

BENNETT SCHOOL OF BALLET & JAZZ

MAY 2019



QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND

There will be no classes on Saturday 1 June or Monday 3 June as many people go away for Queen's Birthday weekend.

JAZZ EXAMS - FRIDAY 21 JUNE & SATURDAY 22 JUNE – NO CLASSES

This year the Jazz Exams are on Friday 21 June and Saturday 22 June. Students sitting a jazz exam will be given a notice that includes the day and time of their exam.

There will be no dance classes on Friday 21 June and Saturday 22 June because of the jazz exams. Please note that the dance school has no control over the dates when jazz and ballet exams are held.

CECCHETTI NZ WINTER SCHOOL

During the next school holidays, Cecchetti NZ will be running a Winter School in Christchurch (14-15 July 2019) which is open to all Cecchetti ballet students from Grade 2 through to Advanced 2. The cost of attending is \$100 for Grades 2-3 (2 days, 3¼ hours of tuition per day), \$140 for Grades 4-6 (2 days, 5 hours of tuition per day) and \$200 for Int-Adv 2 (2 days, 7¼ hours of tuition per day). The Winter School will be taught by teachers from NZ and Australia and there will also be a pianist from Australia. A brochure (which includes more detailed information and the Registration Form) is available from Mrs Bennett.

Please note that completed registration forms and payments must be received by 26 May to ensure a place.

SNOW DAYS

Now that we're heading towards winter there's always the chance of a snow day. I make the decision about closing the dance school due to snow/ice at about 1pm on the day in question. Any such decision will depend on the road conditions and whether or not staff and students can safely get to and from the dance school (remembering that some classes take place in the evening). Any closure of the dance school due to winter conditions will be announced on the cancellations on The Breeze and a notice will also be put on the Bennett School of Ballet & Jazz Facebook page.

DANCE SCHOOL UNIFORM

An important part of dance is how you present yourself. If you present yourself in an untidy manner then your dancing will tend to be untidy, but if you are well presented and prepared for the dance class then you will work better and the teacher will be able to see your posture more easily and, therefore, be better able to give corrections. On colder days, we would prefer students wear polyprops instead of baggy sweatshirts or jerseys so they are able to move more freely and teachers can see their body positions and movements.

All students are asked to be dressed neatly and appropriately as per the uniform requirements outlined in the Bennett School of Ballet & Jazz Handbook.

TIES ON BALLET SHOES

The teachers of younger students are finding that they are spending a lot of class time doing up ties on ballet shoes. The ties on the shoes can be tied in a knot and then trimmed leaving about 2cm from the knot. This remaining length of tie should be tucked into the front of the ballet shoe once the child has put it on.

END OF YEAR SHOW 2019

The end of the year is a busy time for everyone as there are many productions and break ups, but an end of year show for dancing is a must. Performance is part of every dancer's training whether they will be a future dancer or not.

This year's Bennett School of Ballet & Jazz production will be held on **Friday 6 December** (1 performance) and **Saturday 7 December** (2 performances). Please mark these dates in your diary now. There will also be some extra rehearsal times the week leading up to the show – details will be provided closer to the time.

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CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Ali Bloem, Lucy Woodhouse, Phoebe Harris and Mary Mengel who recently competed in the Alana Haines Australasian Awards in Wellington against 570 competitors. This was an excellent learning opportunity for our students as the standard of the competition was extremely high.

TAKING PHOTOS & VIDEOS

We understand that sometimes parents/caregivers and other family members want to photograph or video their children while attending open classes during Watching Week or from the studio doorway. However, for legal reasons and to protect the privacy of others, we ask that if you would like to make the photos/video public by posting them on social media that you post photos/video of your child only. If there are any other children in the photos or video, then full permission must be sought from the parents/caregivers of those children. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

FEES

Just a reminder that fees need to be paid in the first half of each term. Thank you to all those whose payments for Term 2 fees have already been received.

For internet banking the account # is 06 0901 0416601 00 (Please include your child's surname and their first name or initial and the Account Number.)

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