December is here and term 2 has begun! We continue to be so proud of our dancers and are grateful for their energy and enthusiasm in every class. They have already accomplished so much in a very short time and we are looking forward to dancing together in 2023! We are so fortunate to have the most amazing community of young people!

As previously mentioned, **2nd term fees are now due. Amounts owing can be found in your family portal.** Kindly send an e-transfer to <u>graceacademy@sympatico.ca</u> if you have not yet done so. Late fees will apply to all accounts unpaid after December 5th.

Grace Academy will break for the CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS from TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH- FRIDAY, JANUARY 6TH INCLUSIVE. No classes will be held during that time. Classes will begin again on Saturday, January 7th 2023.

NOTE THAT THERE ARE ALSO A FEW SMALL CHANGES TO OUR SCHEDULE OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS:

Tuesday, December 6th - NO CLASSES RUNNING

Saturday, December 10th - The following classes will NOT run - please join us for our Christmas party that day: Grade 4 Ballet, IF Ballet 1st Year, IF modern, Grade 1 Ballet 2nd Year, Grade 3 Modern, Musical Theatre

Saturday, December 17th - Musical theatre class will NOT run (we will take a break after our performances this month)

Monday, December 19th - Senior Ballet and Pointe, Adv 1 Ballet and Senior Tap will join together for Christmas stretch class from 7-8pm

Please remember that a message will play on the school's answering machine if classes need to be cancelled due to inclement weather. Please phone the school after 2pm on stormy days to see if classes will run, or after 8am for morning classes. AN UPDATE WILL ALSO BE POSTED ON OUR FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM PAGE AS SOON AS ANY CANCELLATION DECISIONS ARE MADE.

DECEMBER THEME OF THE MONTH - JINGLE ALL THE WAY!

December is one of our favourite months at the studio! Our focus is on the joy and love that this season brings!

Here is a look at what we have going on:

Pajama and gift card drive for Halton Children's Aid Foundation - donations of NEW PJS and GIFT CARDS IN ANY AMOUNT can be dropped off to teachers any time until December 10th. Please note that there is a special need for ages 12-18. Please help us with this tradition of providing a cozy Christmas to those in need!

Christmas card/artwork collection for our local seniors - we would like to spread some cheer to those who may not be able to have visitors this season and to let them know we are thinking of them . Dancers are encouraged to create more than one Christmas greeting and leave them with the teachers any time until December 16th.

'MERRY AND BRIGHT' - Tuesday, December 6th, 7:30pm - join our performing companies and senior dancers for a night of entertainment at the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts! Tickets for this magical evening are available at the Oakville Centre Box Office. It is appropriate for all ages and running time is approximately 75 minutes. You will be inspired and filled with the Christmas spirit!

'Annual Christmas Party' - Saturday, December 10th 2:30-4:30 pm - As many of you know, one of our favourite holiday traditions at Grace Academy has always been our Christmas party. We are thrilled to have the chance to celebrate together in person again this year! Everyone is invited!

This year's party will be held at Maple Grove United Church, 346 Maple Grove Drive in Oakville (off of Cornwall, East of Trafalgar) on Saturday, December 10th.

Our party will feature a short performance by Pure Grace and our musical theatre class, as well as a good old fashioned carol sing and goodies!

Please complete the form at the link below if you would like to join us! We also hope that many of you will be able to contribute by sending in one dozen nut free cookies or squares. If you can help us, please indicate this on the form. If you can assist us with set up or clean up, please be sure to mark this on your form - thank you in advance!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/ 1FAIpQLSdolkuSnxjCR_REnSqiJFUcZK33oS3Xd-0YCRTtrR5Y9vWZXw/ viewform?usp=sf_link

More details will be sent this weekend to families who have already signed up to attend!

Merry Christmas Video - we have been busy filming our dancers this week - watch for the release of this video later in the month!

And - from December 13th -19th ALL dancers are welcome to dress in Christmas colours, Santa hats, antlers or other Christmas themed outfits! We will have lots of fun Christmas music, choreography and games to finish off the year!

VERY WARM WISHES ARE SENT TO ALL GRACE ACADEMY FAMILIES AT THIS SPECIAL TIME OF YEAR. HAVE A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY - STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY!