

AUTUMN TERM 2017 UPPER SCHOOL INVOICE NEWSLETTER

23rd June 2017

Dear Parent, Guardian or Student,

Please read below regarding classes for next term and other information . . .

We forgot to mention in our 9th June newsletter that we hope you enjoyed watching your child in their class(es) before half term. We are sure you would have been very pleased with your child's progress over the last year and impressed by our teaching staff. We have received some lovely and encouraging feedback for which the teachers are very grateful, so thank you for taking the time to get in touch. If you have a moment, please do feel free to share your positive feedback regarding parents watching week on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Southlondondancestudios/>

We also want to say well done to the children who have had classes this week in the unbelievable heat! Please continue to send your child with a bottle of water for classes. Additionally, students may wear shorts instead of tights as long as they are tight fitting cotton/lycra so that their teachers to still be able to see their lines. If it is forecast to get really hot again before the end of this term, we will look into hiring air conditioning for studio 3.

You may have noticed the front door handle has broken, we are working as fast as we can to get this fixed however until then the buzzer will not be working. We understand this isn't ideal, so if your child has consent and you are concerned about any security issues this raises then please do accompany them during any breaks they might have.

In other news, we are very proud to announce that our Grade 2 student, Ruben, has qualified with four of his dances to represent the South-East area in the finals of the All England Dance Competition which will be held at the Hackney Empire in August. The competition is held every two years and attracts many of the best young dancers in the country. Ruben has qualified with his modern, tap and song & dance solos, plus his duet with Nico, who is in Grade 3. Both boys have done amazingly well to get into the finals and we wish them the best of luck!

YOUR INVOICE FOR AUTUMN TERM 2017 CLASSES

Please find attached your invoice for dance classes next term (autumn term 2017) and the new timetable for Autumn Term 2017 and Spring Term 2018

Your invoice is your first notification of the appropriate class(es) for your child for next term, so please read it carefully as the class time and / or day might be different to current, also ensure you check the invoice notes section for any further information.

Please ensure payment is made on or before the last day of this term which is **Monday 17th July**. If payment is not made on time, you may lose your space and / or an administration fee will be added to your account. Payment can be made via BACS or cheque / cash invoice.

Also, if your child is starting a new class next term, or a higher level of class in any genre, then we strongly recommend you find out more about the class by visiting our website: www.southlondondancestudios.co.uk/classes. as well as check the uniform list for any changes, including shoes: <http://southlondondancestudios.co.uk/general-information/uniform-for-dance-classes/>

If you have a query about your invoice, please contact me immediately but please be patient in waiting for me to get back to your telephone call or email as I am extremely busy at this point in the term. However, if you do not hear back from me after 5 days or before the end of term (whichever is sooner), please do contact me again to make sure I have received your email.

Please note; it is now too late to give notice of leaving the school at the end of this term or to request to change classes next term as notice was required on or before **Saturday 20th May** (the last day of the first half of term) as per SLDS Terms and Conditions, clauses 11-14, "Cancellation and Amendment". If you would like a copy of the school brochure with our Terms and Conditions included as well as further useful information, please contact us.

Please retain a copy of this invoice so that when next term starts, you know which class(es) you have signed up for. At the start of each term we usually receive unmanageable numbers of telephone calls and emails asking which class(es) a student has signed up for and it is simply not possible for us to get back to everyone.

TERM DATES

This term ends on **Monday 17th July**.

AUTUMN TERM 2017 DATES (12 weeks)

Monday 11th September - Sunday 22nd October

Half term - Monday 23rd October to Saturday 4th November

Sunday 5th November - Saturday 16th December

Autumn term feedback day - TBC

Acting class dates - Sunday 17th September, 1st October, 15th October, 12th November, 26th November & 10th December

SPRING TERM 2018 DATES (11 weeks)

Friday 5th January - Saturday 10th February

Half term - Sunday 11th February to Sunday 18th February

Monday 19th February - Thursday 29th March

Proposed examinations dates - Sunday 18th March-Sunday 25th March - TBC

Acting class dates - TBA

Thank you for reading and for prompt payment of your invoice which will help us have a break too over the summer! We hope you have a lovely summer holiday and a well-earned rest.

Finally, please join us in wishing good luck to all those students taking their examinations in the next few weeks, we know they will do brilliantly!

With best wishes
Katie Smith

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Please read below if you'd like a recap of what was included in our 9th June newsletter . . .

END OF YEAR PROGRESS REPORTS

Annual progress reports are provided at the end of each summer term to children in ballet grades Primary and above, and children in tap & modern Grade 1 and above. Please contact the office during the first week of the summer holiday if your child is not given their report in class and they are currently in Primary ballet or above, and / or Grade 1 tap & modern and above.

Some parents / guardians will notice that their child only receives a report for one genre of dance; this will be because for the other genres, they are in grades lower than those levels which receive reports.

Some parents / guardians may feel that receiving this informative report will be sufficient and therefore they do not need to attend a feedback session with their child's teacher thus easing pressure on feedback day slots and opening up more slots for parents of our younger students who will not receive end of year reports. We thank you for your consideration in this matter.

GYMNASTICS CLASSES

We are pleased to let you know that there will be a few spaces in our **Friday 6.45-7.45pm** Gym skills (I) class from September. This class is for children aged 6 up to and including those in Grade 2 ballet. The classes aim to develop flexibility and strength and master gymnastic skills which can be used in dance routines. If you'd like further information please contact my colleague,
katie@southlondondancestudios.co.uk.

ACTING CLASSES

In September, we plan to introduce an additional acting class, meaning we will be able to split the classes into the following age groups:

Sunday 3.30-4.30pm Acting (I) for children from **4-6years - change from previous newsletter**
Sunday 4.30-5.45pm Acting (II) for children aged **7-9 years - change from previous newsletter**
Sunday 5.45-7.15pm Acting (III) for children aged 10 plus

Adding a third class, will open up few spaces for children who wish to start in September, so to avoid disappointment, contact me urgently if you wish to sign your child up to these classes next term.

The fortnightly acting classes at South London Dance Studios focus on the requirements for children wanting to audition for and work in TV, film and theatre. Key skills are taught in a fun and confidence building environment including: listening and reacting to others (the

main skill in acting!), improvisation, becoming a character, text work (monologues, duologues and group pieces), voice production and accent training.

Additionally, we are considering putting on a public performance by the children who attend acting classes at end of summer term 2018. To be able to participate in this performance, children would need to attend weekly acting classes on a Sunday for the duration of summer term 2018 AND have attended at least one term of acting classes at SLDS prior to this.

Children who attend our acting classes can sometimes be invited by the Principal to audition for West End shows as well as for representation by one of the top London children's performing arts agencies. As most auditions require acting skills, we only consider putting forward to audition our students who attend our fortnightly acting classes. Children who are accepted into the agency will have the opportunity to audition for professional acting (including theatre, TV and film), singing, dancing and musical theatre work (including West End work). So, if your child is keen to be considered for the agency audition, he / she will need to be a part of our acting classes.

Class dates for autumn term:

AUTUMN TERM 2017: Sunday 17th September, 1st October, 15th October, 12th November, 26th November & 10th December

The cost for the 6 acting classes next term will be:

Acting (I) for children from 4-6 years: £56.00

Acting (II) for children aged 7-9 years: £70.00

Acting (III) for children aged 10 plus: £84.00

STAFF UPDATE

We are so sad to tell you that Miss Carla will be moving on from SLDS at the end of the summer holidays, because she wants to work closer to her home and focus on teaching. She is a wonderful teacher and we wish her the best of luck in everything she does, including getting married in September! We want to thank her for all of her fantastic teaching and, of course, the exceptional level of effort and hard work she has put into running our large examination sessions over the last few years. Being Examinations Administrator a very fast paced and busy job and so we will really miss her - there will be some big shoes to fill for this role!

Miss Jemima and Miss Sarah are also leaving us to take on teaching jobs closer to their homes, and Miss Anuschka, one of our Saturday assistants, is leaving to focus on her own Diddi Dance business in North London. We wish each of them success and happiness and thank them for all the work they have put into teaching the children over the years.

We are very pleased to welcome back Miss Tracy to teach ballet on a Tuesday and Wednesday next term following her maternity leave. Other teaching appointments are TBC - we will keep you updated when we have news.

CHILDREN'S PARTY - SUNDAY 16TH JULY

We invite all of our students who are in Nursery 1 dance and upwards to our summer party on **Sunday 16th July 2017 3.30-5pm**. We really hope your child will be able to attend this fun afternoon of games, food and dancing! We will split the children into groups by age, so older students are very welcome to come along as well.

If your child would like to come to the party, please sign up their name on the sheet on the main notice board in the waiting room. Please also write what food / drink you would like to bring to share (all food will need to be nut free please).

Parents will not come in to the party with their child as it would be too crowded, but we do need some parent helpers before, during and after the party, so please email me or my colleague, katie@southlondondancestudios.co.uk, if you are able to help.

AUDITIONING FOR OR TAKING CLASSES WITH ANOTHER DANCE ORGANISATION

Please note the following from our school terms and conditions:

Students at SLDS may not audition for nor attend another dance school (including CAT schemes and Associate classes) unless prior written permission has been granted by the Principal.

The reason we have this rule in place is so that children have consistency in their dance training. Also, so that potential timing clashes between classes can be discussed and understood in advance of acceptance onto any training scheme.

If you wish to discuss this matter further, or in future you find that you would like your child to attend additional dance training outside SLDS, then please email me.

SCHOOL UNIFORM SALE - SATURDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

The next sale will be on Saturday 16th September 10.30am-1.30pm in the waiting room. If you wish to sell items, please refer to this link <http://southlondondancestudios.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Secondhand-uniform-sale-document-170317.doc.pdf>

Items that are placed in a bag labelled for the school uniform sale (with selling tickets attached if you wish to take some of the profit) can be dropped off in the boys changing room any time. 100% of the profit from any donated items will be given to Demelza House alternatively you can choose to split the profit 50/50 between yourself and the charity. Please email sldsuniformsale@yahoo.com if you have any queries.

We hope many parents / guardians will attend the sale to purchase what they need for their child's classes. If your child has classes during the week before the sale date but you wish to wait until the sale before purchasing their uniform for next term, then they will be permitted to wear non-SLDS uniform for the first lesson(s) of next term.

HEALTHY EATING WEEK - 25TH - 30TH SEPTEMBER

We are introducing NEW 'Healthy Eating Week' next term. Want to help our students understand which foods are best to support them in their dance classes. As we all know, it's far too easy to pop next door to Sainsbury's or Tesco and pick up a sugary snack to give us energy for the classes that evening, but we also know this isn't the best choice for our bodies or minds - especially for those students who have three plus hours of dancing ahead of them!

We will be talking to the children about sensible choices from the supermarkets and good combinations of foods. All chats will be age appropriate and focused on providing energy for dance without feeling too bloated in the next class! Discussions will NOT include maintaining a healthy weight or weight loss unless introduced by a student. However, if you do not wish your child to be involved in this part of their all-round dance education then please inform us before the end of this term.

If you'd like to be involved in any way - the more parents / guardians we have involved, the more we can do for the children - then please contact me / my colleague, katie@southlondondancestudios.co.uk. We are hoping to be able to bring in a nutritionist to speak to our senior body conditioning classes - if you are one or know of someone who might be willing to help, then please contact me / Katie.

SUMMER SCHOOL INFORMATION - 31ST JULY - 4TH AUGUST

Course for children 3-5 years: 10am-11.15am (£50 for the week)

Due to the success of our **Disney Workshop** the last three years we are pleased to inform you that we will be having another one this year with different songs and dances from popular Disney movies such as Moana, Toy Story, Fantasia and more!!

With this group, we start with a warm up for voice and body, then we venture into a fun and fantastic world of storytelling, song and dance. As we learn the songs and dances by some of their favourite characters the children will explore music and dance from the perspective of the performer.

Course for Juniors 5-9/10 years & Seniors 10+ years: 11.30-4pm (£150 for the week)

This is a **musical theatre workshop** from 11.30am-4pm including a lunch break in Brockwell Park, weather permitting. These children will be split into age appropriate groups. The younger group will learn songs, dances and acting extracts from musicals such as Annie, Mary Poppins, Thriller Live. The older group will be doing extracts from Singing in the Rain, Mamma Mia and Little Shop of Horrors. Both groups will work together on the opening and closing numbers from Aladdin the Musical and the Rocky Horror Show.

Friday 4th August is "Show Day" which we invite parents/guardians, friends and family to come and watch a little performance of some of the things the children have learnt. Please contact: summerschoolslds@gmail.com for more information or to sign up. Please **do not** contact the school office, thank you.