

Hello Everyone!

Just a quick note to touch base with a few reminders.

## **UPCOMING HOLIDAYS**

### **EASTER WEEKEND**

#### **NO CLASSES WILL BE HELD ON:**

FRIDAY, APRIL 2ND - GOOD FRIDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 4TH - EASTER SUNDAY

**(CLASSES WILL RUN AS USUAL ON SATURDAY, APRIL 3RD AND MONDAY APRIL 5TH)**

### **APRIL BREAK**

THE STUDIO WILL BE CLOSED FROM SATURDAY, APRIL 10TH -SUNDAY, APRIL 18TH INCLUSIVE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FOLLOWING 2 CLASSES:

SUNDAY, APRIL 11TH 12:15-1PM JUNIOR HIP HOP WILL RUN AS NORMAL

SUNDAY, APRIL 11TH 1-1:45PM PRE-PRIMARY BALLET WILL RUN AS NORMAL

## **YEAR END PERFORMANCE**

We are excited about our upcoming year-end virtual performance and are now working on choreography in most of our classes. Our youngest dancers will work on this a little later in the spring in addition to their regular class activities.

Videos of the choreography learned in each class can be found in your family portal. To access this, click 'files' and then 'class files'. A list of each song your dancer is working on will then come up. Click the song they want to practice to see the videos. You can also find the music for each class under the 'music' tab. **Please encourage your dancer to practice regularly!** Please also note, that while the videos are there as a tool to help dancers remember the steps, the goal with practicing is to be able to perform the dance with music only ;)

As mentioned earlier, due to a variety of factors in this year of continued uncertainty, we have decided not to do a large order of costumes for this year's performance. We also want to be mindful of the fact that families may not be in a position to spend extra money on costumes this year, and have decided to get creative in other ways to make sure dancers still have something fun and special to wear for our performance video. We will be making use of costumes ordered last spring (some worn at Christmas time), creating our own by adding accessories to regular dancewear, borrowing costumes from past classes or from the collection that we have at the studio, or in some cases, purchasing more inexpensive items such as bodysuits/t-shirts/hoodies. We will update you as we continue to plan, and will be keeping any extra costs charged to families as low as possible.

Filming and viewing dates are still pending, as we continue to watch and wait on restrictions in our area. Please watch for updates.

## **FAMILY DANCE - A FUN OPPORTUNITY FOR SHOWTIME!**

This year, we are offering all of our families the opportunity to be a part of a special dance in our virtual showcase! Families will be given the chance to learn simple choreography in a zoom rehearsal and will also be provided with a video to practice with. The steps will be kept simple and fun and we hope that all ages and family members will join us! Families will then film themselves and submit a video to be included in our 'finale' dance (details on how to do this on your phone will follow). This is a wonderful opportunity to come together and have fun with your own family as well as the larger Grace Academy family! No costumes are needed -but you might have fun creating your own 'family outfit'.

Details on zoom rehearsal dates will follow (you may also choose to learn the dance from video only).

There will be a small cost of \$10 per family to participate, to assist in covering the time/cost of choreography and editing. Payment information will follow once we have the rehearsal time and choreography set.

## **MARCH THEME - MAKE SOMEONE SMILE!**

As your dancers know, this month we have been talking in class about what makes us smile. We have also been sharing compliments and encouraging each other while we learn. AND -we also have a fun contest going on. Dancers are encouraged to take a photo of themselves dancing - at home, outside, on zoom, or in the studio and either tag us in a post on social media or send us their photo by email. Show us your smile -even if you are wearing your mask! Eyebrows up! All dancers who participate will be entered in a draw to win a gift card!

## **SUMMER DANCING**

While our regular programs do not run during the summer, we are making plans for some exciting camps and workshops to be offered! Details will be available in April.

As always, we will continue to update you with any changes to restrictions etc that may come up over the coming weeks. We are members of Dance Safe Ontario and spend time reviewing all regulations daily as we continue to strive to keep our dancers moving, connected and safe. Please watch for updates as they become available. Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm!

Happy Spring!!

Heidi Knapp - Academy Director