



## Hitchin School of Dance Summer Term Newsletter 2023

### **This term**

The students, as always, have been working extremely hard in their classes this term. Students in contemporary, lyrical, jazz, strength & stretch and technique have been looking at lots of different routines and working on their turns technique, and as well continuously improving their training, strength & flexibility. In our ballet, tap and modern classes, we had over 80 entries for exams in May and achieved some fantastic results.

### **The Show!**

Every 2 years, HSD put on a full scale dance show. This involves the whole school, and I can honestly say it is the highlight of our calendar (I LOVE doing a show!)

We find costumes for each class, choreograph, practice & rehearse, have a photo shoot in costumes, as well as dress & tech runs. It really is a very special event and a chance to really show what the students can do and highlights how much we love to dance! It's also a great opportunity for the students to perform on stage in front of an audience.

I will be sending out a show letter with lots of information in and it will let you know how a dance show runs and what is involved if you haven't done one before. I will send this out ready for when we return in September (we will start practicing and choreographing in the new term).

There will also be some rehearsals in February half term.

### **SHOW DATES**

**Please put these dates in your diaries!**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024**  
(evening show)

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024**  
(matinee & evening show)

**@ The Priory School, Hitchin**

**"SHOW WEEK" (photo shoot etc)**

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>  
March 2024**

### **Hitchin School of Dance Anniversary**

In 2024, we shall be celebrating an amazing 70 years since our dance school was opened by the original owner, Mollie Gilbert - The school was formerly known as The Granville School of Dance. It was then passed onto Lorryne in 2008 and then onto me in 2020.

I was a pupil of Mollie when I started dancing with her at aged 6, and still talk about her ballet classes to my students now...20 (ish!) years later. She had a big influence on my dancing and teaching, and I owe a lot to Mollie, as well as my other teachers Lorryne and Katie.

We have lots of students whose parents (and grandparents!) used to dance with Mollie and quite often when I talk to 'Hitchiners' about the school and I mention Mollie, they've heard of her either from dancing with her, or because of her reputation in the Hitchin dance community.

We will be celebrating our 70<sup>th</sup> year during our show in March and throughout the year next year.

I hope Mollie is looking down on us all and feeling proud of what the school has become since she started it. I hope I have carried on what she set out to do, and as a student of hers, I hope she feels that the school is in safe hands.

### **September Timetable**

With students having taken exams, feedback from students and parents and the school always growing, there will be some changes to the timetable from September. This will be sent out ASAP as there will be some changes to days and times. I know you will understand that accommodating nearly 200 students and over 35 classes is a tricky task, so I do apologise in advance if the day or time has changed.

We will be starting up our street dance classes again and have will some more classes for our jazz and lyrical students!

### **Uniform & shoes**

Please have a check of uniform and shoes before returning to classes in September 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 will be ordering some more t-shirts, hoodies and sweatshirts in the new term but do have a small selection of sizes if you wish you pre-order for September.

### **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.

### **Online portal**

Please check that all of your child/s information is filled out and up to date i.e. emergency contact number, photo consent, D.O.B, medical etc. There is a link under "more" then "links" on our website.

### **Dates for your diary**

#### **AUTUMN/WINTER TERM**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023 (13 weeks)

HALF TERM: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023

#### **SPRING TERM**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024 (12 weeks)

HALF TERM: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024

#### **SHOW DATES:**

**FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH & SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2024**

**"SHOW WEEK" MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> – SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2024**

#### **SUMMER TERM**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024 (13 weeks)

HALF TERM: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024

### **Leavers**

We are very sad to see some of our senior dancers move onto the next stage of their education. Some of which have been dancing with us since they were three! We wish them all the best in the future and hope they continue their dancing wherever they end up. It has been lovely to have you part of the school and hope you've enjoyed your classes, exams and many shows that you have done with us. We will miss you!

***Thank you for another fantastic term at HSD. We have a very exciting few months coming up!***

***Thank you for our end of term flowers, gifts and cards – we are very grateful and love that the students love dancing with us as much as we love teaching them.***

***I hope you all have a lovely summer break and myself and Miss Alison look forward to welcoming you back in September***

***Love, Mrs 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