

GRACE ACADEMY OF DANCE AND PERFORMING ARTS
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www.graceacademy.ca

NOVEMBER 2018

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 3TH – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH - Parent's observation classes for Miss Knapp's JUNIOR classes

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10TH – FRIDAY NOVEMBER 16TH -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
GRADE 2 TAP**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH

This is the day of the Oakville Santa Claus Parade. Classes WILL run as usual, however, we often find that dancers miss class on this day to attend the parade with their family. If your dancer will NOT be in class, please send us an email prior to the 17th to let us know.

2nd TERM FEES

The 2nd Term begins on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH. 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.**

THEME OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Marlowe C-D who was the winner of our September - Welcome to the Family month contest. Marlowe received a basket of fun school supplies! Our October - Gratitude winner will be announced on Facebook soon. A donation will be made to the charity of the winner's choice.

This month will be '**NEAT AND TIDY NOVEMBER**'. Coming to class in the proper uniform and with hair neatly off of the face are both an important part of a dancer's training. Dancers who are spotted attending class in the proper uniform, with no holes/runs in their tights, no jewellery, and with their hair neatly up in a bun (ballet) or pony tail/braid (modern/tap/musical theatre) will be entered into a contest to win a fun prize! Full classes that are seen working extra hard to arrive looking their best for class and/or who help to keep the changeroom and front entranceway organized may also have the chance to win a class prize at the end of the month!

RECEIPTS

This year, receipts will only be sent out by request. If you would like to receive a receipt for fees paid in the 2018 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 close to 80 members and raised a total of \$7676. This makes for a total of over \$60 000 over our 8 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!!

“JINGLE ALL THE WAY!” - PERFORMANCE DECEMBER 4TH

Our performing companies 'Pure Grace' and The Spirit Moves Christian Dance Company, will join the Spurrell Singing Studio on December 4th for a wonderful performance at the Meeting House in Oakville. 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.

TICKET INFORMATION WILL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK AND ON THE STUDIO BULLETIN BOARD SHORTLY.

REMINDER - NO CLASSES WILL RUN ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4TH

END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE

A reminder that our year end performance will be held THE WEEK OF MAY 26TH- JUNE 1ST 2019. 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 15th 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 15th. **Our 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 18th to FRIDAY JANUARY 4TH inclusive. No classes will be held during this time

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 9th 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 – with a special request for teenage boys. Socks are also requested!** Collection will continue until Saturday, December 8th

TOONIES FOR TOYS

Beginning on November 26th and continuing throughout 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 15th 😊 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!

