

December is almost here and term 2 has begun! We continue to be so proud of our dancers and love seeing their smiling faces in class every week. They have already accomplished so much in a very short time and we are looking forward to dancing together in 2024! What an amazing community of young people we have!

In November (Grow with Grace month!) our dancers learned about the values that help to guide all that we do here at Grace Academy. Here is a recap:

G- GENEROSITY OF TIME, TALENTS AND EFFORT

R - RESPECT FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

A - ACCOUNTABILITY FOR OUR ACTIONS AND OUR WORDS

C - CONNECTION AND CARING

E- ENTHUSIASM FOR LEARNING AND CREATIVITY

### **TERM 2 FEES**

As previously mentioned, **2nd term fees are now due. Amounts owing can be found in your family portal.** Kindly send an e-transfer to [graceacademy@sympatico.ca](mailto:graceacademy@sympatico.ca) if you have not yet done so. Late fees will apply to all accounts unpaid after December 4th.

### **HOLIDAY BREAK/CLASS CANCELLATIONS**

Grace Academy will break for the CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS from SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH TO FRIDAY, JANUARY 5TH INCLUSIVE. No classes will be held during that time. Classes will begin again on Saturday, January 6th 2024.

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

**Tuesday, December 5th - NO CLASSES RUNNING**

**Thursday, December 7th - Pure Grace will NOT be running - enjoy a day off after the Christmas show! (class runs as normal on December 14th)**

**Saturday, December 16th - The following classes will NOT run - please join us for our Christmas party that day: IF Ballet 1st Year, IF Ballet 2nd Year, INT modern, Grade 2 Ballet, Grade 2/3 Tap, Musical Theatre**

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

Please remember that a message will play on the school's voice mail 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 - that is the easiest way to check.

## **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 /SOCKS and GIFT CARDS IN ANY AMOUNT (Walmart/Dollar Store/Amazon/Best Buy/Shoppers Drug Mart) can be dropped off to teachers any time until December 14th. **Please note that there is a special need for babies and toddlers, as well as boys 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 14th.

**'WARM IT UP WITH LOVE'** - **Tuesday, December 5th, 7:30pm** - join our performing companies, musical theatre class 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 17th 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 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 16th.

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/1FAIpQLSfXQd1qjDcKvCQhTHQ2k9x-7Gr9ZGQymRPuRz6FV8qTBhjLVg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfXQd1qjDcKvCQhTHQ2k9x-7Gr9ZGQymRPuRz6FV8qTBhjLVg/viewform?usp=sf_link)

**More details will be sent out to families who sign up to attend, just a little closer to the date.**

**FINAL WEEK OF CLASSES** -From December 11th -16th 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! (Saturday afternoon dancers who have their final class on the 9th can dress up that day).

Dancers in the following classes have been preparing a very short Christmas combination to show to our parents:

PRIMARY 2ND YEAR TO GRADE 4 BALLET

GRADE 1-6 MODERN

JUNIOR HIP HOP AND GRADES 4-6 HIP HOP

PRIMARY TO GRADE 4 TAP

During the final week of classes before the holidays, parents will be invited into class for the last 15 minutes to observe and participate in a little learning themselves! (note that Saturday Grade 2 Ballet and Grade 2/3 Tap will have parents come in on the 9th and all other classes will have parents in from the 11th -16th). We will have a practice first and come to the door to get you when the dancers are ready. It will be a busy week with lots of people at the studio- we are looking forward to helping to get everyone into the Christmas spirit!

(Discover Ballet, Pre-Primary Ballet, Primary 1st Year Ballet, Movers and Groovers and Primary Modern will not have parents in, as we held observation days in November).

**Very warm wishes are sent to all Grace Academy families at this special time of year. Have a wonderful holiday season and stay safe and healthy!**