

CWDA NEWS Oct – Nov.

As this is our 25th Anniversary this year's concert is a celebration of the many popular and entertaining routines from over the past quarter of a century! Many dances will be from the past, along with many new routines. This concert is a tribute to all students and teachers, past and present. As the concert is fast approaching please take note of the following important details. If you have any questions please see your child's teacher.

Dress Rehearsal:

The dress rehearsal will be held at Gosford High School Hall on **Sunday 28th 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 jewelry to be worn.**

Technical Rehearsal:

Wednesday 1st December at Laycock Street Theatre 8.30 - 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 new 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. Please allow for heavy traffic in the morning, so we can start on time. 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.

Concert Dates:

Saturday 4th December 2.00pm. and 7.00pm. at Laycock Street Theatre.

Please arrive one hour prior to the start of the first performance, with makeup already completed.

Concert Tickets:

Tickets will go on sale on **Friday 5th November**. 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 \$31.00, Pensioner/conc. \$25.00, Children \$24.00.

Class Schedule:

The last day for classes for this year will be Friday 3rd December. **Classes will resume Saturday 29th**

January 2010.

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 evening concert and presentation/awards following the concert. Anyone wanting to order a DVD please ask for an order form envelope labeled 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.

Chocolate Money: All chocolate money should have now been returned. If you have outstanding money please return this now, so we can finalise all chocolate fundraising and calculate each child's amount raised towards costumes. Thankyou to Wendy Ward for all her hard work with organising this fundraiser. The profits from everyone's first box sold will go towards trophies for each child and individual awards. The rest will go to each child's costume, according to individual amounts raised.

All Fees that are in arrears *must* be paid immediately. Thankyou to those who keep up to date. Every student's fees for the entire year must be finalised prior to the dress rehearsal. Please remember that costume payments will need to be finalised soon. No costume will be handed out until 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 outstanding tuition fees will be expected to be paid prior to handing out costumes.** This may seem harsh but each year people take advantage of small kindness' in relation to fees and do not pay fees owing.

Costumes: All costumes are now complete or nearing completion. Prices are will soon be put on the noticeboard. All costumes must be paid by **cash only** so we can directly and promptly pay dressmakers. Please don't forget to deduct your deposit paid from the amount on the noticeboard (some deposits have not been paid - in this case please pay the full amount). Also deduct money raised from chocolates, if you sold more than one box. If you are not sure how much to pay please see Cheryl for final tally.

All costume money is now due and needs to be finalised before 20th November please.

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 others 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 and many 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 time on this note.

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

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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.

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.

On a different note, I'd like to mention how pleased I was to watch the new Senior Jazz Exam class taken by our new teacher- Chris Duncan. I am impressed with the students in this class and can see the improvement already in their core strength, and flexibility. The syllabus works on the upper-back, core, contemporary lines-including off-centre alignment, as well as technique for jumps, turns, and floor work to mention a few. Thankyou to Chris for introducing the ADTS (jazz exam syllabus) to our school. I can see this helping our students to improve in many areas but especially in flexibility and strength. Well done to students in this class, and to the junior class, Chris tells me she is very pleased with your progress.

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

Regards,
Cheryl.