

SHEPshed JUNIOR DANCE CLUB

September 2010

Dear Parents and Students,

The dance club thanks you for your continuing support. The success of this club is due to the fact that teachers, students and parents work together to create a positive and challenging working environment.

At present, the dance club is not increasing any fees as the college has kept our charges the same for this term, but this may be subject to change in January. As you know the dance club does not try to make a profit – indeed all the extra money we have made in the past goes back into the club, equipment and fees for the theatre.

All the classes remain the same and there will be very few students moving classes – this is due to the gap we have between Inter and Senior ages. In Senior classes, last year the age group increased to students that were in Year 10, 11 and 12 and only a few in year 9. This is due to students deciding to stay on at senior club but not go into youth dance. Therefore, year 8 in Senior Lyrical and Jazz will be too young. However, I do know that Marie does make exceptions for some tap students in year 8 due to their abilities. Apologies for the confusion on the enrolment fees – it should say year 9, 10 and 11 for these Senior classes. If you have any queries about this please do not hesitate to talk to Marie or myself. Each year, this may change due to the students we have. However, if you do know of any students who wish to join the dance club and create a dance group just for year 8 students please let me know!! We would need at least 8 students.

SYD auditions are on September 9th. There are fewer places this year due to Marie leaving SYD and everyone will be auditioned, even old members. This is because we still want new members into the club and we are looking for students that are not just talented but committed, enthusiastic, reliable and want to work as part of a team. We will be arranging trips, visits and tours so if your son/daughter wishes to audition, they will be expected to take part in the visits and tours where relevant. We have about 5 new places available. Students in SDC can continue to enrol for the class, but if they become successful in SYD auditions on 9th September, then these fees will be transferred to SYD. SYD fees will be £2 a week and all this goes towards events for the club. SYD is run by the students as well as myself. Again, if you have any queries or concerns about this, please do not hesitate to talk to either myself or Marie. If they are successful in joining the club, they will need to sign an insurance disclaimer, a contract (which you will need to sign) and a medical/dvd form.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents and students about the few rules that the club tries to impose in order to maintain a good standard of performance for all.

We would be very grateful if parents or students could let us know in advance if they are unable to take part in the summer or winter shows. This allows us to plan in advance and deal with the problem of numbers as many dances are patterned with the exact number of students in mind. It would also be helpful to know the reasons for absence to lessons, particularly if this involves a few weeks. We will assume your son/daughter no longer wishes to attend the club if we hear nothing for three weeks, although it would be preferable for us to be informed. We realise that it is not always easy to contact us, but it would be enough to tell another student or parent or contact Hind Leys College on 01509504511 and they will give the club a message.

It is also very important that parents STAY on the premises with Class 2/3 children or organise with another adult for that child to be looked after. Due to legal reasons and our insurance, we cannot be responsible for looking after your child if there is no guardian on the premises. This is also the same policy during show rehearsals and performances. Please note that each parent must sign a consent/medical form before any child can take part in the classes. Thank you for your co-operation.

Here are some important dates for your diary for the full year:

Thursday September 9th classes start.

There will be no classes on Thursday September 23rd – the classes will be on Tuesday September 21st due to college being used for a big parents evening. This was mentioned to everyone last term. Thank you for your co operation on this. Please can you let your class teacher know if you cannot attend on this date.

All classes finish this term on Thursday 9th December. The college show is Return to the Forbidden Planet which runs from 14th – 18th December. Many students from the Seniors are in this show – come and watch! (tickets are now on sale soon from the college reception)

Spring Term

All classes start back Thursday 6th January 4.30 p.m.

No class on Thursday 23rd September – changed to Tuesday 21st September

**SJDC show – Thursday January 27th and Friday 28th 'Rewind To The Nineties'
Dress Rehearsal and Tech - Tuesday January 25th from 5.30 p.m. – 7.30 p.m.(All classes)
Dress rehearsal – Thursday 20th January 4.30 p.m. – 7 p.m. (all classes)**

All classes finish this term on Thursday April 14th.

Summer Term

All classes start back on Thursday 5th May at 4.30 p.m.

SYD and SJDC summer show 29th June – 1st July. This is a week later than last year.

We realise that many parents do inform us quite regularly of any problems and we thank you for that.

Students are expected to wear the correct kit for dance with hair off the face. Wearing jeans, belts and jewellery is not acceptable as it is both dangerous to the students themselves and others. Black leotard and tights with jazz, ballet or tap shoes for girls and fitted t-shirt and tracksuits for boys is the uniform for dance.

Punctuality has also been a problem for some students. Dance classes start with a warm up and if a student is very late, he or she may injure themselves. It is also difficult to teach a class properly if many students do not start on time. However, we do recognise that occasionally there are problems. Our main concern refers to students who are always late without a reason.

Please do not hesitate to talk to any of us if you have any queries or problems. We will do our best to help. Thank you once again for your support and hopefully the quality of the club will continue to thrive.

Please can you fill in and return the form below to inform us about your child's attendance at the club shows this year as it is important that we are aware of any problems in advance,

Yours Sincerely,

Linda Dootson, Marie Machin, Laura Gulliver, Doreen Fearn.

SHEPshed JUNIOR DANCE CLUB ATTENDANCE FORM

September 2010

We/I can confirm that my daughter/son _____ is able/unable to take part in the club show of 'Rewind To The Nineties' on Thursday January 27th and Friday January 28th

He/she will also be able to take part in the rehearsals leading up to the show on 20th and 25th January.

Name of child/student(s) _____

Class _____

Teacher _____

Signed (parent/guardian) _____