

C.W.D.A. NEWS May-June

Congratulations to all students on their wonderful performances at the Gosford City Performing Arts Challenge. Not only was their technique strong but their love of dance was also evident. Well done to all students! We had excellent results from soloists and troupe performances- with students receiving lots of awards. Troupe results are as follow:-

First Place: *Under 10yrs-* demi-character "Beauty Pageant", tap "Rock 'n Roll"; *Under 14yrs-* modern "Love Story", classical "Serenade No. 13"; *Open Age-* modern "Right Here Waiting", classical "Il Postino", tap "Delilah", demi-character "A Life in Love".

Second Place: *Under 10yrs-* classical "Ave Maria", contemporary "A Dollmaker's Dream"; *Under 12yrs-* classical "Flute Concerto"; *Under 14yrs-* tap "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy"; *Open Age-* classical "Symphony No.8".

Third Place: *Under 12yrs-* modern "Crazier"; *Open Age-* contemporary "Stepping Stone", modern "Hero"

Highly Commended: *Under 12yrs-* contemporary "Music Box"; *Under 14yrs-* jazz "Hello", contemporary "The Orchestra"; *Open Age-* modern "Mercy", jazz "Get Me Bodied".

Overall: 8 firsts, 5 seconds, 3 thirds, and 5 Highly Commended. A fantastic result! It is also worth noting that our students are all-rounders. They excel in all the dance styles, not just one or two. Congratulations to all our soloists on their equally impressive results. Congratulations and thank you to our talented teachers. They put a lot of time and effort into preparing the students for this eisteddfod and the results reflect this.

Eisteddfods:

The Ultimate Troupe Challenge Good luck to our senior students who are about to compete in this eisteddfod. This is to be held at Cherrybrook Technology High School, Purchase Rd Cherrybrook, on Saturday 29th May. We have decided not to participate in the junior sections - only the senior events. Our ballet and tap students are busy preparing for exams, so we will need to focus on this work instead of troupes. **Entry fees for senior students are \$1.50 per group.**

The schedule for this eisteddfod is:-

Open Jazz	arrive 8.00am
Open Modern	arrive 9.20am
Open Contemporary	arrive 10.10am
Open Classical	arrive 10.40am
14/under Contemporary	arrive 1.55pm

Sydney Eisteddfod The following groups have been entered in the Sydney Eisteddfod, and will dance on the following dates:-

"Days of Fire"- July 31st at 1.30pm – Science Theatre, UNSW, via Gate 14, Barker St, Kensington

"Stepping Stone"- July 3rd at approx 2pm – Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House

"Get Me Bodied"- July 3rd at 6.00pm – Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House

Snr. Modern – July 4th at 9.00am – Science Theatre- UNSW, via Gate 14, Barker St, Kensington.

Entry fee for these groups are \$5.00 per student for each group.

Eisteddfod entry fees: - Entry fees are now overdue for many students who competed in the recent eisteddfod at Gosford. Please pay \$2.50 per group for each child. These fees have already been paid on

behalf of students to enter our groups, prompt payment would be appreciated.

Fees Many people are starting to fall behind in class fees. All fees are payable weekly, or if by the month or term they must be in advance. Fees paid in advance, by the month or term, are eligible for a 5% discount. However, if not paid in the first week of the month or term, then the discount no longer applies. **All fees are payable even if absent.**

Tap Exams Good Luck to all students and Miss Kate who are busy preparing for tap exams to be held on the 14th July. Please remember to hand your tap exam fees directly to Miss Kate.

Watching Days -term 2.

Tuesday 6th July – Jazz and contemporary classes.

Friday 9th July - Primary, Grades 1, and 3.

Saturday 10th July - Pre-Primary, Grade 4 & all jazz and contemporary classes.

Please see Miss Kate to verify tap, and pre-school dance class watching day.

These will be the only classes available for watching; please don't ask to watch other classes as it becomes too disruptive trying to accommodate everyone. Please remember to keep noise to a minimum whilst watching, to ensure you don't distract the children. If you have young children watching please keep them seated and quiet, or kindly take them outside if they become disruptive.

Please remember we no longer hold watching days in terms 3 and 4. At the end of term 3 we are usually only just beginning new concert routines and don't feel that there is sufficient learnt in the new routine to show parents. Term 4 concludes with our end of year concert where parents are able to view their child's performance.

Public Holiday There will be **no classes** on the Queen's Birthday Holiday- Monday 14th June.

Ballet Exams - Please check with me if your child will be ready for an exam this year.

Ballet exams will be scheduled for sometime between the ends of July to mid August. Please keep these dates in mind when booking holidays as students doing their exam will be unable to miss classes prior to their exam. If students are going to be away during school holidays then please let me know as soon as possible, as I will not enter them for an exam this year. Students not doing an exam this year due to absence, illness or by choice will be assessed and put up to the next grade if they have reached the necessary standard.

If you or child decide they don't want to do an exam for any reason please let me know as soon as possible. Some parents have asked me if exams are compulsory. No exam is compulsory. Some students are stressed by exams and exam preparation, and some parents find the expense a burden. If this is the case then simply let me know. As mentioned above, if students are working hard in class, reach their potential for their grade, and are old enough for the next grade then I will automatically put them up with their class mates, even without completing the exam. Many students choose not to do their exam each year but still go on to the next grade with their friends.

All fees in arrears are expected to be paid in full before committing to the added expense of exams.

Ballet Exam Entry Fees - Due Friday 28th May.

Primary \$59.00

Grade 1	\$65.00
Grade 2	\$75.00
Grade 3	\$82.00
Grade 4	\$89.00
Grade 5	\$93.00

These fees are set down by the RAD office. As they want total fees paid by one bank cheque, I can only accept **cash payment** for entry fees. Please pay in a separate envelope to normal fees. Please label clearly with student's name, and grade, and please do not forget to write student's **date of birth**.

There will also be an additional cost of approximately \$22.00 each student for the cost of a pianist. This will cover the pianist fee for a rehearsal and exam day. I will confirm the exact cost for this as the time moves closer. This piano fee is not due until closer to the exam.

Other exam costs involve satin ballet shoes, character skirt for Grades 1 -5 (please order a new skirt now if a new one is needed), character shoes, leotard and tights; or for Primary - a white leotard, white skirt, pink ballet socks, satin ballet shoes.

I realise exams can become too expensive for many families, and you may choose not to worry about an exam this year. If so, please let me know now so I am able to organise entries and partners for exam dances.

Children doing a ballet exam are asked to please see me about obtaining a copy of the exam music for practising at home.

Vocational Graded Ballet Exams: Good luck to Chenai Curry, Sophie Curtis, and Brittany Harrison who are soon to do their first major ballet exams. These exams are of a very high standard and this is a new experience for these girls. Best wishes girls.

Jason Winters Workshop Senior students were very fortunate to participate in a contemporary workshop with dancer/choreographer Jason Winters. This was held at the studio on 12th April. It was a very intense workshop and all students were exhausted but thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to work with someone of Jason's caliber. Jason has worked with the likes of Mia Michaels and choreographed for Top 10 So You Think You Can Dance.

Congratulations to Tiffany Duncan and Grace Lenan on successfully auditioning for Loreda Malcolm's (SYTYCD 2009) new contemporary dance company LOcREaDO. Tiffany has now also been promoted to a main dancer in their premier performance on 24th July. Congratulations to both girls! Anyone interested in going to watch this performance and to support the girls please see myself, Larissa, or call Chris Duncan on 0419-436024.

America Trip There will be a meeting at the studio on Monday 28th June at 7.30pm to discuss interest in the proposed trip to USA. This is for students aged 12 and over by the time of the trip.

Concert Technical Rehearsal: Wednesday 1st December 9.00 - 2.00pm. Laycock Street Theatre.

Concert Date: The concerts will be on Saturday 4th December at 2.00pm. and 7.00pm., at Laycock Street Theatre.

Thankyou,
Cheryl.