

# WINTER NEWSLETTER & UPCOMING EVENTS

Welcome back and Happy New Year! As well, I would like to give a warm welcome to all those families who have just recently joined us. We are now heading into the last half of our dance season. I would like to thank my students and their families for the many lovely Christmas gifts. Your generosity was appreciated.

Wow what a successful food drive! I was ecstatic with the number of donations each family made. Even with our snow days at the end of the week our box was almost full and it took several bags to carry it all out. Thanks again to all those who contributed. It made for a nicer Christmas for those families who were in need this year!

Thank you to everyone for being so patient with the building renovation. The space is finally open and I hope that everyone is enjoying it. I have listed a couple of reminders - please help us to keep our space looking tidy and new by reminding your children of them as well.

## NEW ENTRY WAY

Please make sure that when you enter you are staying to the right (this is beside the windows). There is a boot rack that is to be used that has been placed at the end of the hall. Once you have **placed your boots on the shelf**, step onto the padded tile that has been

laid so that your feet stay dry. Lots of coat hooks have been provided, so please use them. Children will be asked to go and use the coat hooks if coats are found in the change rooms. The change rooms are only big enough for everyone's bags – not their coats! On that note – please make sure that your child has his or her name written inside all of their items so that they know whose things are whose.

## CHANGE ROOMS

There are now four change rooms for your use. Our male dancers have been given one change room and there are three other change rooms for our female dancers. Everything has been labeled for your convenience, so be sure to double check the signs before entering to make sure that you are using the appropriate room. The change room closest to your studio room is the change room you are expected to use. Racking has been provided for your bags only – no coats! If the racking is full, place your bags neatly underneath the shelf to help make moving within the change rooms easier. There is absolutely **no food allowed** in any of our change rooms.

## LUNCH ROOM

A new lunch room has been provided. Please make sure that you remind your children to clean up after themselves when they are finished. Garbage bins as well as recycling bins have been provided. Please use them.

## OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS

At this time if there are any families who have received bills stating the amount they still owe for either term fees, or competition fees, I ask that you send your cheque or cash in an envelope to your teacher, with your child's name printed clearly on the front, as promptly as possible. Debit/MC is also available to cover your payments if you prefer. Just ask your child's teacher at the beginning or end of their class. Thank you for your consideration. Due to the Christmas break the December visa/mc installments were delayed but will be run the first week of January. If you would like to know what the total amount outstanding on your account is at this time please feel free to e-mail or call me to find out.

## BALLET EXAMINATIONS

Ballet examinations will be coming up near the end of this term. I have now been handing out participation

slips to all new candidates. All slips need to be returned before the 17<sup>th</sup> of January so I can finish filling in the entry forms. If your child did not receive a slip and you are interested in them doing their ballet exam please speak to me as soon as possible. Any student that participated in a ballet examination last season will be participating again this season. If you do not want them to do their ballet examination please speak to Miss Kelly before Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>!

### **HOLIDAY REMINDERS**

Just to keep everyone on track here are the upcoming holidays:

**Family Day - Mon. Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>**. No classes will be taking place on this day.

**March break - Saturday March 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday March 19<sup>th</sup>**. All classes will resume on Saturday March 20<sup>th</sup> at their regularly scheduled times.

**Easter - Friday April 2<sup>nd</sup> to Monday April 5<sup>th</sup>**. All classes will resume at their regular times on Tuesday April 6<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure these dates are clearly marked on your calendar.

### **BAD WEATHER**

Unfortunately there are some occasions when we will have to close because of the weather. If you are wondering whether there are classes or not you can always check the CJS website under their cancellation page or phone the studio directly and listen to our machine. Cancellations are usually listed by noon of that day. If we have to cancel in the middle of an evening we will do our best to contact you directly, however at any time if you feel it is unsafe to travel in your area we will understand your child's absence.

### **ADULT CLASSES**

A new session of adult classes is ready to begin. Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn some new steps, stay in shape and have some fun. Check out our bulletin board to see all the classes that are being offered, cost and times. I hope to see you there!

### **COMPETITION TEAM**

The competitive team is now gearing up for the beginning of their season. They will be participating in competitions located in Hamilton, London, Toronto and Niagara Falls over the next 4 months. The scheduling, location and directions for each of these events will be posted on the studio bulletin board. Please feel free to join in and support our dance team

at any one of these venues. You will have the opportunity to view great choreography from many different dance studios while supporting our studio in the process. Good luck to all of the competitors. I know that all of your hard work, dedication and commitment, in the past several months, will be rewarded as our competitive season gets underway. All competitors should be receiving the extra practice schedule directly as well as it will be posted on the bulletin board. If you prefer to stay local the competitors will be doing a showcase on Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup>. All proceeds will be donated to charity.

### **QUICK REMINDER ABOUT DRESS CODE**

Just a quick reminder to all students, that as teachers we expect their hair to be pulled back from their faces and secured for all of their classes. If you are a ballet student including our mommy & me, kinderdance, pre-primary and primary students you are required to have your hair in a secure bun with a bun wrap to hold it in place. If you do not have one and still require one – please ask your teacher. I know that being a mother myself time can be very limited, but please take the extra 5 min. and help your child to do their hair. We also expect them to have their proper attire. The dress code is listed on our website [www.dancearts.ca](http://www.dancearts.ca) Thank you!!

### **RECITAL**

The theme for this year's recital is "All Aboard!!". Some of our dance families have been given the opportunity to sail around the world and the audience will get to come along! All classes will be starting to prepare their recital pieces at the end of January. If you would like your child to have a copy of their music, feel free to bring in a blank CD-R and their teacher will copy their music for them. All of the students will be participating in both of the performances. I have listed specific dates below for you so that you are able to organize your calendar now for our upcoming event. Ticket information, costuming, dress rehearsal/picture day times etc. will all be listed in a separate newsletter. Most students will not have to be present for an entire evening or day. I will be sending home a "recital packet" for you to help keep everything organized and clear – especially for all the families who have never done this before. Remember that although this is a lot of work it is such a rewarding and exciting time for your

children! They only get to do this every two years and they look so forward to the recital. Try to stay positive as things get busy during recital week and I will do my best to keep everyone up to date and answer any questions that you may have.

**RECITAL PICTURE DAY – Sunday April 18th**

**IN STUDIO DRESS REHEARSAL ACT 1-  
Tuesday April 27<sup>th</sup> – start time aprox. 4:30**

**IN STUDIO DRESS REHEARSAL ACT 2 –  
Wednesday April 28<sup>th</sup> – start time aprox. 4:30**

**FULL DRESS REHEARSAL AT NORTH WESTERN –  
Thursday April 29<sup>th</sup> – start time aprox. 5:00**

**PERFORMANCE 1 (both act 1 & 2) –  
Friday April 30<sup>th</sup> – students arrive 6:00, start time  
7:00**

**PERFORMANCE 2 (both act 1 & 2) –  
Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup> – students arrive at 12:00, start  
time 1:00**

**COMPETITIVE SHOWCASE/CLOSING PARTY –  
Pizza party starts at 4:30 in the cafeteria  
Showcase starts at 7:00**

As always if you have any concerns or questions please feel free to contact me at home during daytime hours Monday to Friday, (519) 655-6814 or through email [danceaarts@aol.com](mailto:danceaarts@aol.com). I look forward to dancing with all of the students as our season continues to progress and we begin the preparation for our year end performance!

Happy Dancing!  
Miss Kelly