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## NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2012

Dear Parents

### ISTD Dance Examinations

All exam letters have now gone out to parents of children who are ready to take an examination. Please return your deposit and reply slip as soon as possible especially for pupils who have been selected for Ballet examinations as exam practice classes start immediately after the show.

### NEW! February Timetable

Please note there has been a couple of **changes to the February timetable for Mondays and Wednesdays**. Friday classes remain as written on previous letter. Please see below for changes

#### Monday Classes

4.00pm – 4.30pm	Junior Street Dance
4.00pm – 4.45pm	Senior Street Dance
4.30pm – 5.15pm	Grade 2 Tap
4.45pm – 5.15pm	<b>Grade 5 Tap</b>
5.15pm – 6.00pm	Grade 3 Modern
5.15pm – 6.00pm	<b>Grade 4 Tap</b>
6.00pm – 7.00pm	<b>Intermediate Ballet</b>
6.00pm – 6.30pm	<b>Limbering</b>
6.30pm – 7.00pm	<b>Grade 6 Ballet EP</b>
7.00pm – 7.30pm	<b>Intermediate EP</b>

#### Wednesday Classes

4.00pm – 4.30pm	Primary Ballet Exam Practice
4.15pm – 5.00pm	Grade 4 Ballet
4.15pm – 5.00pm	<b>Grade 5&amp;6 Ballet</b>
4.30pm – 5.00pm	Grade 1 Ballet Exam Practice
5.00pm – 5.25pm	Grades 4&5 Pointe Work
5.00pm – 5.25pm	Grade 6 Pointe Work
5.00pm – 5.30pm	Lucy J – Private Lesson
5.30pm – 6.15pm	Inter & Senior/Adv Jazz
6.15pm – 7.00pm	<b>Grades 5&amp;6 Modern</b>
6.15pm – 7.00pm	Teenage-Beginners Class

### Limbering classes

We are introducing a new class to our timetable, for pupils aged 6years+. The limbering classes have been specifically designed to improve students' abilities in the core areas of flexibility and suppleness. Various exercises will be taught and practiced, and these will help increase their levels of flexibility and suppleness, which as you will appreciate are pre-requisites for dancers. This is a 'stretch intensive' class, to help students with their splits, roll throughs, kicks, and core stability - through strengthening the core and abdominal muscles. As a dance teacher I highly recommend this class to any dancer! This new class is 30mins and is available to existing and new students at **the introductory price of only £2.50 per lesson**.

**However, for anyone taking 3 or more classes this class is, and will remain, FREE!** If you would like to sign-up for this class then please return the slip below.

### ISTD Examinations & UCAS Points

**For all parents who wish to send their children to college and/or university in the future, please read on.** All ISTD Graded examinations, i.e. classes in Ballet, Tap & Modern, are accredited on the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) for England, Wales and Northern Ireland. This means

that you can use your ISTD examination results on your application forms for secondary schools and colleges. Also, if you take any examination at Grade 6 or higher, then these examinations receive **UCAS points** to put towards university application forms. Points are awarded per discipline, so the more styles of dance you take the more points you can earn.

### **Table for ISTD Examinations from Grades 1-5 in Ballet, Tap or Modern**

	<b>QCF Level</b>	<b>ISTD Grade</b>	<b>Credit value</b>
GCSE Grades D-G	Level 1	Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3	<b>7 credits</b>
GCSE Grades A*-C	Level 2	Grade 4 Grade 5	<b>10 credits</b>

### **Table for ISTD Examinations for Grades 6+ in Ballet, Tap or Modern**

<b>Grade 6</b>	Tariff Points	<b>Intermediate</b>	Tariff Points
Distinction	40	Distinction	65
Merit	35	Merit	50
Pass	30	Pass	40

When completing the online UCAS online application form, there are multiple sections that need to be completed:

- Selecting the subject (Dance) and then specifying the genre (e.g. Imperial Classical Ballet);
- Inputting the qualification date as stated on the certificate;
- Selecting the awarding body – the ISTD appears on this list;
- Selecting the grade (Distinction, Merit or Pass).

We offer exams in all ISTD disciplines, so please come and see me (Michelle) if you would like to take up a new class, or for any other information.

### **Modern Classes**

We have lots of space in our Modern classes and, as explained above, by taking graded examinations in this discipline (among others), you can earn credits towards a place at secondary school and/or college, and UCAS points towards a place at university.

Due to lack of pupils wishing to take this class we do not currently have a Modern class for pupils aged 9 and under, but if I have sufficient interest then I will restart this class (ages 4 – 9 Modern). Please register any interest on the reply slip below.

### **Advertising**

I desperately need helpers to advertise the Academy by taking leaflets into nurseries and schools (both primary and secondary).

Would you be willing to give leaflets out at your school? Or even ask your Teacher if they approve of the distribution of our (reputable and long established) Academy's leaflets to their pupils? Mums, dads and children, anyone who can help! If you think you can and would be willing to give up some of your time then please come and see Michelle. Any pupil who distributes 50 leaflets will receive a FREE class for themselves.

### **Adult Classes**

I have had a number of requests to restart adult classes. We used to hold Adult Tap and Jazz classes, which were very successful for a number of years. If you think you would be interested in starting adult classes then please let me (Michelle) know on the reply slip below, not forgetting to let me know which style(s) of dance you would be interested in learning.

Or if you know anyone who may be interested, then please spread the word! ☺

### **Helpers**

I am looking for two student helpers to assist myself and Naomi on a Friday between 4.00pm – 5.15pm during the Primary Ballet, Tap & Jazz class. You will need to attend **EVERY** week and ideally already take (or have taken in the past) Ballet, Tap & Jazz. As a thank you for your help, you will be able to take Musical Theatre classes for FREE (whilst regularly involved in helping). If you would be interested then please see Michelle.

### **Teenage-Beginners Class**

As you will see from the timetable above, I am starting a new Teenage-Beginners class. This class will be for any novice dancer from the age of 13years+. The class will cover a range of dance styles and will assist any new dancer who may be wary of joining a school because of lack of training.

Get the word out to all of your teenage friends, and any pupil who recommends a new pupil (who then signs up for classes) will receive a FREE class for themselves.

Michelle x

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### **REPLY SLIP**

**Name of pupil:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Limbering – FREE to pupils already taking 3 classes or more, otherwise £2.50**

I will/will not be joining the limbering class after the show.

### **New Classes**

I would like to take up a new class after the show in the following discipline;

BALLET          TAP                  MODERN                  JAZZ                  STREET                  MUSICAL THEATRE

I would/would not be interested in joining a MODERN class for pupils aged 9 or under

### **Adult Dance Classes**

I would/would not be interested in joining an ADULT DANCE CLASS

I would be interested in learning the following style

### **Advertising**

I would/would not be happy to help with leaflet dropping or distributing leaflets at my school.

### **Helpers – As a thank you Musical Theatre class will be taken for FREE.**

I would/would not like to be a helper at the Friday 4.00pm – 5.15pm class.

Signed:

Date: