



## Hitchin School of Dance Autumn/Winter Term Newsletter 2022

### **This term**

*We have been working really hard this term across our whole timetable. Students have been focusing on exam work in their ISTD modern, ballet and tap classes, and in jazz, lyrical and street lessons they have been looking at some great routines. We have also had quite a few students achieve their splits for the very first time in their strength & stretch classes!*

*We have also had our next group of students go onto pointe which is very exciting! Well done girls for working hard on your pre-pointe exercises and being able to get your first pair of pointe shoes. Thank you to Dance and Fancy Dress of Hitchin who fitted lots of them for us.*

### **New Students**

*It has been so lovely to welcome lots of new students to the school this term. I think they have been made to feel very welcome by their fellow dancers and it's great to have them all part of the HSD team.*

### **Uniform & shoes**

*Please have a check of uniform and shoes before returning to classes in January (tap shoes make a lovely Christmas present!). You can find the full list of uniform on our website and it can all be purchased from Dance & Fancy Dress of Hitchin.*

*For safety and to be able to train the students properly, baggy t-shirts and hoodies can only be worn for their warm up, after this they will then need to be taken off. Wrap cardigans can be worn in all classes for the duration as we can see their bodies. I do have a small amount of stock of school t-shirts, hoodies and sweatshirts available to order for the new term.*

### **A reminder for exams**

*Exams are great for students to work towards and they give a sense of achievement. We follow the ISTD syllabus in our ballet, tap and modern classes. There is a certain level and technique required to achieve a pass mark in these exams. ISTD mark students as follows:*

#### **Pass 40-59**

*Reflects a satisfactory to fairly good standard of achievement overall*

#### **Merit 60-79**

*Reflects a good to very good standard of achievement overall*

#### **Distinction 80-100**

*Reflects a high to extremely high standard of achievement overall*

*I will be booking an ISTD exam session just after the Easter holidays for ballet, tap & modern. Not all students have to take an exam and some students may not be quite ready to take an exam. We will only enter students who display the required level needed and will gain the best mark they can. Some students may need an extra half a term or term before being entered. We have been looking at who could potentially do an exam this term and will let you and the students know once we return in January.*

*I will be sending out an 'exam e-mail' with all of the things you need to know about taking an ISTD exam in the New Year.*

### **Attendance**

100% attendance is so important to progress and improve in dancing. Essential teaching and training is missed if a student misses a class. If students are taking any exams, there will only be 11 weeks until the Easter holidays (that's only 5.5 hours of lessons for some classes!) Students may need to attend extra classes and in some cases, will not be able to take an exam if too many classes are missed. Students will still need achieve a certain level to be able to move up into the next class if they don't want to take an exam.

### **Miss Gabbi is getting married!**

I am getting married on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at St Mary's church in Hitchin at 1pm. If you are around in town, it would be lovely to see you as Tim & I come out of the church.

Students will have a cover teacher for my classes the week after which is the last week of term. This teacher will be in the previous week alongside me to meet the students.

### **Invoices**

Invoices will be sent out in the first week of term and are due in by the third week otherwise a 10% late fee will be charged.

Any classes that were cancelled from us (illness, snow) will be rescheduled or deducted from next terms invoices.

### **Online portal**

You can find all invoices, class times etc on your parent portal. There is a link under "More" then "links" on our website. Please check that all of your child/s information is filled out i.e. photo consent, D.O.B, medical etc.

### **Dates for your diary**

#### **SPRING TERM**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

HALF TERM: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023

#### **SUMMER TERM**

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023

HALF TERM: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

NO CLASSES Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 due to the Bank Holiday

NO CLASSES Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023 due to the coronation of King Charles III

**Thank you for another brilliant term at HSD. Miss Alison, Miss Mia and I would like to say thank you for our end of term gifts and cards.**

**I hope you and your families have a lovely, relaxing Christmas.**

**Love, Miss Gabbi x**

### **Important Information:**

**School E-mail:** [HitchinSchoolofDance@hotmail.com](mailto:HitchinSchoolofDance@hotmail.com)

**School Number:** 07801261249

**Website:** [HitchinSchoolofDance.co.uk](http://HitchinSchoolofDance.co.uk)

All information about uniform, timetable, term dates etc can be found on the website.

**Socials:** Facebook – Hitchin School of Dance

**Group for parents and students on Facebook:** Hitchin School of Dance for Parents & Students (Private)

**Instagram** - @HitchinSchoolofDance

#### **Bank Details:**

Hitchin School of Dance (HSBC Business)

Account No: 91857649

Sort Code: 40-24-20