

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 25

HSD

Horsham School of Dance

I can't believe how fast the last six months have flown by! I haven't had a chance to write a 'monthly' newsletter since January!! So much has been happening - you can read all about it here - but there are also lots of exciting things to come over the next academic year.

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 LOGO!

You may have already spotted our new logo appearing on our social media and communications. I'm so happy that we now have something that is unique to our school - I hope you love it as much as I do!

We also have some really exciting new uniform items available which you will be able to order direct from our shop-front. We'll let you know how as soon as it's up and running.

These are mostly optional additional items - actual class uniform such as leotards, tights, shoes etc are still available through Katey Gamble.

The new HSD logo is displayed on a purple rectangular background. It features a stylized blue 'H' followed by 'SD' in large, bold, blue letters. Below this, the text 'Horsham School of Dance' is written in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font. A yellow pushpin is pinned to the top left corner of the purple box.

2

SUCCESS!

Our Junior Group have performed at several dance festivals over the last few months. Here they are with Miss Katie who choreographed two fabulous routines for them. It's been a pleasure to see them grow in confidence and how their performance qualities improved each time they stepped on to the stage. We also had several solo dancers achieve fantastic results at festivals this year - congratulations to them all! Some of our dancers also represented HSD at Holbrook's Summer Fair in July - a huge thank you to all of them and for parents for supporting as always!



3 LEAVERS CELEBRATION

We held our leavers' celebration in July for all of our 'graduating' dancers. Each one performed a solo in a dance genre of their choice in front of family and friends, and it's a fitting way to celebrate the end of their dancing journey with us. Most of them are now off to university or taking a gap year, but they will always remain part of HSD and take everything that dance has given them into their future adventures. We all wish them the very best that life can bring!

LEAVERS 2025

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4 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Term dates:

Monday 8th September – Saturday 13th December

Half term:

Monday 27th October – Saturday 1st November

- Parents meetings Saturday 18th October (tbc)
- Masters of Dance 12th October (more info to follow)
- Dressing up week 20th–25th October
- English Youth Ballet 31st October/1st November
- Christmas Showcase 13th December 4.30–6.30 (exact timings tbc)



5 MORE SUCCESS!

A few of our dancers auditioned for English Youth Ballet this year and six of them were successful!

The company put on wonderful classical ballet productions, and audition children from local schools to take part alongside professional ballet dancers. This year's production is probably the most famous ballet of all – Swan Lake! It takes place at the Hawth on the 31st October and 1st November. I will be organising group tickets shortly if any students would like to come along.

Huge congratulations to everyone who auditioned – regardless of whether they were successful. It takes real courage to try.

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6 YET MORE SUCCESS!!

Back in May Ana auditioned for the Royal Ballet School's Junior Associate programme, and has been offered a place on their online course starting in September! RBS is one of the most prestigious ballet schools in the world, so a fantastic achievement for Ana!

You may have also seen HSD alumni Taylor in AAH magazine recently, having secured a full time place at the Royal Ballet Upper School - again an incredible achievement.

In other alumni news Abbie Judd is entering her final year at Urdang, Amelia Edson is also in her final year at Elmhurst Ballet School and Liam Watts will begin his training at Emile Dale Academy in September.



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NEW CLASS

Contemporary continues to be one of the most popular genres of dance we offer. It's the basis of GCSE/BTEC dance qualifications and students really enjoy the creative style of movement, along with the wide range of music used. Miss Georgia will be taking a Junior class on Saturdays at 2.00pm as an introduction to contemporary dance, open to children from age 7-11. Please get in touch if you'd like to try it out.

We also have some spaces in:

- Funky Feet - introduction to Modern/Jazz/Tap from ages 3+ , Saturdays 9.00-9.30am
- Gold Jazz - for ages approx 11+, Tuesdays 5.30-6.30pm at Bohunt School
- Nursery to Primary Ballet - ages approx 3-6yrs on Thursdays or Saturdays

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8 EXAMS EXAMS EXAMS!

We had exam sessions for Tap, Jazz, Modern and Ballet in March and July, meaning well over 200 exams were taken in total! And every single one was passed! The ISTD and RAD are both prestigious dance organisations, and their exams are rigorous, so it's a fantastic achievement for our students.

I know the children will be justifiably proud of themselves, and pleased that the extra work they put in really paid off. It's so rewarding for them to have concrete evidence of their progress. Well done everyone - and thank you so much to parents who helped on exam days - we couldn't manage without those extra pairs of hands!



9

LAST WORD

As teachers one of things we're always trying to encourage in our students is a sense of 'performance'. For a few this comes naturally but for many it's the hardest part of dancing. One thing that can help, is making sure they have the opportunity to watch dance as often as possible. It's amazing to be at a theatre watching it live, but there are also many dance performances at the cinema and on TV:

- CBeebies have done a series of ballets which are brilliant for younger children.
- The Royal Ballet are screening three ballets at local cinemas before Christmas
- 'Let's all Dance' are at the Hawth with child friendly ballets, and an opportunity to meet the dancers on stage.

MARIANELA NUNEZ
THE ROYAL BALLET



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