



**SOUTH
LONDON
DANCE
SCHOOL**

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ADULT STUDENT NEWSLETTER

4th January 2019

Dear Adult Student,

I hope you had an enjoyable and relaxing festive break and would like to wish you a very Happy New Year. Many of the children enjoyed fun and games at the Christmas party before the holiday, even Father Christmas turned up! Thank you to those parents to who helped out before during and after the party, your support was much appreciated. Our adult students also had a fantastic get together before Christmas with each group performing a dance for a huge audience and then socialising with lots of food and drink! You can find photos from the Christmas parties on our social media - Instagram @south_london_dance_school and Facebook www.facebook.com/southlondondanceschool

We also have some wonderful news that Ruben Garcia (Grade 5 ballet) has successfully auditioned for London Children's Ballet production of 'Ballet Shoes' which will be on at The Peacock Theatre 4th - 7th July. Also, we'd like you congratulate ex-student Nico Pereira Da Silva who has been playing Fritz in English National Ballet's 'The Nutcracker' at the Coliseum over the Christmas period.

With term starting this Monday (7th January), we would like to take the opportunity to remind you of upcoming important dates and information for spring term 2019, so please do take the time to read the relevant sections on the next few pages . . .

Starting the term smoothly and reminders for when at the studios

Before term starts, please take the time to check your invoice which was emailed to you on **Wednesday 21st November** from adultclasses@southlondondanceschool.co.uk so that you know which day, time and studio your classes are in. This will save you time and stress when you arrive at the studios next week. (Please do not email this address for general communication as this is only an outgoing email address, please use sldsadultclasses@gmail.com)

In the interests of security it is of the upmost importance that parents and students are vigilant when it comes to who is following them into the SLDS premises. Please *DO NOT* let anyone come in who does not have a child participating in dance classes and if you see anyone in the building who is acting suspiciously to let a teacher or the office staff know immediately.

When you leave the building, please remember that you must exit through the back door of the studios onto Milkwood Road. Exiting out of the front door creates congestion and can be dangerous for young children who are going in and out of classes in studio 1. The only situation that we will allow students to exit out of the front door is late in the evening when it is dark and students leave the premises by themselves and in the interests of personal safety, they feel exiting through the front is preferable.

To enhance security at the studios we have recently installed an electric gate at the rear of the dance school. If you usually enter through the back door please do ask the teachers for the gate code. Please make sure you **do not touch the gate** as you are walking through as it will stop working. Thank you for your cooperation in this.

Some polite reminders for when you are at the studios . . .

NO NUTS PLEASE - we have a number of students who have SEVERE nut allergies so make sure you/your child does not bring any nuts / nut products into the building.

BUGGIES / SCOOTERS ETC - please leave buggies and scooters at the side of the studios where the buggy / bike hoops are located (bring your own lock if necessary) as it's really dangerous to carry them with you, or leave them unattended around the building.

COMMUNAL AREAS - please continue to help us by keeping the communal areas clean and tidy. If you see rubbish left on the floor, then please kindly put it in the bin; this is for health and safety reasons as well as to keep a pleasant environment for everyone. Please remind your children of the same and also to wash up and put away any crockery / cutlery they may use

STAFF CAR PARK AT REAR OF STUDIOS - parents may NOT park in this area. Firstly, it is permitted for use only by staff by Lambeth Council, and secondly, it would be extremely dangerous to have lots of cars manoeuvring around the tight space when children are exiting the building. Please respect this policy for the safety of all of our students and families. It will be necessary to ask the children of parents who do not respect this rule to leave the school with immediate effect. Thank you for your cooperation with this important matter.

Staff news

I hope you will join me in congratulating School Principal, Miss Zoe on her very exciting news that she is expecting a baby in June! Therefore, Miss Emma will be Acting Principal with full responsibility for dance training quality, care of the students and management of the business.

We are very sorry to have to say good bye to Miss Jemima who has unexpectedly left the school due to personal reasons. She has been a fantastic teacher and will be greatly missed. Any Christmas gifts that were kindly given to her at the end of last term when she was unable to teach have been passed on to her and she is very grateful. New staff member, Tony Aiken will be taking over ballet teaching on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and so we would like to welcome him into the SLDS team.

Mr Tony trained as a professional dancer at The Royal Academy of Dancing and Bush Davies School where he won The Dancing Times Award for Choreography. Mr Tony went on to have a successful career as a professional ballet, jazz, musical theatre and commercial dancer. His credits are extensive as a dancer, dance captain and choreographer. After retiring as a performer, Mr Tony qualified as a teacher with the ISTD gaining his Licentiate in Imperial Classical Ballet with Distinction. Mr Tony has taught boys and girls of all ages and abilities and strives for his students to be the very best dancers they can. He is delighted to be joining the faculty of South London Dance School and looks forward to passing on his love for classical ballet to the students.

Additionally, I am pleased to let you know that Miss Zoe will be teaching some of the ballet classes on a Monday and Friday until her maternity leave commences, therefore Miss Ellie will be taking over Miss Zoe's Thursday modern classes. Miss Ellie will also be teaching Primary ballet on a Friday and Miss Emma will be teaching Pre-Primary 2 ballet on a Tuesday.

We are also happy to announce that Jennifer Yhip will become a permanent member of the Saturday teaching staff. Miss Jennifer trained in RAD classical ballet, Matt Mattox jazz and Graham contemporary and she completed her ISTD Diploma in Dance Education in Imperial Ballet and Modern Theatre Dance at the Dance College in Royston.

Over the last six years, Miss Jennifer has worked at several dance schools, training children for their ISTD graded and major examinations and choreographing for school shows. She has also developed a real passion for teaching dance to very young children who may have never before been in a structured class environment.

Miss Jennifer looks forward to joining the team at South London Dance school and to nurturing the students through her own skill and understanding of educating children in the art of dance.

Diary dates

SPRING TERM 2019 DATES (12 weeks)

Monday 7th January - Saturday 16th February

Half term - Sunday 17th February to Sunday 24th February

Monday 25th February - Saturday 6th April

SUMMER TERM 2019 DATES (12 weeks)

Tuesday 23rd April - Friday 24th May (*classes will take place on Bank Holiday Monday 6th May*)

Half term - Saturday 25th to Friday 31st May

Saturday 1st June - Monday 22nd July

What to Wear

Please make sure you have suitable dancewear for your classes for the start of term, please go to

<http://southlondondancestudios.co.uk/general-information/uniform-for-dance-classes/> to see our suggestions of what to wear.

Please also read below about health and safety:

EARRINGS/BODY LOTION - please do not wear any large items of jewellery which can be dangerous, and body or hair oil should not be worn (it makes the floor slippery and dangerous)

School Sweaters

If you'd like to order a school sweater then please download the order form:

<https://southlondondancestudios.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/SLDS-Sweater-Order-Form-27062018.pdf>

Please place your completed form in an envelope marked 'sweater order' and enclose payment (exact cash only please as we cannot give change) and put your envelope through the secure office letterbox.

It would be great for us to be able to place the order with the supplier in the next couple of weeks so if you'd like to purchase one then do drop in your form and payment in asap. However, please note that there may be a delay in ordering your sweater after you have made payment since we have to meet the minimum number to place an order.

Class availability for this term

ADULT CLASSES

We are looking forward to welcoming lots of new adult students to the school this term. However, if you hurry then we do still have a few spaces left in the following adult tap classes:

Adult Beginners Tap - Thursday 8.45-9.45pm - class for complete beginners

Adult Tap (I) - Monday 8.30-9.30pm - if you've done a very little bit of basic tap before

Adult Tap (II) - Wednesday 8.45-9.45pm - if you've done basic tap in the past for a year or so

Please contact our very busy adult students' Administrator, Verena, sldsadultclasses@gmail.com, if you would like to enrol in any of these classes.

Fire alarm drills

Over the next term, we will be holding fire drills on various dates so that as many of our students as possible will get a chance to hear the fire alarm and some will practice the full evacuation procedure. Thereafter, a fire drill will take place every six months.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Please ensure that you e-mail me if you change address, telephone number or e-mail address. Also, if during term time you will not be checking your e-mail account for a period of two weeks or more, then please let me know.

Thank you for reading. Wishing you a very happy spring term.

Verena Leonardini

Adult Classes Administrator - South London Dance School

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