

Susan Robinson School of Ballet

Newsletter Autumn 2007

Dear Parents and Friends,

A warm welcome to the new term. We are so proud of the achievements of our students in many fields, both academic and dance. 42 candidates took Royal Academy of Dance grade examinations, 36 passing with distinction and 6 with merit. Outstanding marks were achieved. Four perfect 100%'s, Camilla Foulger, Lara Lucano, Georgina Woodward and Kiri Wreyford; 99% Jessica Cook, Isabella Sew-Atjon; 98% Beth Connellan, Bethany Wood, 96% Ana Luisa Guimaraes; 95% Francesca Pickering; 94% Freya Thompson; 93% Keira Bird; 91% Annabel Bolton, Anna Taylor; 90% Natalie Leather, Alice Munday. The vocational examination results were equally pleasing. Intermediate Foundation, distinction Francesca Pickering; Intermediate, distinction Jessica Simpson, merit Holly Cuthill; Advanced 2, merit Rachel Gifford and Jo Wright.

Miss Lucie is pleased to announce the ISTD Tap and Modern results. All pupils passed, 19 with Grade A and 4 with Grade B. Particular mention to Helen Imison who passed Modern Advanced with Grade A. Many congratulations to all concerned.

Outstanding results were also obtained at the All England Dance Finals. It was particularly gratifying that two of our winning groups were honored to appear at the gala which culminated in our lovely Laurretta Summerscales receiving a £1000 Young Dancer of the Year Award from Dame Beryl Grey.

Laurretta, Rachel Gifford and Thordis Thorsteins also gained 10 GCSE's with A*s and A's. During the academic exam period these girls did not miss their five ballet classes a week, proving that dedicated dancers can achieve outstanding academic results. Therefore I feel that studying for SATS and Common Entrance Exams are rather feeble excuses for missing classes!!

Eleven lucky students danced with the amazing Bolshoi Ballet in their season at the London Coliseum and two students were on stage at the Royal Opera House in La Scala Milan's production of Sleeping Beauty. Bravo girls.

Students also excelled on various Summer Schools, in particular Laurretta Summerscales, Lara Lucano and Annabel Pearce.

Sophie Lewis and Lauren Hurst were selected to be members of the cast for a forthcoming BBC film of the novel Ballet Shoes (a book I wholeheartedly recommend to all children who love ballet) to be shown around Christmas.

A big thank you again to Mrs Woodward for organizing the coffee shop, the new barres ordered will soon be in situ at the Methodist Hall.

Thank you to all parents who pay their fees promptly. There are still some who do not pay promptly and I would ask them to be kind enough to do so as teaching is my livelihood and not my hobby! Thank you.

If you wish to participate in the school show please make a note of the dates in your diaries. Show week is 7th July-13th July 2008 inclusive. Students must also be available for the fortnight before for rehearsals.

Children who meet the criteria will be entered for the Royal Academy of Dance Fonteyn-Nureyev competition at the Rhodda McGaw Theatre on 12th and 13th January 2008.

RAD Ballet Exams will be held 6th, 7th and 8th December 2007.

ISTD Modern and Tap exams 2nd and 3rd December 2007.

Epworth Choir Christmas Concert 10th December 2007.

Term dates.

Ballet – Half term October 20th to October 27th inclusive.

End of term Friday 23rd November except Saturday classes which finish on December 1st.

Tap and Modern- Half term October 22nd to October 27th inclusive.

End of term 24th November.

Details of watching week will be posted on the web site www.susanrobinsonballet.org.uk.

Miss Sue