



CHALLIS SCHOOL OF DANCE CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

As the end of term approaches, it's time to send out our newsletter to keep you informed of what's happening in the school, a few dates for the diary and any news of which you might like to be kept aware. Although you may be receiving this by e mail; there will be some hard copies kept in class, if you require one of these then please feel free to ask. You can subscribe to our mailing list via the website at www.thechallisschoolofdance.co.uk, and also join our Facebook page to keep up with the latest news and events happening in the school.

Term Dates – Spring 2011

Term will begin on 10th January through to the 26th March with a half term break on the 19th-28th February.

RAD Exam Day- December 5th

The exam timetable is now available on the website and notes will be given to children involved in class. An exam practice will take place the day before on Saturday 4th December. Please check your time and arrive 45 minutes before the exam in order to prepare and settle any nerves.

School Success

Congratulations to all children who received excellent exam results in both the July RAD and September ISTD session. All results were either merit or distinctions for the RAD ballet exams and A and B grades for the ISTD modern and tap exams, a wonderful achievement of which we are very proud. Congratulations also to students who have taken vocational exams recently; Jessica Arnold and Luci Swain achieved their Advanced 1 RAD ballet, Melissa Travers and Naomi Brehm achieved Intermediate RAD ballet and Jessica Howell and Jessica Arnold achieved their Intermediate ISTD modern. Congratulations are also richly deserved by the following students who took part in English Youth Ballet's production of The Nutcracker; Jessica Arnold, Eleanor Barham, Naomi Brehm, Abigail Thomson and Joe Weir. All the children looked wonderful on stage and worked very hard during their half term to learn the full length ballet. Well done to all!

Akeman Street Studios

Our fundraising drive for the new studios is going well and we recently held a successful Christmas Pamper and Craft night, which we are pleased to report raised a grand total of Particular thanks must go to Becky Willoughby who put so much time and effort into the evening, a wonderful time was had by all. Scholarships have been awarded to Abi Thomson and for raising the most sponsorship money individually during the term, and we would like to thank all students and parents who have contributed to our fundraising efforts. We are still on track for a move in 2011 and will let you know as soon as we have some more news.

Phoenix cards, Yellow Moon, Diaries

We are extremely grateful to the above traders who have agreed to donate a percentage of any sales generated through the school of Christmas sales to our fundraising drive. Catalogues and order forms will be on the table in the large hall between now and Christmas for you to browse and place an order in time for Christmas. The IDS catalogue with dance clothing and a whole manner of dance related accessories, ornaments, bags and novelties will also be left out, if you wish to place an order please fill in an order envelope and hand it in at class before 3rd December for delivery in watching week.

Tring Christmas Fair (Victorian Night)

We are pleased to announce that we will be performing on the main stage at the Victorian Evening on Friday 26th November just after the mayor has opened the evening, at 6.40pm. Please come along and support the dancers who have been rehearsing very hard to prepare for the performance.

Hoodies

Due to popular demand we are pleased to introduce our new school hoodies! The hoodies are available in purple with a white school logo on the back and the option for your name to be printed on the front. The hoodies have a zip up the front so are perfect for wearing to class without disturbing hair styles as they are removed! They are currently being displayed in class and the first pre-Christmas order will be placed on **December 1st** in order to be ready and available in time for Christmas. Please pick up an order form from class and note that orders can only be accepted when payment is made. After Christmas, we will place orders periodically and according to demand. (Please note that we have been advised that prices will rise according to the VAT increase in the new year.) The hoodies have been designed in collaboration and are produced by CLC designs.

Hoodies come in the following sizes:

Kids Zippers/Hoodies = age 5-6, 7-8, 9-11, 12-13

Adult Zippers/Hoodies = S (36" chest), M (40" chest), L (44" chest), XL (48" chest), XXL (52" chest)

And are priced as follows:

Kids Zippers = £17.50

Kids with personalisation=£20.00

Adult Zippers = £21.50

Adults with personalisation=£24.50

(Prices include VAT)

Hyatts Photo Day

Hyatts have very kindly agreed to hold a fund raising photo shoot for us on 28th November. The day will consist of the teachers being at Hyatts with a variety of tutus, tiaras and costumes, and will dress the children and do their hair. Then we will pose them so you have really lovely professional photos in time for Christmas. Groups of friends and siblings can also be arranged. There will be a sitting fee of £5 and photo packs priced from £9. Hyatts are donating the sitting fee for the new studios. Please email me to register an interest, I will be letting you know the finer details when I know them.

Christmas Recital

The Christmas recital will take place during your child's normal lessons, so more like a special watching week. We are just getting into the silly season with schools and other activities so we have decided to keep things simple! We will however be going to some extra effort. Please bring your child to their lessons as normal for the last week of term but return 15 minutes before the end of the class for a short Christmassy costumed performance of dances the children have been working on this term. There will be a donations tin if you want to show your appreciation of our extra effort! Please remember there is no photography or videoing allowed during the classes but we will provide a photo opportunity at the end of the class. This allows us to conform to Child Protection Guidelines. Thank you for your understanding. The Baby Ballet classes will continue with their normal watching weeks, and please remember as above, no photography or videoing will be allowed during the class.

E-Shots

We seem to have ironed out a lot of the email address issues we were experiencing last term, but if you do not receive our e-shots please check your spam folders, and add our address to your safe list. If you do not yet receive e-shots, you can sign up via the website to receive updates and all the latest news.

Please Remember

- Parking is not permitted in front of the hall without a permit, even for dropping off and picking up. Free parking is available next to the library for up to an hour.
- Please take small children to the toilet before their class so valuable class time is not wasted.
- Please ensure your child is in the correct uniform for their class, all uniform is available through us and can be ordered if we do not have your size.
- Hair must be neatly tied up off the face and neck, preferably in a bun for ballet.