**The JoAnn Latus School of Dance**

 **Kingswell End Cottage, Kingswell End**

 **Kings Walden, Hitchin**

 **Herts. SG4 8LR**

Mobile 07800 518654

Home: 01462 769665

Email: joannlatus@btinternet.com

Web: [**www.jolatusdance.co.uk**](http://www.freewebs.com/jolatus)

## Newsletter April 2014

Dear Parents,

**PERSONAL NEWS –**

As I pen this newsletter there is definitely a feel of ‘Spring’ in the air. I must apologise for my unplanned absence again this half term. Due to unforeseen complications following my stomach operation last term, I underwent emergency surgery over the half term break to correct intestinal adhesions that had prevented my recovery the first time around. I have been very fortunate that I have such an excellent team of staff supporting me. I was confident in the knowledge that your children’s; enjoyment of classes, progression and improvement and all forthcoming exams would be in good hands. I am now back holding the administrative reigns of the school and hope to gradually and tentatively dip my toe into the teaching element next term.

**TERM DATES 2014 - NOTE:- NO CLASSES ON DATES HIGHLIGHTED All regular classes finish on Thursday July 10th**

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|  **APRIL MAY JUNE JULY** |

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| **Su** | **Mo** | **Tu** | **We** | **Th** | **Fr** | **Sa** |  | **Su** | **Mo** | **Tu** | **We** | **Th** | **Fr** | **Sa** |  | **Su** | **Mo** | **Tu** | **We** | **Th** | **Fr** | **Sa** |  | **Su** | **Mo** | **Tu** | **We** | **Th** | **Fr** | **Sa** |
|  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |  |  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |  | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |  | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |  | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |  | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |  | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |  | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |  | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |  | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |  | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |  |  |  |  | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |  | 29 | 30 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |  |  |

**Term commences Thursday April 24th and the last classes are held on Thursday July 10th**

**Monday May 5th is Bank Holiday and there will be no classes held on this date.**

**Half term is from Sunday May 25th until Sunday June 1st inclusive.**

**Thursday May 22nd is Polling Day and there will be no classes held at the Anthony Hall, Aston Clinton**

**\*\*SPECIAL OFFERS\*\* –**

This past term we have offered a FREE half term for all 5 – 6 year olds to trial Modern dance in Aston Clinton. I f you would still like to take up this offer on a Monday and haven’t already done so, then please let me know. In addition I would like to extend this offer to Eaton Bray pupils by offering a FREE half term to any interested 5 – 7 year olds to trial the 4.30 – 5.00pm Primary Tap class or the 5.30 – 6.00pm Grade 1 Modern class. Please let me know if you are interested as places for this offer shall be limited to 10 pupils in each class.

**NEW RAD SYLLABUS –**

The final stages of the RAD syllabus change come into effect with the launch of the new Grade 4 and 5 syllabi. We shall be spending 3 days this Easter at the Arts Educational on a training course for the new work. We will gradually introduce the new work where possible so as not to disrupt your daughter’s progression though the grades. For more information on the RAD please visit the organization’s web sites at: [www.rad.org.uk](http://www.rad.org.uk)

**ISTD MODERN/TAP and RAD BALLET EXAMS –**

Our next Tap/Modern exam session is hopefully to be held on Monday/Tuesday July 14th/15th 2014 and students that are to be considered for these exams will receive notification and information about extra weekly lessons at the beginning of the Spring term. I am just organizing the next RAD ballet session for Sunday July 6th and/or Friday July 11th 2014. Students being entered for this ballet exam session will receive notification regarding entry to ballet exams before the end of this term, as entries have to be submitted over the Easter break.

**MODERN & TAP UNIFORM –**

The new uniform, introduced last September, for Modern and Tap classes continues to be a great success. Please remember when buying new uniform for these classes that I do now have a dress code that is being phased in. Non-uniform leotards are still acceptable, but as your child outgrows and requires new uniform please do adhere to the required dress code. There are 2 styles of leotards in 4 different colours (to be worn for grades Primary through Grade 3) with an option of matching dance shorts and tie tops for winter. Seniors will be required to wear any style plain black leotard (Grade 4 and above). Leg wear, if required, may be small black dance shorts that can be worn over the leotards or black leggings. Please remember that ballet uniform may be worn for ANY style of dance class. Leotards will be designed and made by Clo Perry and can be ordered through me. Prices from £16.00 - £19.00 and can be viewed by asking any member of staff.

**RAD BALLET UNIFORM –**

Although I do not actively enforce the correct uniform colours for the new grades I felt it would be helpful for you if you knew what was required should you need to replace old leotards that have been outgrown. **Pre-Primary and Primary Ballet** wear the new lilac capped sleeved leotard with a matching lilac wrap-over skirt, cardigans are optional. **Grade 1** ballet is the old pale blue leotards, capped or sleeveless, with waist elastic (no skirts). **Grades 2 and above** wear navy blue capped or sleeveless leotards with waist elastic. **Grades 1 and above** also require Character shoes and character skirts in addition to ballet shoes. **Intermediate Ballet** girls may wear black or navy strappy leotards. All pupils may wear pink ballet socks or ballet tights and ballet x-over cardigans that match the leotard colour are optional throughout.

**CORRECT FITTING UNIFORM –**

With more of us buying on-line, there has been a noticeable increase in incorrectly fitted dance shoes. Please take time to visit the dance shop in Aston Clinton or ask me to bring shoes along to class for purchase and to be fitted properly, rather than risk having a pair of ill-fitting shoes that could be dangerous to dance in.

**UNIFORM & LOST PROPERTY -**

Please remember that all Ballet classes must be attended with ballet uniform: Ballet shoes, tights or socks and ballet leotards. Modern, Tap and jazz must be attended with the appropriate footwear and any style leotard; black jazz trousers or footless tights may be worn by senior students with a plain, tight fitting, sleeveless black top. **Girls must attend class with their hair tied back off the face and in a bun for ballet grades 4 and above, neat grooming is an important discipline in dancing**. Uniform and shoes should be clearly named. It is becoming increasingly difficult to return clothing and shoes to their correct owners when found.

**NOTICE -**

Please remember how important it is that you notify me if your child does not wish to continue with his/her dancing. As with many other activities that children partake in, I require half a term’s notice that your child is leaving. You will be charged for this half a term.

**WEB SITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE** – [**www.jolatusdance.co.uk**](http://www.jolatusdance.co.uk)

If you do use Facebook then please do like our ‘JoAnn Latus School of Dance’ page. It does facilitate me with instant messaging regarding any changes that may occur due to unforeseen circumstances. In addition, please do make use of the web site detailed above. Again, I will post any news or relevant information on this site when required. The newsletters are always posted on the site along with the term dates and class timetables. Also, there is a rather nice photo gallery of pupils from the show and past exam entries.

**SECOND HAND UNIFORM –**

A massive ‘thank you’ to Erica Miller and her family who are continuing to run the second hand uniform service. Voluntarily providing you with the ability to purchase and sell your used dancewear and helping to save you money. Erica can be contacted at emiller1@btconnect.com or by text/phone on 07968 367612. Please do not hand in any shoes or items of clothing that are past their best!

**SHOP** –

All uniform requirements can be purchased from Stages Dance & Gym Wear, 5a London Road, Aston Clinton. The shop is open by appointment only on Mondays. It is open: Wednesday 10am – 1pm, Thursday & Friday 6.00pm – 7.30pm and Saturday 10am – 3pm. If in doubt then please call (01296) 630296. Pupils from Eaton Bray, may order uniform through me by asking one of my assistants, on Tuesday or Friday. Payment must be made before garments are taken home. Modern and Jazz leotards can also be ordered from my assistants at the desk in Eaton Bray.

**CASH PAYMENTS FOR TERM FEES –**

If you are paying by cash PLEASE can you return the remittance slip with your payment and wait for it to be marked off on the fee’s list. It is impossible for me to track cash payments without the remittance slip.

**FEES & DIRECT PAYMENT** –

Fees will remain the same this forthcoming term. Please let me know if you have trouble paying them as I can always come to an arrangement if necessary. Fees are due within the first 2 weeks of term, cheques should be made payable to Miss J. Latus. Please note that if you have an agreement with me to pay weekly then you must still pay for your child if he/she is away for a week or more. Any fees not paid, at least in part, by half term will incur a £5.00 penalty. If you wish to make payment by bank transfer then please email me once you have done so, detailing when and the amount paid. Please reference the transfer with your child’s surname & Christian name if possible.

*Beneficiary Name: J Latus School of Dance Sort Code: 12-24-81 Account Number: 06836180*

TIME-TABLE – April 2014

MONDAY – ASTON CLINTON TUESDAY – EATON BRAY

Laura McPartlan **Jo, Victoria & Laura**

4.00 - 4.30 Primary 4.00 - 4.30 Pre-Primary

4.30 - 5.00 Primary Tap 4.30 - 5.00 Primary

5.00 - 5.30 Grade 1 Modern 5.00 - 5.30 Grade 1

5.30 - 6.00 Grade 4 Ballet (old) 5.30 - 6.00 Inter Ballet

6.00 - 6.30 Street Jazz 6.00 - 6.45 Grade 5 6 .00 – 6.45 Grade 7 Ballet

6.30 - 7.00 Grade 4 Modern 6.45 - 7.30 Inter Mod

7.00 – 7.30 Grade 4 Tap 7.30 - 8.15 Inter Tap 7.30 - 8.00 Grade 5 Tap

 7.30 – 8.00 Grade 5 Tap

 8.00 – 8.30 Grade 5 Ballet (old)

##### WEDNESDAY - WESTON TURVILLE THURSDAY - ASTON CLINTON

 **Laura, Victoria & Jo Laura**

 3.00 - 3.30 Pre-School 3.30 - 4.00 Pre-Primary

 3.45 - 4.15 Pre-Primary Primary Ballet 4.00 - 4.30 Grade 1 Ballet

 4.15 - 4.45 Grade 1 Tap Primary Tap 4.30 - 5.00 Grade 2 Modern

 4.45 - 5.15 Grade 1 Ballet Grade 2 Ballet 5.00 - 5.30 Grade 1 Tap

 5.15 - 5.45 Grade 2 Tap Grade 3 Tap 5.30 - 6.00 Grade 2 Tap

 5.45 - 6.15 Grade 3 Modern Gold Jazz 6.00 - 6.30 Grade 3 Ballet

 6.15 - 7.00 Grade 7 Ballet Grade 6 Ballet 6.30 - 7.00 Grade 4 Modern

 7.00 - 7.30 Inter F Ballet Inter Tap 7.00 – 7.30 Grade 3 Tap

7.30 – 8.00 Grade 5 Modern 7.30 - 8.00 Grade 4 Ballet (new)

 **FRIDAY – E. BRAY FRIDAY – E. BRAY SATURDAY - STOKE M**

 **Jo, Victoria & Laura Jo, Clo & Victoria**

 4.00 - 4.30 Pre-Primary Ballet 4.00 - 4.30 Primary Ballet 9.00 - 9.30 Grade 3

 4.30 - 5.00 Primary Tap 4.30 - 5.00 Grade 1 Tap 9.30 - 10.00 Grade 2

 5.00 - 5.30 Grade 2 Ballet 5.00 - 5.30 Grade 1 Ballet 10.00 - 10.30 Grade 1

 5.30 - 6.00 Grade 2 Modern 5.30 - 6.00 Grade 1 Modern 10.30 -11.00 Primary

 6.00 - 6.30 Grade 3 Tap 6.00 - 6.30 Grade 2 Tap 11.00 - 11.30 Pre-School

 6.30 - 7.00 Grade 4 Tap 6.30 - 7.00 Grade 3 Modern 11.30 – 12.00 Pre-Primary

 7.00 - 7.30 Grade 4 Modern 7.00 - 7.30 Grade 5 Modern 12.00 - 1.00 Grade 7

 7.30 - 8.00 Grade 4 Ballet (old) 7.30 - 8.00 Grade 3 ballet

 8.00 - 8.30 Street/hip hop 8.00 – 8.30 Grade 5 Ballet (old)

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Please detach & return this form with your remittance or indicate if paid by bank transfer.

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Name: Telephone Number: Mobile Number:

Address: Email address:

Total Fee’s payable this term - **£**

Payment method (Cheque / cash / bank transfer) delete as appropriate

Signed Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_