



Dear Parents

Please find attached our latest newsletter and information regarding next terms timetable and fees.

Since our school show last Summer we have had a year of developing and working on our dancers technique, which for many has culminated in taking an exam. We have entered over 80 pupils and students for RAD ballet exams from Pre-Primary to Intermediate and soon close to 100 of our Jazz and Tappers will be taking IDTA Rosettes and Medal Tests, as well as our little Nurserys and Preps doing their first Ballet award. Huge Luck to everyone! There is always lots of hard work and dedication involved from our dancers, teachers, parents and helpers but this doesn't go unnoticed, and continues to be reflected in our wonderful results which we manage to maintain with an average of 50% Distinction and 50% Merit being gained... on the last RAD Exam session a whopping 75% of the results were Distinction! Thank you again to all involved; I am very proud.

In order to keep up with our ever – developing school, I have taken the decision to step back from teaching for a time and concentrate on the overall running of the business. As you can imagine, this is something I have discussed and considered carefully with those closest to me and feel, at this time my family and I will benefit from me doing a bit less ! I will still oversee classes and deal with admin and organisation but feel confident that my fabulous team of teachers will continue to run classes in a professional and efficient way . My great friend and colleague Amely will continue to work closely with me and will now be the first port of call for any class or dance related queries.

In the meantime, a lot of exciting things have been going on behind the scenes and I have finally been able to co-ordinate the new timetable for September 2017 and beyond!

Firstly, I am excited to introduce Jennifer Spafford; a fully qualified and Registered teacher and dancer who trained at the prestigious Canada National Ballet School and has taught for almost a decade in various Schools in Canada and Singapore. She comes to us fresh from being the Head of Ballet at In Motion School of Dance in Bermuda. Jenn comes with an impressive CV and a wealth of experience and knowledge in several different disciplines and genres including Ballet, Contemporary and also New York BarreFit, and we are really delighted to have her on the KR Team. Jenn will be taking on my RAD Grades teaching at KR in September.

We are also delighted to welcome Clare Hamilton to the KR Faculty. Clare is another LRAD Graduate of the College of the Royal Academy of Dance, has taught in the South London area for about 20 years and founded and developed her own Dance School in the Croydon area which she ran for over 10 years. Clare, myself and Amely go back a very long way as we have known each other and danced together long before we all left Cornwall to study . Clare recently moved back to Cornwall with her young family and she will be teaching and developing the little ones classes.....its lovely to be welcoming a friend.

I would also like to formally welcome Lauren Shuker to the team – Lauren took over from Debbie last month after she left us to teach in Costa Rica. She is a Graduate of Falmouth University Dance Degree, a member of the Cheap Date dance Company with Grace Clayton, teaches on the Propellor Contemporary Dance Training scheme – also alongside Grace, and is also a fully qualified Fitness instructor and Nutritionist. I am so pleased to have Lauren join our team and for her to help to continue the development of our Contemporary dance classes.

It really is wonderful to have such experienced and talented teachers join Amely , Bryony and Grace and I feel proud that the ethos and approach to dance that I have developed over the years has attracted such a fabulous team .

Jenn and Clare will be coming in to classes to meet and teach the children before the end of term so please don't hesitate to pop in and say hello.

Our new timetable is now available and despite a few headaches trying to co-ordinate venues it is now sorted ! I always endeavor to give everyone as much notice as possible when changes are made so I hope you are able to accommodate any new class times in to your schedules. This timetable 'over haul' is timely and one that we feel is necessary; not only to move the training we provide forward, and to do the best for our students, but also to accommodate the ever growing numbers at the school. Thank you for your understanding and co operation .

We are so very lucky to have the use of the AMATA studios for our Higher Grades , Vocational ballet and Contemporary classes and I am sure you will agree that the facilities are pretty much impossible to match in this area. I am thrilled to announce that we are now able to run the majority of our ballet classes from Grade 3 and above at the studios where Miss Amely and Miss Jenn will work alongside each other in Studio J and H . Our new Primary – Grade 2 classes will continue at Kea school on a Tuesday.

Please look out for Miss Jenns new Saturday morning Pointe and Pre-pointe classes (our teachers will advise you when you are ready to join these sessions) as well as the new 'Introduction to Contemporary class' for Children from 7 years . In September the first 3 Contemporary classes of the term will take on a slightly different format , where we will be offering workshop classes to give the student the opportunity to work with different age group and develop performance skills . Please see our newsletter for further details . Please note that our Contemporary dancers will be performing in the AMATA sharing platform on Saturday 15th July –please see attached newsletter for details .

Our Nursery , Preparatory, Pre Primary ballet and Little beginners Jazz & Tap classes will be taught by Claire Hamilton and will now return to a Saturday morning which, following feedback from several parents ,will be a much better option for our little dancers – especially those who are worn out from their first terms of school! Claire is also planning to start a new Mums and toddlers ballet class during the day (possibly a morning?) so please register your interest and look out for details .

Jazz and Tap for years 3 and above will continue on Wednesday at Kea School and our older levels on Thursdays at Carnon Downs Village Hall with Miss Bryony . Please note that in order to offer the best level of training some age groups will now be combined . We are planning an end of term sharing of work for Miss Bryony's Jazz and Tap classes so please look out for details which will follow when I have secured a venue .

Please take a moment to double check your news times and venues and don't hesitate to ask myself or your daughter/sons teachers which classes they will be moving in to next year. Alternatively, you can visit our website which we will be updating over the Summer for any further info – www.kathrynrichardsdance.co.uk

Thank you for taking the time to read this and your ongoing support. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Summer and we look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Best wishes
Kathryn

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