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Newsletter Term 2 2023

Mrs Frost's Message

Dear families here we are well into term 2 with exam preparation underway. I returned last week from a wonderful five week holiday with my family in England and I'm slowly recovering from the jet lag and getting back into the swing of things at Ringwood ballet. I would like to thank the staff who took on my classes while I was away and made sure the students were able to continue their progress towards their exams. Congratulations also to those who did comps in the holidays and thank you to Miss Maddie and Miss Jessi for their support!

We are now finalising exam candidate lists and no further changes should be happening. The RAD senior exams commence in June with one group of external exams and the remaining groups will happen in July during our exam period. SFD classical, jazz, and tap exam groups are being finalised and entries will be completed in next week. You will find a timetable for the exam preparation classes in the July holidays in this newsletter. These classes are an essential part of exam preparation and really reinforce the settings, exam etiquette and develops confidence in the students with their exam work and working in their exam groups. Classical students of all levels have a compulsory mock exam at the end of the holiday period. The schedule will be available once groups are finalised.

Right before I left for England we had our annual general meeting at which I announced my choice of ballet for this year's concert. I have to take in account the enrolment in the school as in the case of the senior classes it is particularly important that whatever I choose can be done well by the current senior group and is also dependent on how many male dancers are available! With this in mind as happened last year I have chosen to do two different pieces-the first one is an abstract ballet in a neoclassical style of pure dance using music by Mozart -called Divertimento. It will include middle school and all the seniors. The story ballet is an old one based on a ballet from 1909 by Michael Fokine "Pavillon D'Armide" which I renamed "the enchanted tapestry" as it tells a mystical tale of a beautiful young girl enchanted by her father to become a figure in a tapestry so that she could never leave him. The tapestry comes to life and she meets a young count and falls in love but her father will have none of this and returns her to her place in the tapestry. There are several rather different

group dances including an animated clock, acrobatic jesters, apparitions, a group of revellers who disrupt the party, elegant courtiers and young children. This one act ballet will include all levels of classical from level 5 up. The junior ballet theme has yet to be clarified; jazz will have a Broadway feel and tap will honour great tappers through the years!

Mr Sam will be taking leave soon and I'm pleased to announce that Flynn Stelfox will be home on vacation from Milwaukee Ballet and will be teaching several weekly classes. I am also hoping to organise a workshop covering various styles so keep an eye out for information! It is lovely to be back amongst my students and I wish everyone success in the upcoming exams and assessments!

Warm regards Mrs Frost



Fundraising

Thanks to all who are supporting us in our major fundraiser for Cadbury chocolates this term! We have had a great response from families and looking forward to delivering these to you in the next few weeks.

Funds raised will be used for our end of year concert costumes and sets which we will all get to enjoy.

We will advise when goods are available for pick up from the studios.

A reminder that anyone keen to support fundraising or help to make our events even better, to please contact simone.morgante212@gmail.com. We are always happy to have the support!



Sponsorship Opportunities

RBG offers unique sponsorship opportunities to support your business.

We would love to hear from our RBG families and local businesses about entering a sponsorship arrangement with RBG.

Boasting a strong on-line presence and a range of exciting events throughout the year, RBG has many sponsorship opportunities to meet your business needs.

Contact RBG via phone or email office@ringwoodballet.org.au to discuss our sponsorship packages or how to tailor these for your business.

Term 2 Invoices and Exam Fees/Levies

Just a reminder that term 2 invoices are now overdue. If you are having any difficulties or wish to organise a payment plan for your fees please feel free to contact the treasurer via email at invoices@ringwoodballet.org.au

Invoices for Exams have also been sent to families, just a reminder that the Exam Fee goes directly to the SFD or RAD to conduct the exam, you will also receive an invoice for an Exam Levy which is charged by Ringwood Ballet which covers the costs of teachers during the school holiday classes, mock exams, exam days and for the cost of badges.

RBG Varsity Jackets

Ringwood Ballet Group sells a Varsity jacket with the ballet logo on the back and your child's name embroidered on the front. We have been advised of a substantial jump in the cost of providing these jackets and as such have been looking at alternative providers and options.

However, as our investigations are still ongoing I wish to advise that we are able to offer the normal varsity Jackets to students, however the cost has increased to \$105 per jacket. If students are wanting to order one please complete a form, available at the studios.

Please keep in mind that we are still in the process of investigating alternative options, which may see the jacket changing slightly depending on results.

Uniform Week

From Monday 15th May until Saturday 20th May is Uniform Week!

This is a new initiative to ensure that all students have the correct items of clothing and shoes, as we have had a few changes to the uniform this year and to ensure that there are no surprises when it comes to exams or presentation night!

Uniform week is targeted at our Junior and Middle school students who take part in Jazz and Tap. We would like these students to ensure they come to classes next week in their Jazz/tap leotard and tights (these can be worn in their ballet classes they do not need to get changed in between), and ensure they have the appropriate skirt/shorts and shoes for these classes.

Uniform changes for 2023 are;

Senior Tap/Jazz – Now **BLACK** double strap leotard (not cobalt blue) Kinder/Pre Primary/SFD 1 – Blue cap sleeve leotard and skirt (kinder can still wear anything)

Competition Dress Rehearsal – Audience invited!

Each year we hold a dress rehearsal day for students involved in our competition program. This will be held on Sunday 18th June from approximately 10 a.m. to approx. 4 pm in the neighbouring Community Centre hall. A timetable will follow soon. All students and families are welcome to watch, however we do ask for a gold coin donation to help cover costs.



Help Required

WORKING BEE

We will be having a working bee at the ballet studios on Sunday 19th June, between 10am-4pm. The purpose of the working bee is to give the studios a good clean and tidy prior to the exam period. If you are able to assist during this day, please see the Working Bee List that is up in the ballet foyer or add your name to the sign up genius via the link below:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BA9AD2EA4FFC43-working

EXAM HELPERS AND CATERING

Your help would be appreciated during the holiday exam practice days and official exam days, either by providing food or helping supervising children during changeover of classes. Every year the Ringwood Ballet community likes to show their appreciation by not only providing food and refreshments for the (external) examiners, but also for the teachers and helpers during both the holiday classes and exam period. A roster of days and times is available to access via signup genius in the link below:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BA9AD2EA4FFC43-holiday

***Please remember any assistance provided at the working bees or during exam time, goes towards your 4 hours of assistance at the ballet school, and families will be reimbursed their \$60 Maintenance Fee the following term, once assistance has been provided.

STAGE CREW/SCENERY HELP

What is this and what does it involve? Each year we need volunteers to assist with scenery for our annual concert. There are three main areas where parents can help;

• Stage crew,

· Painting and repair of sets and backdrops, and

• Helping move scenery for rehearsals and to and from the Karralyka.

We are really needing extra people to now put their hands up to assist as over the last few years several of our long term helpers have moved on as their children have now finished dancing.

Geoff Kitchen, our Scenery Co-ordinator, has put together detailed information about what is involved in assisting in each area with our scenery for the concert. This information will be sent out via Operoo and is also up in the studios on the noticeboard.

If you think you could assist in any way please contact Geoff via email gwkitchen@optusnet.com.au .

Looking forward to your response and assistance!



RBG Committee 2023

I would like to welcome our new committee for 2023, which was appointed at our AGM in March. The current 2023 committee are as follows:

President: Carolyn Callanan Secretary: Cassie Bowman Vice President: Jo Floyd Treasurer: Friska Lusiana

General Committee: Simone Morgante, Andrea Halden, Kristian Reid, Fiona Makedona, Simone Kleinys, Corina Crisan, Kim Trevena

I would like to thank all those parents for their involvement in the committee, without you the school would not run so a huge thank you.

I would also like to give a special thankyou to our Treasurer who is stepping down this year, Jodie Kilworth. Jodie has been on the committee for 11 years, since 2012. She has spent 2 years as a general committee member and the last 9 years as treasurer. She has been an asset to the RBG during her time, she has gotten on top of our invoicing and payments, transitioned us to Xero and has been a wonderful member, support and friend. She will be missed greatly but we wish her all the best as she now wonders what to do with all her spare time!

Our Secretary is also on her final year with us this year, so we will be looking for a new member or two to fill the position. In particular we are looking for a parent interested in the role of Enrolment Officer, Secretary, and/or Concert Coordinator. If you feel that you could assist in any one of these areas please contact Carolyn directly on 0413 306 386 or via email <u>carolyncallanan@hotmail.com</u> for more details.



EXAMS PROPOSED EXAM PREP SCHEDULE – Junior and Middle School TUESDAY TO THURSDAY 4,5,6 JULY 2023

CLASSICAL/JAZZ/TAP LEVEL 1

1.00-1.45 TAP 1 1.45-3.00 CLASSICAL 1 3.00-3.15 BREAK 3.15-4.15 JAZZ 1

CLASSICAL/JAZZ/TAP LEVEL 2

9.00-10.00 TAP 2 10.00-10.15 BREAK 10.15-11.30 CLASSICAL 2 11.30-11.45 BREAK 11.45-12.45 JAZZ 2

CLASSICAL/JAZZ/TAP 3

9.00-10.15 CLASSICAL 3 10.15-10.45 BREAK 10.45-11.45 JAZZ 3 11.45-12.00 BREAK 12.00-1.00 TAP 3 CLASSICAL 4 4.30-6.00 CLASSICAL 4

CLASSICAL 5- JAZZ/TAP 4

1.30-2.30 JAZZ 4 2.30-3.00 BREAK 3.00-4.30 CLASSICAL 5 4.30-4.45 BREAK 4.45-6.00 TAP 4

CLASSICAL 6 – JAZZ/TAP 5

9.00-10.15 JAZZ 5 10.15-10.30 BREAK 10.30-11.30 TAP 5 11.30-11.45 BREAK 11.45-1.15 CLASSICAL 6

PROPOSED EXAM PREP SCHEDULE – Senior School SATURDAY 1 JULY AND MONDAY 3 JULY 2023

JAZZ/TAP 6

9.15-10.30 JAZZ 6 10.30-10.45 BREAK 10.45-12.00 TAP 6

GRADE 6/INTER FOUND – JAZZ/TAP 7

9.00-10.15 TAP 7 10.15-10.30 BREAK 10.30-12.00 GRADE 6 12.00-12.15 BREAK 12.15-1.30 JAZZ 7 1.30-2.00 BREAK 2.00-3.30 INTER FOUND

GRADE 7/INTERMEDIATE – JAZZ/TAP 8

9.00-10.30 GRADE 7 10.30-10.45 BREAK 10.45-12.00 JAZZ 8 12.00-12.30 BREAK 12.30-2.00 INTERMEDIATE 2.00-3.00 BREAK 3.00-4.00 TAP 8

GRADE 8 – JAZZ/TAP 9

12.00-1.15 TAP 9 1.15-1.30 BREAK 1.30-2.45 JAZZ 9 2.45-4.00 BREAK 4.00-5.30 GRADE 8

JAZZ/TAP 10

1.30-2.45 TAP 10 2.45-4.00 JAZZ 10

EXAM INFORMATION

MOCK EXAMS:

All CLASSICAL exam candidates are required to do a mock exam which is run exactly like an exam and we set aside 3 days to cover all the exam groups. They have not yet been timetabled but will be conducted on : FRIDAY 7 JULY SFD CLASSICAL LEVELS 4-5-6 SATURDAY 8 JULY RAD HIGHER GRADES 6-7-8 POSSIBLY POSSIBLY ALSO VOCATIONAL

SUNDAY 9 JULY SFD CLASSICAL LEVELS 1-2-3

EXAM DATES:

RAD EXAMS:

We have requested dates between Monday 17 and Friday 21 July for the RAD Higher Grades and vocationals but cannot confirm these dates until they contact us.

SFD EXAMS:

These dates have been confirmed but a timetable with exact times cannot be worked out until we have all the entries back.

Below is a list of days - examiners to be confirmed

SUNDAY 16 JULY

All Jazz Levels SUNDAY 23 JULY

Classical 1-2-3

Tap 4-5-6-9-10

SUNDAY 30 JULY

Classical 4-5-6

Tap 1-2-3-7-8

Uniform Requirements for Exams

CLASSICAL GIRLS

CLASSICAL SFD LEVEL 1

We provide an aqua leotard and circle skirt and ballet pink ankle socks for each candidate. THEY WILL NOT BE WEARING TIGHTS! We will fit each child before her mock exam and she will wear a beautiful fresh leotard both for the mock exam and for her examination. Hair will be worn in crossed plaits over the crown of the head with aqua bows (we provide these as well). You need to provide pink ballet slippers with elastic over the instep, and flesh coloured ballet undies (available from the dance shops) – no "normal" undies are permitted as they are visible.

CLASSICAL SFD LEVEL 2

We provide a lilac leotard and circle skirt. We will fit each child before the mock exam and she will wear a beautiful fresh leotard both for the mock exam and for her examination. You need to provide the correct ballet tights (pink not flesh) and ballet slippers with elastic over the instep (as worn in class). If you wish you may also provide flesh ballet undies (normal underwear is not permitted as it is visible). Hair is to be immaculately groomed in a FLAT bun just behind the crown of the head (the top should just be visible from the front. We will provide a flower comb so no other decorations are to be worn.

CLASSICAL SFD LEVELS 3-6

We have a full set of exam leotards for girls (provided from a grant we received several years ago). If your child is taking one of these levels we will fit her before her mock exam and she will wear a beautiful fresh leotard both for the mock exam and for her examination. Level 3 and 4 will wear lilac and levels 5 and 6 purple. You will still need to provide new clean ballet shoes with elastic over the instep and pink ballet tights.



RAD HIGHER GRADES 6-7

Students provide their own navy thick strap camisole leotard- Pink ballet tights – pink ballet slippers with elastic/ribbons (check with Mrs Frost) - black canvas Cuban heeled Character shoes. We will provide navy chiffon skirts and black character skirts as well as the long silk scarves.

RAD HIGHER GRADES – GRADE 8 AWARD

Navy leotard any style may be worn that is flattering and well fitted (please check with Mrs Frost)- Pink ballet tights – pink ballet slippers with elastic- black canvas Cuban heeled Character shoes We will provide navy chiffon skirts and black character skirts as well as the long silk scarves.

CLASSICAL BOYS

CLASSICAL LEVELS 1-2

We will provide navy lycra shorts. You need to provide white short sleeve leotard or close fitting T shirt (Tucked in) — white ballet shoes with white elastic over instep - white socks

CLASSICAL LEVEL 3 UPWARDS

You will need to provide Navy footless tights/well fitted leggings, white cap sleeve leotard – white ballet shoes and white socks. Once boys start wearing tights they also need a support belt – Energetics do make smaller sizes for younger males.

JAZZ AND TAP GIRLS

LEVELS 1-5

Cobalt Blue, sleeveless, gathered front Leotard, Light tan tights (Energetiks matt – mocha matt or fiesta matt tan) – tan tap shoes –Tan jazz shoes (full or split sole) – plain black hot pants (Energetiks brand) for jazz only - Plain Black tap skirt for tap

LEVELS 6-9

As above but with the double strap cobalt BLACK leotard

JAZZ AND TAP BOYS

A black and cobalt leotard will be provided by RBG – black bike shorts for junior boys – black ³/₄ tights for seniors – black ankle socks and black tap or jazz shoes. Black Jazz pants are **not** permitted in any examinations.

GROOMING

Hair must be immaculately groomed (use gel and hairspray to tame wisps) off the face – no fringes – in a bun or crossed plaits. NO decoration to be included – we will provide the correct hair decoration on the day. It is the responsibility of the parent to ensure that the correct hair pins and nets are provided – RBG does not provide these items for you. The fine French pins are useless so please don't waste your money buying them. The medium length thick HAIR PINS (NOT BOBBY PINS) can be found in some chemists and at Target. Hairnets must match as closely as possible the hair colour – fine bun nets are not usually successful as they are too small – large fine nets for children with very fine – or not much – hair and slumber nets for those with lots of heavy hair are recommended and can be found in most chemists or once again at places such as Target, Big W and some supermarkets. BUNS SHOULD BE FLAT AND NOT PROTRUDE OUT FROM THE HEAD WHICH DISTORTS THE LINE OF THE NECK AND HEAD. We also have hair pins, bobby pins and hair nets for sale through the office – please ask!

Boy's hair must be neatly groomed and not distracting – long hair may need to be secured with a headband.

A NOTE ABOUT SHOES: new shoes have <u>got to be worn in</u> and must fit closely – "room to grow" is not only detrimental to safe dance but also prevents staff or the examiner from seeing the correct use of the feet thus likely to affect the final outcome of the exam. New shoes MUST be worn for the mock exam and classes leading up to the exam so if buying do so now! This includes ballet shoes, character shoes, jazz and tap shoes!

EXAMINATION DAY

Due to the need to avoid crowding we require parents/carers to bring their dancer in and then to leave the premises and return when the exam ends to collect.

RAD higher grade and vocational examinations are conducted on week days so students will need to be excused from school for their examination. This is the responsibility of the parent to arrange. We have requested between Monday 17 July and Friday 21 July as our preferred dates but this cannot be confirmed until Mrs Frost receives the running sheets. Exams often run early and there is nothing worse for a child than to be rushed into the room unprepared because he/she arrived late. Therefore candidates must arrive at the studio 1 hour before the start of his/her exam with all uniform requirements and the hair already correctly groomed if possible. If you expect us to groom the hair you will need to arrive as early as possible (minimum 1 hour before the exam). Do not expect us or another mother to provide your child with the required items and due to Covid we cannot allow sharing of personal items. As a parent you can help your child by encouraging a calm approach and reiterating that this is something to look forward to not something to fear. Having all their uniform requirements in hand and ensuring cleanliness and perfect fit will make the child feel special and supported. Once at the studio Mrs Frost and the teaching staff will be there for each candidates to value the whole experience and remind you that the greatest value is to found in the motivation and commitment over the whole year not just in the end result or mark achieved on the day.

SFD Examinations due to the inclusion of classical levels there will be a large entry. The dates have been confirmed and details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. You will receive exact times once we have all entries in and a running order. It is the responsibility of the parent to ensure the day is kept free for this occasion. Exams often run early and there is nothing worse for a child than to be rushed into the room unprepared because he/she arrived late. Therefore candidates are required to arrive at the studio 60 minutes for classical and 45 minutes for jazz and tap before the start of his/her exam with all uniform requirements and the hair already correctly groomed if possible. If this is not possible the candidate should bring all his/her hair things with (see grooming above) and it will be done at the studio - but you need to allow more time for this so must arrive at least one hour before. Do not expect us or another mother to provide your child with the required items and due to Covid we cannot allow sharing of personal items. The candidates will then be warmed up thoroughly and encouraged to feel confident and ready for the examination. As in previous years both studio 1 and studio 2 will be used for exams so all warm ups and changing must be done in studio 3. As a parent you can help your child by encouraging a calm approach and reiterating that this is something to look forward to not something to fear. Having all their uniform requirements in hand and ensuring cleanliness and perfect fit will make the child feel special and supported. Once at the studio the teaching staff will be there for each candidate - and will do all that is possible to ensure their exam is a special occasion. We want the candidates to value the whole experience and remind you that the greatest value is to found in the motivation and commitment over the whole year not just in the end result or mark achieved on the day.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES AND BADGES

Every exam candidate will be given their result and their report as soon as they are received by Mrs Frost. Their Certificate and a RBG badge will be presented formally at the Presentation Evening – September 2ND 2023.

ASSESSMENTS

Our level 4P and Pre primary students will be offered an assessment to ensure readiness to move up into the next level. We will announce exact dates and times as soon as we can, to coincide with the exam period. The information and permission slips will be sent out through Operoo as soon as possible. All those who are entered for an assessment are required to follow the same processes outlined above for examinations and to wear the same uniform etc. The arrival time for all styles is **45 minutes** before the scheduled start of the assessment so that candidates can be warmed up and made to feel confident and special before entering the studio. Each candidate will be issued with an assessment report as well as a badge. These will be presented at the Presentation Evening on September 2nd 2023.

ASSESSMENT FEES: \$28 per style



IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY -2023

	May		<u>November</u>	
	Monday 15 th – Saturday 20 th		Sunday 5 th	- Concert tickets go on sale.
		 Uniform week – Correct 	Monday 6 th	- No classes
		uniform to be work to	Tuesday 7th	- Cup Day NO CLASSES
		Jazz and Tap	Sunday 5 th	- Concert Tickets go on Sale
	Sunday 21 st	- SFD Classical	Saturday 11 th	- Juniors last Saturday of
	Masterclasses		Normal Classes	
	Sunday 28 th	 SFD Jazz Masterclasses 	Friday 17 th	- Seniors Last day of normal
			classes	-
	June		Saturday 18 th	- Senior Ballet Combined
	Sunday 4 th	 SFD Tap Masterclasses 	Rehearsal	
	Monday 12 th	 Kings Birthday - Reduced 	Sunday 19 th	 Senior Ballet Combined
	timetable		Rehearsal	
	Sunday 18 th	 Comp Dress Rehearsal 	Monday 20 th	- Junior Ballet Combined
	Monday 19 th - 24 th	- OPEN WEEK TBC	Rehearsal	
	Saturday 24 th	- SFD Scholarship Technical		
	Classes		Wednesday 22 nd	- Junior Ballet Combined
- 7	Saturday 24 th	- End of Term 2	Rehearsal	
ÿ	Saturday 24 th – 30 th	- SFD Competition	Saturday 25 th	 Senior Ballet Combined
			Rehearsal	
	July		Sunday 26 th	 Senior Ballet Combined
		- Higher Grades Exam prep	Rehearsal	
	classes		Monday 27 th	- Junior Ballet Combined
	Monday 3 rd ** TBC	- Higher Grades Exam prep	Rehearsal	
	classes		Wednesday 29 th	- Junior Ballet Combined
	Tuesday 4 th	 Exam preparation classes 	Rehearsal	
	Wednesday 5 th	 Exam preparation classes 		
	Thursday 6 th **	- Exam preparation classes	December	
	th		Saturday 2 nd	 Senior Ballet Combined
	Friday 7 th **	- Mock Exams (Classical)	Rehearsal	
	Saturday 8 th **	- Mock Exams (Classical)	Sunday 3 rd **	- Full Dress Rehearsal &
/	Sunday 9 th **	- Mock Exams (Classical)	Photo day (Commu	•
	Monday 10 th	- Start of Term 3	Tuesday 5 th	 Theatre bump In and Final
	Sunday 16 th	- Exam session commences	Senior Open Class	
	Sunday 23 rd	- Exam Session	Wednesday 6 th **	- Junior Ballet,
	Sunday 30 th	- Exam session ends	Jazz/Tap/Character/	
				ARSAL at Karralyka Theatre
	August		Thursday 7 th **	- Senior Ballet FULL
	Saturday 5 th	- Senior Ballet Audition		L at Karralyka Theatre
	Monday 7th – Saturday 12th - Uniform week – Correct uniform to be work to Jazz and Tap		Friday 8 th	- 11am Matinee - Senior
			Ballet only (Red Cast	
	Contomber		Friday 8 th **	- 7pm Performance
	September		Saturday 9 th **	- 12.30pm Performance

Saturday 2nd Saturday 16th Saturday 16th -24th TBA - NO CLASSES

- Presentation day/night
- End of term 3 - SDF Competition TBC
- Grand Final Public Holiday

October Monday 2nd

- Combined
- Combined

- Combined
- Combined
- Combined

Combined Rehearsal & p In and Final et, ralyka Theatre et FULL Theatre e - Senior nance rformance Saturday 9th ** - 7pm Performance End of Term 4 ** These rehearsals are compulsory

- Start of Term 4



Heathmont **Community Bank®** Branch 143 Canterbury Road Phone 9870 6654

🕑 Bendigo Bank



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