

Spring Term Newsletter 2015

Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome to another dancing term. We are delighted to record that Lauren Hurst has been offered places at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance and Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance to commence in September and has accepted the place at Rambert where she will be following in the footsteps of past students Julie Pedrick, Claire Besent and Katarina Kamieniecka all of whom have had very successful professional careers. This is always a worrying time for our graduating students but their dedication and commitment to their dancing classes has in no way been affected by their studying for their public examinations. Watch this space for more news. We also have exciting news of ex pupils. Pietra Mello-Pitmann will be leaving the Royal Ballet Company in April to concentrate on directing her own Company, Inala. Julia Davies will be joining Pietra in the company commencing with a tour to Moscow. We look forward to watching Hannah Bateman when Northern Ballet performs at Sadlers Wells at the end of March.

Royal Academy of Dance Examination Results - Vocational

Advanced 2 Niamh Robinson with Distinction, which will enable for her to take part in the Genee International Ballet Competition that Lauren took part in last year in Antwerp. This year it will be held in London.

Advanced 1 Katie Swift with Distinction, which will qualify her to take part in the Phyllis Bedells Bursary that was won last year by our Rebecca Mabin. Kate Hester with Merit

Intermediate Colette Burkett-St. Laurent, Jade Cawthraw, Emily Dougans, Olivia Jones, Erin King, Hannah Mc Millan, Henrietta Owen, and Sarah Trinder with Distinction and Emily Bousfield with Merit

Intermediate Foundation Cristina Beams, Annabel Johnson, Katya Slater, Aiste Stankeviciute, Robert Wood with Distinction and Hannah Pople with Merit

47 pupils took Grade examinations 28 passing with Distinction and a Gold Medal, 18 with Merit and a Silver Medal and one with a Bronze Medal.

8 Pupils took Primary in Dance all passing with Distinction and a Gold Medal

The 90 + club are

Erin King, Intermediate, Aiste Stankeviciute Grade 5 with 97; Sarah Trinder Intermediate with 96; Daisy Mortlock Grade 5 with 93; Emily Dougans, Hannah Mc Millan Intermediate and Aiste Stankeviciute Intermediate Foundation with 92. A special mention to Niamh Robinson who passed Grade 8 with 100.

Very well done to all.

A delightful evening was held at Weybridge Bowling Club on Sunday 8th February to celebrate the lives of two of our parents who sadly died at a young age and also our very dear and much missed Wendy Thomas. The De De Roberts Award went to Niamh Robinson, the Mark Leitch Award to Katie Swift and the Wendy Thomas Award to Emily Dougans. My thanks to all who made the evening such a success.

All our festival groups have now qualified to semi finals of the All England Dance Competition. Congratulations to all of the groups and to Kate Hester, Katie Swift and Niamh Robinson who were among the finalists in the Young Dancer of the Year Competition at Richmond Festival, Niamh being awarded the title of Young Dancer of the Year.

We contributed to local community Christmas celebrations by taking part in the Byfleet Players pantomime and the annual Epworth Choir Christmas Concert in December. Two groups danced in the Annual Dance Proms at the Royal Albert Hall in November and were very well received. We also took part in an amusing activity to promote the Proms with some of our students dancing in the windows of the flagship shop of Capezio in Covent Garden. Freed of London also used some of our pupils to model their range of dancewear. Some of our students will be going to the Royal Academy of Dance in half term to be filmed for a workshop demonstrating musicality in dance. This will be seen worldwide.

I have been asked to choreograph a dance for Move It, the exhibition for all things connected with dance at Earls Court. As it falls on Valentine's Day the item is called "My Love is Like a Red Red Rose". Jade Cawthraw, Olivia Jones, Erin King, Henrietta Owen, Niamh Robinson, Millie Tones and Sarah Trinder will be dancing.

My Easter will be spent at Dance Forward Easter Course at the RAD Headquarters where I will be a part of the faculty which includes Stephen Beagley, Frederico Bonelli, Sarah Lamb and Wayne Sleep.

Dates

Summer Term starts Monday 20th April no ballet bank Holiday Monday 4th May

Half Term Saturday 23rd May to Saturday 30th May **inclusive** return Monday 1st June.

Term ends Monday 6th July **except** Saturday classes which end Saturday 11th July

Provisional RAD exam dates 16th, 17th, 18th July

Thank you for your continued support. Miss Sue