

NEWSLETTER

All newsletters are available at
www.mwmdance.com



March 2009

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Diary 2009

Term 1

27th January – 9th April

Level 1A Contemporary first class

10th March

Closing Date:

Sydney Eisteddfod
16th March

Exam Entries Due (Sydney 1st Session)

21st March
NO LATE ENTRIES

Rose Fund AGM

17th March

Isobel Anderson

26th – 29th March

Term 2

28th April – 10th July

Term 3

27th July – 2nd October

Tentative Graded Exams TBA

4,5,6 August

Term 4

19th October – 11th December

Bursary Semi Final

December TBA

Dress Rehearsal 11th December

Civic Theatre

End of Year concert 12th December

Civic Theatre

NCD Graduation 13th December

All information is correct, to the best of our knowledge, at time of printing. Please check the studio timetable & noticeboards regularly

Newcastle Eisteddfod

All perpetual trophies are to be returned.

★ Dear Parents and Students

I have enjoyed going around all the classes and viewing the students work and writing up reports. We have discussed in our recent staff meeting that the student and class of the months will be chosen by myself on improvement from each time I view a class. The teachers also ask me to now view classes randomly instead of placing notice on the notice board as we want the students to always be groomed correctly and not only because I'm viewing class! Students this year who receive an award for being the most improved will also receive a Certificate. This will commence from after my next viewing.

Thanks once again for the wonderful effort in raising \$900 for the Bushfire appeal (\$1800 donated). We said we would announce the winner of the famous tickets to "Kings of Leon" Well much to my embarrassment I drew my own name out – this was validated in front of NCD staff and students. I was about to hand them back in to be re draw..... Then I saw the glance of "Oh no mum" so with quick rethinking..... I'm a favourite mum this week.

★Isobel Anderson

We wish all our students a happy experience in the upcoming Isobel Anderson Awards, 26th – 29th March!! Now the students have been taught the variations they will be rehearsed by me each week at the times allocated. As only a small window is available the students must be warm for their own safety. Your personal class times in Sydney will be handed out as soon as they are received., Aust Ballet's Stephanie Williams, former MWM Student, will give a guest performance at the final.

(See the noticeboard for details on how to vote for Stephanie in the Telstra Dance Awards)

★Senior Boys Jazz

We have been notified by Bloch that the boy's jazz pants on our uniform list are no longer available. 'Energetics' make a ¾ length uni-sex jazz pant which is available through Charlestown Ballet Supplies for anyone needing to purchase them.

★Level 1 Contemporary Class

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we are aware that the Level 1 Contemporary class is now too large to remain as it is. We have, therefore, decided to split the class, having separate classes for Grade 5 and Intermediate Foundation, **starting week 7 (week beginning 9th March).**

Grade 5 contemporary class will be known as **Level 1B Contemporary** and will remain at the same time and day as usual – Saturday 9 – 9.45am (Miss Thomas)

Intermediate Foundation contemporary class will be known as **Level 1A Contemporary** and scheduled in the new time: Tuesday 6 – 6.45pm (Miss Farr).

**U/12 Classical Group has been moved to 6.45 – 7.30pm Tuesday to accommodate this change (15mins later than previously).

Intermediate Foundation technicals have also been moved to accommodate the new class; Group A to Thursday @ 4.30pm and Group B to Saturday @ 11.30am – Please check the timetable & Technical lists for full details. We understand that this change may not suit every student/family. Therefore if any Inter Found students wish to remain in the 9am Saturday class they are welcome to do so. (If so, please contact the office so you are on the correct roll). We do, however, feel that all the students will benefit from this change.

★Miss Frawley's Leave

Best wishes for Miss Frawley as she will go off on maternity leave 23 March and return 27th April. All classes have been allocated and training implemented for covering staff. We all thank her for her hard work during the last stage of her pregnancy especially the long day to teach all the students the Isobel Anderson Award variations. I know you join with me in wishing her a trouble free birth and can't wait to see her new baby shortly.

★Private Lessons – Easter Break

No one was invoiced for Private lessons during the Easter Break, however with the Newcastle Eisteddfod commencing on the following week some students may require extra preparation. The following teachers are available to book a private lesson on Tuesday 14th & Wednesday 15th April. Marie Walton-Mahon, Michele Jarmaine, Hayley Farr, Veronica Mahon, Brianna Thomas, Zoe Jones, Debbie Linnert, Jillian Kempton (to cover Miss Frawley's students). Please fill in the tear off if you wish to take advantage of this opportunity: Bookings will be timetabled on a first in basis. You will be invoiced separately for these lessons.

★ "So you think you can dance....."

Congratulations once again to the high standard set by Miss Debbie Linnert; she deserves all the accolades from Jason. I feel some people need to understand that some choreographers are only choreographers! They then have other people come in and teacher their work. We are so fortunate here for our students not only to work with competent choreographers but we are also teachers and understand attention to detail and a trained "eye" to look at line and refinement in the movement. So when they book Miss Linnert they are definitely going to get the 100% finished product, all polished to show them to their best advantage which will enhance the beautiful choreography.

★Tracksuits & T shirts

Academy tracksuits and T Shirts will be for sale Saturday 7th March and throughout the following week. Group representatives must wear a studio t.shirt & tracksuit to organised events. **Costs: Tracksuits** (jacket & Pants) - \$110 **T.shirts** - \$20

★Concert DVD - \$60

2008 "A Night To Remember" DVD's orders **closing soon!!!!** Don't miss out on this wonderful DVD. Complete order form and return to office with payment immediately.

★NCD Scholarships

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded scholarship for 2009: Cert III – Melanie Smith, Simon Jones; Cert IV – Isaac Houston, Emily Dibden; Diploma – Henrietta Ellice-Flint, Raegan Williams. This has been implemented by Tony and Michele Bayliss on an annual basis and following the following criteria: Students had to apply in writing with confidential questions/answers that were only viewed by management and not the artistic staff. The Artistic staff then had to report on each student giving marks out of 5 on the following: Attendance/punctuality, Grooming, Class effort/behaviour, Potential. This is an extremely fair way of judging a scholarship and all staff having input without knowing any of the personal attachment. Each student was then given a personal interview and asked the same questions. Scholarships awarded by Tony Murphy will have separate criteria and be transferred to the end of Year at the Civic Theatre.

★MWM Scholarships

We are going to bring similar transparent criteria for judging the MWM Scholarships as with the NCD. We will not be bringing in an external judge as we want to use a full appraisal of hard work instead of "just on the day". I will explain this fully at the 'parent teacher meeting' on 17th March. Our new criteria will be closely followed.

- Attendance – checking of all rolls – as well as technical lessons
- Punctuality – "L" for late on rolls
- Self Motivation in classes
- Notable improvement by obvious initiative and practice
- Must be enrolled with MWM for the past 12 months
- Grooming
- Uniform adhered to in all classes
- Respect for all staff members
- Self discipline in all classes
- Voted on by all staff

Best wishes to the ten NCD students that I will accompany to New Zealand to compete in the Alana Haines Australasian Awards during the school holidays.

The six finalists chosen are to present 3 exercises on stage at the Scholarship Concert in all three categories (Classical, Contemporary & Jazz) within the Junior School, Middle School and Senior School. If the decision is unanimous to split the scholarship, both recipients will benefit from the scholarship for 6 months each to cover class fees for the particular style. If a student in senior school of MWM is applying to attend NCD the following year then the scholarship will cover all RAD classes for the following year.

★Open week will include the following classes as well as private lessons.

Friday 3 rd April		Saturday 4 th April		Monday 6 th April		Tuesday 7 th April		Wed. 8 th April		Thursday 9 th April	
L2 Jazz	6.30	Gr 4 Clas.	9am	Primary	4.30	Tiny Tots	4pm	L 4 Jazz	5.15	G3 Jazz	5.45
L2 Cont	4pm	Gr 5 Clas.	9.45	Adv F.	5.15	Int Found	5pm	L 5 Jazz	6.30	G4 Jazz	5.45
L3 Cont	6.30	Gr 1 Clas.	9.45	Adv 1	5.15	L1A Jazz	4pm	L3 Jazz	6.30		
		Pre Prim.	9.45	L4 Cont	6.30	L1B Jazz	5pm	L5 Cont	5.15		
		G2 Clas.	9am			L1A Cont	6pm				
		Tiny Tots	9am								
		I.F. Open	10.30								
		Intermed.	11.30								
		Adv 2	4pm								
		L1B Cont.	9am								
		Gr 1 Jazz	9am			A Gold coin donation to the Benefit Fund would be appreciated					
		Gr 2 Jazz	9.45								
		Gr 3 Clas.	11.15								
		Gr 3 Cont	10.30								
		Gr 4 Cont	12.15								

★ Injuries

If something is causing pain tell your teacher to immediately modify your program. If after this the pain doesn't go away within a week of modifying your work, I would suggest to discuss with your teacher if you should have it checked. I would prefer everyone if possible to make the effort to see Ken Crichton at North Shore Orthopaedic Medical Centre – 02 9966 4700. If you need a physiotherapist we have Camille Clinton at our school each Friday afternoon and you can place your name down on her list. My reasons are: Ken looks after all the Australian Ballet and understands Dance and the dancers' body. Camille was a ballerina and naturally that has an enormous advantage. I have a direct liaison with both Ken and Camille and also them with each other. A clear letter is always sent to both Camille and myself and how to modify the work to gain recovery as quick as possible. Communication is so valuable and then we have tangible paperwork to copy for all staff that may have your daughter/son in classes.

★ Intermediate and Level 4

Students in **Intermediate** who are attending the Sydney session RAD exam, and **Level 4 students** will receive notes in class concerning class options. Please return the relevant advice slips to the office asap.

Fond wishes, Marie Walton-Mahon



Concert DVD – "A Night to Remember" Order Form COST \$60

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 No. Of Copies Required: _____

Private Lessons – Easter Break 14th & 15th April

Date received: _____

Student Name: _____

Teacher: _____ Signed: _____
 (parent/guardian)