



**SOUTH
LONDON
DANCE
SCHOOL**

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Lower School Invoice Newsletter - 26th June 2019

Dear Parent or Guardian,

We hope you are enjoying the second half of summer term, not long to go now! Due to the warmer weather please make sure your child brings a bottle of water with them into all classes. We wish those students taking ISTD examinations next week the very best of luck, go in there and enjoy it!

We are delighted to announce that Lula and Ruben Garcia were successful in winning places to perform in the prestigious All England Dance National finals that are to be held Friday 26th July - 3rd August at Wycombe Swan Theatre in High Wycombe. If you would like to come and watch they will be performing over the first Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Good luck to you both!

Invoices for autumn term 2019

You will find attached your invoice for dance classes at SLDS next term (autumn term 2019).

Your invoice is your first notification of the appropriate class(es) for you for next term (autumn term 2019 starting in September), 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 22nd 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, cheque or cash. Cash payments must be in a sealed envelope with student's name written on the front for the exact amount invoiced as no change will be given.

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.

Unfortunately, we are not able to provide confirmation of having received your payment, so we suggest you check your bank statement if you have paid by BACS to ensure the payment has successfully reached our account, and likewise, if you have paid by cheque, check your bank statement a few weeks after the payment deadline to ensure it has been cashed by us.

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 1st June**. Therefore, the full fees as detailed on your invoice are payable for next 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 attached 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.

Moving up next term

As we explained in our 6th February newsletter due to the new system beginning in September our students will be progressing more slowly through the ISTD grades. We are therefore going to be making some minor changes to the number of levels currently existing in our Lower School so that all of the children will be in the right level when they reach the most appropriate age for their first dance examinations. As we make the transition into our new annual programme, it will be necessary for us to move up some of our Lower School children into higher levels more quickly than usual.

This means that it is likely to be recommended for your child to move up to the next level of classes next term (autumn 2019) even if they moved up this term (summer 2019).

Summer term feedback opportunities and end of year reports

Please see below for this term's opportunity to receive feedback from your child's teacher:

Mr Tony - **Monday 1st July - 6.15-7.15pm**

Miss Pippa - **Tuesday 2nd July - 4.30-5.30pm**

Miss Leah - **Tuesday 2nd July - 6.00-7.00pm**

Miss Ellie - **Friday 5th July - 5.30-7.00pm** (this date has been altered since the previous newsletter - please let me know if this change causes a problem for anyone)

Sunday 14th July

Miss Emma - **12.15-2.15pm** (if you wish to meet Miss Emma as Acting Principal but she does not teach your child then please email me, at least 3 days before this date so that I can let her know the nature of your enquiry) (please note the time has changed slightly since the previous newsletter - please let me know if this change causes a problem for anyone)

Miss Chloe - **10.00-11.00am**

Miss Jennifer - **10.00-12.00pm**

Miss Natasha - **1.00-2.00pm**

Miss Neasa - **10.00-11.00am**

Miss Grace - **11.00-12.00pm**

The sheet to sign up to see your child's teacher is on the notice board in the waiting room. When you come to sign up for feedback day, you will see a list of all lower school classes including teacher's names on the notice board in the waiting room.

- **PLEASE PUT THE NAME OF YOUR CHILD (NOT YOUR NAME) AND PLEASE ONLY SIGN UP FOR ONE SLOT PER CHILD EVEN IF YOUR CHILD HAS MORE THAN ONE TEACHER.**
- Please make sure you make a note of the slot for which you have signed up and remember to attend otherwise it's a waste of teachers' time and may mean another parent needlessly misses out.
- Feedback day slots are not available to those children who will not be attending the school next term except in exceptional circumstances. Please contact me if you are leaving the school but wish to ask for feedback.
- As feedback places are limited and booked on a first come first served basis, if it is very important to you that you obtain a feedback slot, you should ensure that you visit the studios as soon as the sign up sheet is put up in order to sign up as we cannot

accept bookings for the 'in person' feedback sessions via email or telephone. This may mean that you need to come to the studios in order to sign up on a day you do not normally come to classes.

- Once all of the feedback slots are taken, we will not be in a position to supply any additional slots. We are also unable to assist with any feedback request after feedback day, nor provide feedback from the teachers in attendance on feedback day at any other time. However, rest assured that if there were any issue regarding your child that their teacher felt they needed to discuss with you, we would get in touch.
- To sign up, you will need to know the name(s) of your child's teacher(s); if you do not know the name of your child's teacher then please refer to the list next to the sign-up sheet in the waiting room rather than emailing the office. Please remember that you may only sign up to see one of your child's teachers each term.
- If any slots are booked and parents / guardians do not attend and do not have a good reason for this, in consideration of other parents / guardians who require feedback slots, those parents / guardians will not be offered the opportunity to attend feedback days in future. Parents / guardians who booked a slot and did not attend feedback day last term (**Sunday 17th / 24th March**) and did not contact the office to let us know in advance, should NOT sign up for this feedback day - if they wish to obtain feedback they should email me to discuss the situation.
- Please consider that teachers kindly give up their time once a term to provide this service for parents / guardians. This facility is not covered by the fees for classes and administration so it is not a 'deserved right' of parents / guardians to be able to obtain a feedback slot. We hope you support and appreciate this exceptional service which sets SLDS apart from the majority of other dance schools.

Opportunity to watch your child's class(es) this term

This section is for parents / guardians of children in Junior Funky Moves, Nursery 1, Nursery 2, Preparatory dance & tap and Pre-Primary 1 (I) (Saturday children dark blue, yellow and green sets and Monday 4-5.30 Miss Emma's classes) levels only.

Please be reminded that parents / guardians / friends are invited to watch their child's classes **week commencing Monday 1st July** and the teachers look forward to welcoming you into their classes.

So that the classes are not disrupted and run as normally as possible, the usual guidelines for class observation week will apply, as follows:

- Please bear in mind that the open classes are not performances; we invite you to watch a normal class to observe development and progress.
- Parents, guardians, grandparents, siblings, friends & nanny's etc are welcome to attend but please be mindful that the children need some space in which to dance!
- Please consider that some children in the class may be shy or nervous of dancing in front of an audience.
- Due to above two points please try to bring a maximum of 3-4 audience members per child to watch.
- **No children under the age of 4 will be allowed into the studio to watch and no exceptions will be made to this policy which is in the best interests of the children in the classes. This includes tiny babies as it cannot be guaranteed that they will stay asleep for the duration of the class!**
- **Please only bring other children with you to watch the class if they are capable of sitting still for the duration, without an electronic game, book, food etc, i.e. they would have to actually watch the class without distracting the children dancing!**
- You will be permitted to film the class and show it to siblings, friends and other family members who are not able / eligible to attend. Photographs may also be taken.
- We do not invite an audience to any of our Melody Movement classes.

Lastly, you may also have noticed that we have put up notices on the studios doors this term to let you know what your child will be learning in their classes this term and, in some cases, the story they are following. We hope you find this useful in talking about

dance classes with your child and helping them practise at home. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you'd like any further information.

SLDS Show July 2020

Thank you to all of those who have already handed in their forms. Please note that all children who will be in preparatory dance and tap and levels above this September are invited to take part. This will include most of our students who were born on or before 31st August 2016. This also includes Junior Funky moves. The deadline to apply for the show is this Sunday 30th June, we look forward to receiving more forms before then! We really hope that as many students as possible will be able to take part in such a wonderful experience.

Class availability for next term

PRE-PRIMARY (I) CLASSES

I would like to let you know that next term we have quite a few spaces in the Pre-Primary (I) level ballet, tap and modern set of classes on a Monday. Please let me know if your child would be interested in moving from a Saturday to this class.

Monday - Studio 3

4.00-4.30 Pre-Primary 1 ballet (I)

4.30-5.00 Primary modern (I)

5.00-5.30 Pre-Primary tap (I)

Please contact me, at sldslowerschool@gmail.com if you would like to enrol your child for autumn term

ADULT CLASSES

I would like to let you know that we have a few spaces left in two of our adult tap classes:

Adult Tap (I) which takes place **Thursday 8.45-9.45pm**. This class is suitable for those with basic experience in tap dancing. Tap technique and fundamental steps are practised and put together in sequences to various different types of music. Rhythm and coordination are improved as well as physical stamina and control.

Adult Tap (III) which takes place **Thursday 9.00-10.00pm**. Suitable for those with over 2 years tap dance experience as an adult or of grade 4 to 5 standard. Higher level technique and more complex choreography is worked on in a fun environment.

Please contact me on sldsadultclasses@gmail.com if you are interested in joining either of these classes.

ACTING CLASSES

We have a few spaces left in our Sunday acting classes next term:

3.30-4.30pm - Acting (I) for children from 4-7 years (£59.00 for the 6 lessons next term)

Class dates for this term are:

Acting (I) - Sunday 15th, 22nd & 29th September and 10th, 17th and 24th November

This class is taught by Lorraine Spenceley who has over 30 years' teaching and directing experience. In this class 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, voice techniques and short dialogue work. Children in this class embark on adventures to faraway lands with the teacher which encourages them to be creative and use their imagination. This class also helps to develop student's social interactions and emotional skills in a fun and explorative way.

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.

Please contact me, at sldslowerschool@gmail.com if you would like to enrol your child for autumn term

Reminder - auditioning / 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 before applying to audition.

Diary Dates

SUMMER TERM 2019 DATES (12 weeks)

Saturday 1st June - Monday 22nd July

Summer term feedback day - see dates above

Acting class dates - 12th May, 19th May, 9th June, 23rd June, 30th June, 7th July

Class observation week for Nursery, Preparatory, Pre-Primary 1 (I) (yellow, green and dark blue sets and Mon 4.00-5.30pm Miss Emma's classes) and Junior Funky Moves classes only - w/c Monday 1st July

Examination dates - 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th & 7th July

Summer School - 5th - 9th August

AUTUMN TERM 2019 DATES (12 weeks)

Saturday 7th September - Friday 18th October

Half term - Saturday 19th October to Saturday 2nd November (2 weeks off but 3 Saturdays off)

Monday 4th November - Saturday 14th December

Class observation week for Nursery, Preparatory, Pre-Primary 1 (I) and Junior Funky Moves classes only - w/c Monday 2nd Dec

Autumn term feedback day - TBC

Acting (I) class 3.30-4.30 - dates - 15th, 22nd & 29th Sept and 10th, 17th and 24th Nov

Acting (II) class 4.30-5.45 and Acting (III) class 5.45-7.15 - dates - 15th, 22nd & 29th Sept, 10th, 17th Nov and 1st Dec

SPRING TERM 2020 DATES (12 weeks)

Monday 6th January - Saturday 15th February

Half term - Sunday 16th February to Sunday 23rd February

Monday 24th February - Saturday 4th April

Class observation week for Pre-Primary 1 ballet (II), Pre-Primary tap (II) & Primary modern (II) plus *(please note; from 2020, this week will be in spring term, not summer term as it has been previously)* - w/c Monday 3rd February

Class observation week for Nursery, Preparatory, Pre-Primary 1 (I) and Junior Funky Moves classes only - w/c Monday 23rd March

Spring term feedback day - TBC

Acting class dates - TBC

Proposed examination dates - Sunday 22nd - Friday 27th March (all dates TBC)

SUMMER TERM 2020 DATES (12 weeks)

Saturday 18th April - Friday 22nd May (5 weeks)

Half term Saturday 23rd - Friday 29th May

Saturday 30th May - Saturday 18th July

THERE WILL BE NO CLASSES ON SATURDAY 4TH JULY DUE TO SHOW REHEARSALS IN THEATRE

Class observation week for children in Nursery only (*parents / guardians of children in Preparatory, Pre-Primary 1 (I) and Junior Funky Moves classes will NOT be invited to watch classes during this term as the children will have the opportunity to perform in the school show in July*) - w/c Saturday 11th July

Summer term feedback day - TBC

Acting class dates - TBC

Show rehearsals - Sunday 21st June, Sunday 28th June & Saturday 4th July

Show performances at Bromley Churchill Theatre - Sunday 5th July (performance times 2pm and 6.30pm)

Summer School - TBC

We hope you have an enjoyable rest the summer term 😊

Best wishes

Verena Leonardini

Lower School Administrator - South London Dance School

South London Dance School

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