

Spring Term Newsletter 2012

Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome to what promises to be an extraordinarily busy term with our school production taking place at the Rhoda McGaw Theatre from April 18th to April 21st. I am sure you will understand this is a mammoth task and your co-operation in particular in respect of rehearsals would be much appreciated especially if, due to unforeseen circumstances, changes need to be made.

In November out of 500 auditioned items 26 were invited to perform at the Royal Albert Hall for the first ever Dance Proms, a joint collaboration between all the leading dance teaching organisations. We were delighted to have been selected to perform Tubby the Tuba and many favourable comments were received after our dancers' performance.

For those of you who are new to the school each year a scholarship is awarded in the memory of a young mother who tragically died. Three of her children were pupils in our school. This year it was presented to Katie Rogers. On the same evening Lauren Hurst was the recipient of the Mark Leitch Classical Music Award, again given to celebrate the joy of a young father whose passions included classical music (memo to dance students please listen to classic FM on the car radio to and from school, you may recognise some of the music!).

Christmas began with our students contributing greatly to the Epworth Choir Carol Concert which raises money for local charities. I would like to congratulate my dancers for performing so expertly in such a small space. Some of the younger pupils entertained residents at two residential homes for the elderly, Woodbank and The Mount. Their performances were greatly enjoyed by all.

As usual some of our students gave up their time to perform in the annual Byfleet Players Pantomime, Aladdin. Paige Pilgrim and Jessica Cook took leading roles and Lydia Ayton-Smith, Jemima Burfield., Emily Dougans, Jessica Harrop, Lauren Hurst, Annabel Johnson, Olivia Jones, Olivia Leitch, Alex, Emma and Olivia Lewis, Tara Millard, Macey and Sophie Roberts, Niamh Robinson, Amelia Silk, and Sarah Trinder all danced and added various bits of "business" and colour to the show.

I feel it is our pleasurable duty to be able to give something to the community we are part of and be able to support local organisations and charities.

After 20 years the Royal Academy of Dance has changed its syllabus for Grades 1 to 3. Our school was instrumental in piloting this new work and our students were filmed for the teachers DVD and performed the new work in front of 500 delegates at the Mermaid Theatre in London. The pupils who demonstrated the new work so professionally were, Jemima Burfield, Olivia Jones, Alex and Emma Lewis, Annabel Pickering, Niamh Robinson, Amelia Silk, Aiste Stankeviciute, Sarah Trinder and Lucy and Robert Wood.

It is an anxious time for our senior students as they prepare to leave us to further their dance training or academic education. Sophie Lewis, Sophie Morgan, Emma Riggs and Katie Rogers are well on their way to fulfilling their ambitions, so far so good and more news later.

We have welcomed back to class Becky Grosvenor-Taylor who has just completed a tour with Alfie Boe and will also be singing the Welsh National Anthem at the 6 Nations Rugby Cup. Amy Charlton is just finishing her engagement in The Wizard of Oz in London.

Royal Academy of Dance Examination Results

Vocational

Jessica Cook Advanced 1 Merit

Grade examinations

77 candidates took Grade examinations 24 passing with Distinction and 53 with Merit. 13 pupils took Primary in Dance 5 being awarded Distinction and a Gold Medal and 8 Merit and a Silver Medal.

The 90 club are Rebecca Mabin Grade 7 99; Beth Andrew Grade 6 98; Emma Hallam Grade 7 93; Jessica Geary Grade 6 90.

Congratulations to all our students on their results.

Dates

Spring Term Ends Thursday 22nd March for Monday to Thursday Classes and on Saturday 31st March for Friday and Saturday classes.

Summer Term Dates 2012

We return on Monday 30th April. (No classes Bank Holiday Monday May 7th)

Half term Saturday 2nd June to Friday 8th June Inclusive, returning to classes Saturday 9th June

End of term Monday 16th July

(last Tues 10th , Wed 11th , Thurs 12th , Fri 13th Sat 14th Mon 16th July)

RAD exam dates Thursday 19th July, Friday 20th July

NB Hoe Bridge Parents please check your dates with Miss Cathy as they may well be different

If you know of anyone who does not receive this newsletter by email please email Avril sradmin@tiscali.co.uk

School web site www.srballet.com is a useful source of information

Miss Sue