the same envelope as class fees, or by direct deposit into my account.

Please deduct the \$30.00 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.

All costume money is now due and needs to be finalised before 18th 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.

Concert Tickets:

Tickets will go on sale soon - date to be announced. The tickets will be available to purchase online at www.laycockstreettheatre.com

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

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

Regards, Cheryl