



**SOUTH
LONDON
DANCE
SCHOOL**

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Adult Students Newsletter - 6th January 2020

Dear Adult Student,

I hope you had an enjoyable and relaxing festive break and I would like to wish you a very Happy New Year! Our adult students 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 party on our social media - Instagram @south_london_dance_school and Facebook www.facebook.com/southlondondanceschool

We also have some wonderful news that Olivia Nollet (Grade 5 ballet) has successfully auditioned for the London Children's Ballet's production of 'Anne of Green Gables' which will be on at The Peacock Theatre 18th - 21st June. Well done Olivia!

With term starting today, Monday (6th January), we would like to take the opportunity to remind you of upcoming important dates and information for spring term 2020, 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 20th November** from adultclasses@southlondondanceschool.co.uk so that you know which day, time and studio your classes are in. The timetable has stayed the same as autumn term so there should not be any change from last term. (Please do not email this address for general communication as this is specially for the invoices to be sent from. Instead, 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, 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 where we will allow students to exit out of the front door is if they must leave the premises by themselves, late in the evening when it is dark, and in the interests of personal safety, they feel exiting through the front is preferable.

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.

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

Teaching & Administration Staff

We are very happy to welcome Katarina Hill to the administration team; she will be working alongside Verena looking after the lower school and adult school.

Katarina has recently finished her MA in Dance, Politics & Sociology at Roehampton University, and before this she graduated from Canterbury Christ Church University with a BA in Dance and International Relations.

Katarina is very excited to be joining South London Dance School as an administrator. She has previously worked on projects such as the Tate Exchange and as a dance teaching assistant at Hips Dance studios in Denmark. Katarina grew up in Denmark and moved to the UK when she was 19 and has a background in dance starting at the age of 7. She has trained in various dance styles, however throughout her university education she has been more focused on the administrative side of the arts.

We are very happy to announce that Miss Tilly will be joining our Saturday teaching team, taking over Miss Natasha's classes as she had to leave unexpectedly.

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)

Class availability for this term

ADULT CLASSES

We are looking forward to welcoming 30 new adult students this term, which is very exciting! However, if you hurry then we do still have a few spaces left in the following adult tap classes:

Adult Tap (I) - Thursday 8.45-9.45pm - if you've done a very little bit of basic tap before

Adult Tap (III) - Thursday 9.00-10.00pm - if you have a number of years of tap dance experience

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

ACTING CLASSES

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

4.30-5.30pm - Acting (I) for children from 4-7 years (£50.00 for the 5 remaining lessons next term)

5.30-6.45pm - Acting (II) for children aged 8-10 years (62.00 for the 5 remaining lessons this term)

6.45-8.15pm - Acting (III) for children 11years plus (£73 for the 5 remaining lessons this term)

Class dates for this term are:

Acting (I) class - dates - 12th & 19th Jan, 23rd Feb and 22nd & 29th March

Acting (II) and Acting (III) class - dates - 12th & 19th Jan and 8th, 22nd & 29th March

Acting (I) taught by Lorraine Spenceley who has many 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.

Acting (II) and (III) are taught by Lewis Hart who is currently working in the profession as well as teaching. These classes 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.

Children who attend any of 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 if you would like to enrol your child for this term.

Injuries

Following an injury we will do our best to communicate with you regarding the safest return to dance class for your child. Please make sure you keep us updated with any medical / physiotherapist appointments so that we can update the teachers. **However, it is the full responsibility of the child's parent / guardian to decide when their child is ready to return to dance classes and only when they are fully fit to dance should this happen.** If a child is only fit to attend some lower impact sections of the class and therefore must refrain from some exercises, then this must be communicated to us by email not less than 3 days before the class. Following their return to classes, your child will be responsible for opting out of exercises they are not fit to do and it will not be the teachers responsibility to guide them. Therefore, if you do not think your child is able to manage their rehabilitation in this way then you or another responsible adult may sit in on their lessons to aid their rehabilitation until they are fully fit to dance in all of the lesson. Also, whilst injured your child should attend and watch all of their classes to limit the amount they will fall behind.

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.

Everyone at SLDS wishes you a smooth and enjoyable start to the term.

Best wishes

Verena Leonardini

Adult Students Administrators - South London Dance School

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