

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 26

HSD

Horsham School of Dance

Another six months have flown by, and here we are ready to embark on another year full of dancing! The Autumn term was a busy one with quite a few events going on – read on for more info!

If you've recently joined HSD or are having a trial lesson – welcome! We're so happy to have you as part of our school community. Email Katey about any questions, or you can ask the teachers or other parents – everyone is happy to help! The new timetable and other info is available on the website in the parents area – the password is HSD5678.



1

NEW MERCH!

Our new logo is now available in the form of some fabulous merch! You can order items directly from All Boogie. These are mostly optional additional items – actual class uniform such as leotards, tights, shoes etc are still available through Katey Gamble. As we go into the new year, it's a good time to check that your child has the correct uniform for their classes. And can we make a plea for hair to be neatly tied up, preferably in a bun for ballet classes?! A ballet bun isn't hard to do, but if you're not sure where to start you can follow this tutorial!

2

SUCCESS!

We had a few more students enter Festivals this term – some of them for the first time ever – and had some wonderful results! Lots of medals and placings at Bright Star Festival in November, with Stephanie being awarded a Trophy for the highest mark in the 'Own Choreography' section.

At Tudor Rose Festival in September, Pippa and Charlie won 1st place for their duet, and gained a qualifying mark to enter the 'All England Dance' regional finals in May!



3

MORE SUCCESS!

Some of our students auditioned for English Youth Ballet's production of Swan Lake, which took place at the Hawth Theatre in November. It was magical to see them all on stage in such an iconic ballet, performing alongside professional dancers. It was hard work with long days of rehearsals, but they all thoroughly enjoyed it, and feel they gained so much knowledge and experience along the way.



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4

YET MORE SUCCESS!!

In October we were invited to take part in 'Masters of Dance' again at the Hawth Theatre. Designed to be a celebration of the best dance schools throughout Surrey and Sussex, a few prizes are given out on the night and I was extremely proud to be awarded 'Female Choreographer of the Year'! It was a big surprise, especially coming after last year's success where our dance was chosen as Judge's Choice! I'm so proud of our dancers, who performed both of our dances beautifully on the night. They are always our inspiration.



5

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Spring term

- Start: Monday 5th January
- Finish: Saturday 28th March
- Half Term Week: no classes from Monday 16th to Saturday 21st February.

The Summer term will run from Monday 13th April until Saturday 11th July. (Half term week is 25th - 30th May)

'Mini-show' featuring our youngest dancers will be on July 12th at Christ's Hospital Theatre. Details tbc.

MINI SHOW - 2024

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Just before Christmas we visited Broadbridge Park Care Home and performed some of our festival dances for the residents there. They were a wonderful audience and so appreciative of our dancers! There were one or two ex-professional dancers among them, who especially enjoyed chatting to our students afterwards!

We also held our annual dressing up week in October, which was as popular as ever and we raised over £200 for St Catherine's Hospice. Thank you to everyone who dressed up or donated! Of course we rounded off the year with our annual Christmas showcase. It's always such a fun event and I love seeing so many of you together in one space!



7

CLASS SPACES

Currently we have spaces in the following classes. We always offer a free trial to anyone trying a new style of dance so do get in touch!

- ★ Junior Contemporary for ages approx 7-11 yrs
Saturdays 2.00-3.00pm
- ★ Funky Feet: an introduction to Tap/Modern from ages 3+
Saturdays 9.00-9.30am
- ★ Gold Jazz - for ages approx 11+ (with dance experience)
Tuesdays 5.30-6.30pm
- ★ Musical Theatre - Wednesdays 5.30-6.30pm or 6.30-7.30pm
- ★ Primary Tap & Grade 1 Modern - from ages approx 6 ½ yrs + Saturdays 9.30-10.15am



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8

AWARDS!

We recently introduced awards for Class of the Month and for Dancer of the Month.

It's been a lovely way to recognise any individuals or classes that have perhaps gone that extra mile with their dancing.

We look forward to continuing to give these out over the next year!

So far our winners have been:

September: Dancer - Rosa Clarkson,
Class - Grade 1 ballet (pictured above)

October: Dancer - Lucy Kalen-Parry,
Class - Bronze Jazz

November: Dancer - Amy Charles
Class - Intermediate Contemporary

Our next awards will be announced at the end of January!



9

LAST WORD

When I was little, I used to spend hours dancing to my Dad's records (I'm showing my age here - no Spotify back then)! I would improvise dances to all kinds of music, and I think those hours spent dancing just for the feeling it gave me - not working on technique, but just moving to the music - really cemented my love for dance and choreography. I'd encourage all our students - (and parents??) to try this! When we're very young it comes naturally, but as we get older and become more self conscious, it's actually so difficult to let go.

No-one has to see you - it's only for you and for the joy of dancing - so next time you're alone, stick on some music and give it a go!

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