

GRACE ACADEMY OF DANCE AND PERFORMING ARTS
(905) 338-0210
www.graceacademy.ca

NOVEMBER 2017

PARENT'S OBSERVATION WEEK

As mentioned in our October newsletter, parents of our younger classes will be invited into the studio to watch their dancer's regular class this month. A separate week will be held for classes taught by Miss Knapp and Mrs. VanDunk (listed below). Please make note of when it will be your chance to come into class. Classes will begin at the usual time, but will run just a little shorter than normal, to allow for the large volume of people coming in and out of the studio.

These classes will not be prepared performances, but will run as normal to show the parents what goes on from week to week in a regular class (although one can never be sure just what the little ones will do with a room full of parents watching!).

Please remember that space is limited. While we do welcome grandparents and siblings, seating will be limited and space is tight. If at all possible please leave younger siblings (who may not be able to sit for a long period of time) at home. We do ask that the 'audience' remain seated so that the dancers (particularly the younger dancers!) can stay focused. In addition, please remember the importance of placing shoes/boots neatly in the front entranceway. There will be a lot of traffic through the school on these days!

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4TH – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH - Parent's observation classes for Miss Knapp's JUNIOR classes

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11TH – FRIDAY NOVEMBER 17TH -Parent's observation classes for Mrs. VanDunk's JUNIOR classes

Observation will only be permitted on the days allotted – no exceptions will be made.

Observation will be held in the following levels/subjects only :

**NURSERY BALLET
PRE-PRIMARY BALLET
PRIMARY 1ST YEAR BALLET
PRIMARY 2ND YEAR BALLET
GRADE 1 1ST YEAR BALLET
GRADE 1 2ND YEAR BALLET
GRADE 2 BALLET
PRIMARY MODERN
GRADE 1 MODERN
GRADE 2 MODERN
GRADE 3 MODERN
GRADE 4 MODERN
GRADE 4 HIP HOP
PRIMARY TAP
GRADE 1 TAP**

2nd TERM FEES

The 2nd Term begins on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH. Please inform the Academy immediately if you will not be returning for any reason, so that places can be opened for other students who may wish to join. **Post dated cheques will be deposited on the 1st day of term.**

RECEIPTS

This year, receipts will only be sent out by request. If you would like to receive a receipt for fees paid in the 2017 calendar year, please let us know by email.

CIBC RUN FOR THE CURE

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all who participated in or donated to this year's Run for the Cure. We had another fabulous team of over 80 members and raised a total of \$11732. This makes for a total of over \$53,000 over our 7 years of participation!!

We are so proud to have been a part of a fabulous day - our Grace Academy family and friends continue to inspire us every day 😊 Breast cancer has hit many of our lives in different ways - and we truly hope that by the time our young dancers are adults, it will be a thing of the past - thank you for contributing to this!!

"IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR!" - PERFORMANCE DECEMBER 5TH

Our performing company 'Pure Grace', The Spirit Moves Christian Dance Company, some senior dancers and our musical theatre classes will join the Spurrell Singing Studio on December 5th for a wonderful performance at the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts. We hope that many of our families will come out to watch this show - supporting our dancers and singers and enjoying a night of entertainment and Christmas Spirit. The show begins at 7:30pm and is appropriate for all ages.

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT www.oakvillecentre.ca or by calling the Oakville Centre Box office (905-815-2021) TICKETS GO ON SALE ON NOVEMBER 6th

REMINDER - NO CLASSES WILL RUN ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5TH, WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 6TH OR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE

A reminder that our year end performance will be held THE WEEK OF MAY 27TH- JUNE 2nd 2018. Please mark these dates on your calendar now! Further information will follow in the new year.

LOST AND FOUND

A large number of clothing items and water bottles are left behind in the change room each week. Would all parents please check to see if any of the items belong to your dancer. Please remember to put your name in all dancewear – this will make it easier to ensure that items are returned to the correct owner. Unclaimed items will be given to charity at the end of December

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Saturday, December 16th Grace Academy would like to invite students and parents to join us for carolling and goodies. This year we will be holding our party at Maple Grove United Church between 2:00 and 4:30pm. This location allows us more space for more families to attend. It promises to be a lot of fun! Students who usually have classes during these times will attend the party in place of regular class – details will follow as to which classes will run on December 16th. **Our acting and musical theatre classes and Pure Grace will be involved in a short presentation on this day. Please mark this date on your calendar 😊**

Please note: Christmas Holiday dates – the studio will be closed from TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19th to FRIDAY JANUARY 5TH inclusive. No classes will be held during this time

INSTANT CHOIR - DECEMBER 20TH!

Have you always wanted to sing, but haven't had the time to commit to a weekly choir rehearsal? Or have you been a member of a choir for many years and want to share your talents with your community? Are you looking for something special to do with your family this holiday season? Join Oakville's first-ever "Instant Choir" event, where everyone sings as one! This exciting and fun filled night is appropriate for ALL AGES and will be held at the QE Park Recreational Centre in Oakville at 7pm. Run by the Town of Oakville and the Oakville Vocal Arts Festival, our very own Natalie Spurrell will be the conductor! Refreshments will also be served! We hope to see a lot of our Grace families out to participate~ **NO SINGING EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY!** Visit oakvillevocalartsfestival.ca for more information and to sign up!

WINTER STORMS

With snowy weather fast approaching there may be times when classes will need to be cancelled due to inclement weather. **OUR FACEBOOK PAGE WILL BE UPDATED WHENEVER A CANCELLATION NEEDS TO BE MADE. PLEASE CHECK HERE FIRST ON STORMY DAYS.** You may also phone the Academy after 2pm on stormy days to check if classes will still be running (a message will play on the voice mail). Thursday morning and Saturday families should call after 8am. Calls will not be made to individual families by the Academy, but emails will be sent when possible. Dancers are welcome to make-up their missed lesson by attending a class of similar standard on another day – please check with Miss Knapp if you wish to make-up the class and are unsure of which class to attend.

CREATING SPACE YOGA –PAJAMA DRIVE

We are excited to once again join CREATING SPACE YOGA STUDIO in their Annual Holiday Pajama Drive!

This will be our 8th year collecting pajamas at Christmas time and helping to provide a “cozy Christmas” to less fortunate children 😊 All pjs collected will be donated to the HALTON CHILDREN'S AID FOUNDATION

NEW pjs can be brought into the studio and left with Miss Knapp or Mrs. VanDunk. **All sizes are needed – especially for ages 12-18.** Collection will continue until Saturday, December 9th

CHRISTMAS ART DISPLAY AND CONTEST

We would like to invite our dancers to create a drawing, painting, poem, artwork, photo, craft or story of what Christmas means to them. We will display these in the studio! Get started now and help us to decorate the studio for the holidays! All dancers who contribute will be entered in a draw to win a pair of tickets to see a movie at film.ca Cinemas. We will draw for the winner at our party on December 16th.

TOONIES FOR TOYS

During the months of November and December, we will also be collecting toonies for the purchase of new toys. These toys will be donated to Oakville's Salvation Army to help provide gifts for those in need. We will collect donations until December 16th 😊 Thank you for helping us give back to our community!

AFTER CLASS PICKUP and PARKING LOT SAFETY

Please remind your dancers that they should stay inside the studio while waiting to be picked up after class. No dancers should be standing outside the door or in the parking lot. Please remember that Grace Academy teachers cannot be responsible for students outside of class time. Dancers are welcome to watch the next class while they wait if you need to be late for any reason. The safety of all our dancers is important to us – we thank you for your co-operation.

In addition, we ask that all parents remember to drive slowly and with extra care in the parking lot. It is a very busy place with lots of cars coming and going. While we recognize that everyone has a lot going on and that you may need to get to another activity in a hurry, the safety of our children is much more important! Please be patient and watchful of others. We ask that you avoid parking in the “drive through” area of the parking lot behind parked cars. This makes it difficult for others to get out and can also be dangerous as cars try to squeeze around you.

Thank you 😊

HAVE A WONDERFUL MONTH!

