

**GRACE ACADEMY OF DANCE AND PERFORMING ARTS**  
**905-338-0210**  
**[www.graceacademy.ca](http://www.graceacademy.ca)**

**SEPTEMBER 2017**

***PLEASE NOTE – ALL NEWSLETTERS WILL BE HANDED OUT IN CLASS, AS WELL AS POSTED ON OUR BULLETIN BOARD AND ON OUR WEBSITE. PLEASE BE SURE TO KEEP YOURSELF UP TO DATE ON ALL NEWS 😊***

**WELCOME!**

We are excited about our 1st week back and are looking forward to a fantastic year ahead! Thank you for choosing Grace Academy for your dancer! We are proud of our studio and the talented, kind and caring dancers and families that we have here 😊

School information newsletters were emailed to families in August. If you did not receive a copy, please let us know and we would be happy to send it again. This newsletter is good to have on file to reference important dates and school policies.

**RUN FOR THE CURE**

For the 7<sup>th</sup> year, Grace Academy of Dance and Performing Arts will participate in the **CIBC RUN FOR THE CURE! This is being held on Sunday October 1st at 10am.** We are excited to participate in this fabulous event and to have the opportunity to raise funds to help fight breast cancer! We would like to invite you to join us on October 1st and to be a part of our team - **WALK WITH GRACE!!!** All family members are welcome to join us and we are hoping for a large group of family and friends to walk/run together!!

**If you would like to join our team, please go to [www.runfortheure.com](http://www.runfortheure.com). You can find our location (Burlington/Hamilton/Oakville) and then click JOIN A TEAM - we are WALK WITH GRACE. The site talks you through the registration - it is very simple. IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A TEAM T-SHIRT, YOU MUST REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>!! DON'T DELAY!**

Please speak to Miss Knapp if you would like more information. If you cannot join us, but would like to make a donation, you may choose to sponsor the whole team or an individual team member. This can be done online at the website listed above. Thank you for considering this opportunity to give back to our community!

To assist with our fundraising, we are once again running a “guessing contest”! Dancers may guess the number of hair pins in our jar - \$2 per guess and 3 guesses for \$5. The dancer who guesses closest to the actual number will win 4 passes to [film.ca](http://film.ca) cinemas! All money raised will be donated to run for the cure!

## **THANKSGIVING WEEKEND**

AS NOTED IN OUR WELCOME NEWSLETTER, NO CLASSES WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup> OR MONDAY OCTOBER 9<sup>TH</sup>. WE HOPE EVERYONE ENJOYS A WONDERFUL THANKSGIVING WEEKEND.

## **END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE – THE WEEK OF SUNDAY MAY 27<sup>th</sup> – SATURDAY JUNE 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018**

The dates for our year end performance have now been confirmed. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW! Further details will be made available throughout the year.

## **OUTDOOR SHOES/BOOTS - CHANGEROOM**

We would like to remind you that no outdoor footwear should be worn in the waiting area or change room (this includes parents and siblings). The dancers will be in bare feet and ballet shoes in these rooms. We thank you for your co-operation. Please put shoes neatly in the entranceway so that it is easy for dancers to enter/exit.

In addition, would parents please remind your dancers to be respectful of the property at Grace Academy while they are waiting for their class to begin. The change room can be a very busy place – please remind children that there is no running around permitted anywhere in the studio. All students and family members are asked to wait quietly in the change room so that the dancers in class are not disrupted. All clothing items should be hung up or folded neatly on one of the shelves underneath the benches. If your dancer takes a book off the shelf or toys from the toy box, please put them away before leaving. Please do not move the chairs or carpet around the waiting area!

**TAP SHOES SHOULD NOT BE WORN IN THE CHANGEROOM, BUT SHOULD BE CARRIED INTO CLASS AND PUT ON IN THE STUDIO.**

## **CHRISTMAS PARTY – DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>**

Please mark your calendars now for the date of our Annual Christmas Party. This will be held on Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. Details will follow on this day of fun for all Grace Academy families! It is one of our favourite days of the year! MUSICAL THEATRE AND ACTING CLASSES WILL PERFORM AT THE PARTY – PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE.

## **NUT FREE**

Please remember that Grace Academy strives to be a nut – free environment. We do have dancers who have severe allergies to all nuts. Please do not send snacks with your dancers that contain nut products.

## **HAIR**

Dancers should attend class with their hair neatly tied back off of their face. Ballet students in grade 1 and above should have their hair in a bun – **using a hair net and pins**. Students will be shown how to do this – if you need further assistance please speak to Miss Knapp or Mrs. Van Dunk. A pony tail or braid would be appropriate for modern jazz and tap.

## **ABSENCES**

When possible, would parents please phone the Academy if their child is to be absent from class for any reason. Please remember that regular attendance is extremely beneficial to all dancers, allowing them to feel comfortable and perform at their highest possible level. In most cases missed lessons may be made up at another class of similar level during the week. Please check with Miss Knapp or Mrs Van Dunk for the correct class.

PLEASE ALSO ENCOURAGE YOUR DANCER TO PRACTICE REGULARLY AT HOME!

## **STUDENT CELL PHONES**

A few years ago we began to notice that our older dancers were becoming increasingly distracted by text messages and other social media while waiting for classes to begin. During this time, dancers are expected to be warming up and practicing for their class, while socializing with others at the studio. Because of this, we began asking that cell phones be left at home and not used while at the studio. **Please remind your dancers of this expectation.** Both Mrs. VanDunk and Miss Knapp will have cell phones on hand should a dancer need to contact a parent in case of emergency or change of plans. Thank you! Dancers who arrive from school with phones should leave them in their bags and not take them out in the changeroom.

## **COMMUNICATION**

We are always happy to answer any questions that you have during the year. As mentioned, we also appreciate communication from you when a dancer is to be absent for any reason.

Because time is short between classes each night, we prefer that you call 905-338-0210 or email [graceacademy@sympatico.ca](mailto:graceacademy@sympatico.ca) if you have any messages or questions for us. Emergency messages can be called or texted to Miss Knapp at 905-301-9409.

## **NEW MEMBER OF STAFF**

We are thrilled to introduce our newest member of staff, Ali Daly! Ali is a Grace Academy graduate, and was a large part of the school for many years. Since graduating, she has been studying Creative Industries at Ryerson University while continuing her dancing in Toronto, with a focus on hip hop. Most recently she has been a member of Boss Dance Company and Co-Director of Clique Dance Company. We are excited for her to share her expertise in this evolving style with our older girls, and feel incredibly fortunate that she also brings with her a true understanding of the values and principles that we have at Grace Academy. Ali will be working with the intermediate foundation - Advanced 2 Hip hop dancers!

## **AFTER CLASS PICK UP**

Will all parents please remind their dancer that students should stay inside while waiting to be picked up after class. No students should be outside or in the parking lot. **Teachers cannot be responsible for students outside of class times.** Dancers are welcome to watch the next class if you need to be late for any reason. The safety of all of our students is very important to us. Thank you for your co-operation. PLEASE REMEMBER TO DRIVE SAFELY IN THE

PARKING LOT 😊

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO A WONDERFUL YEAR!**