

Susan Robinson School of Ballet

Newsletter January 2008

Dear Parents and Friends,

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a Healthy and Happy New Year. I was overwhelmed by the generosity of your kind cards and gifts, all of which were greatly appreciated. Please accept my grateful thanks. I would like to write personally but it would take until next Christmas!

The RAD December examination results were as follows: - 62 candidates achieved 44 distinctions and 18 merits. Particular congratulations are due to Cameron Helsby and Ella Warwick 90%, Hayley Welton 91%, Natalie Dodd 95%, Hope Roberts 96%, Lilly Brown, Katie Valentine and Lucy Wood 98%, Lauren Hurst 99%, Imogen Alvares and Olivia Leitch 100%. Bravo girls! Vocational and Tap and Modern results have not yet been received.

As always students have been busy performing. Charlie Evans was cast in the National Theatre's production of Macbeth. Our students dancing added to the enjoyment of the Epworth Choir Carol Concert. As we go to press 20 students are involved with the Byfleet Players production of Little Red Riding Hood with Helen Imison taking the part of the Grandmother. Bibi Grunert and Hope Roberts appeared in the Windsor pantomime. As part of our ongoing commitment to the community selected pupils will be performing for the Woodbank Methodist Home on 2nd February. I can recommend to our younger students a charming book, under the auspices of the English National Ballet, entitled "Ballerina" in which Charlie Evans and former pupil Laurretta Summerscales are very visible. I am delighted that, following a visit by the Ballet Mistress from Northern Ballet Theatre, we will be providing the children for their production of the Nutcracker at the New Victoria Theatre Woking next autumn.

A lovely evening was enjoyed at the end of term when the Dee Dee Roberts Memorial Award was presented to Becky Mc Veigh and the Mark Leitch Classical Award to Reade Kiefer. I would like to thank Dr Phillipa Woodward and Mrs Pelita Lucano for providing such a scrumptious feast. Students who are now dancing professionally have promised to appear as guest artists in our extravaganza to be held in July. Hannah Bateman has been promoted to a soloist with Northern Ballet Theatre and has danced Juliet on tour, Julia Davies is now dancing with the Swedish Ballet, and Emily Pimm will be taking the title role of Juliet with Independent Ballet Wales.

Dates for your Diary (term dates have been difficult to arrange due to vastly differing school Easter Holidays).

Ballet term dates- Half term 18th – 23rd February inclusive.

Term ends 20th March except Friday/ Saturday Classes 28/29th March

Provisional RAD exam dates 4th/5th April

Classes resume Monday 21st April.

Tap and Modern Half Term 11th-16th February inclusive

Term ends 19th March

Provisional ISTD exam dates 9/16th March

Please note there will be compulsory exam coaching for all exams for which a charge will be made.

Fonteyn/ Nureyev Competition Sunday 13th January

Woking Festival 19th-26th January

Richmond Festival 16th-18th and 21st-23rd February.

Forms for the show will be distributed around half term but to remind you, you will need to be available to be in the theatre 7th-12th July inclusive and you must be available to attend all rehearsals, especially the two weeks prior to the show week.

If your son or daughter hasn't given you their bill after the first lesson please telephone Avril Hurst on 01420 86876 or e-mail rsadmin@tiscali.co.uk. Prompt payment is greatly appreciated.

Unfortunately a surcharge may have to be applied to late payments.

Web site address www.susanrobinsonballet.org.uk