



Sylvera Newsletter ~ Summer 2016

Hi everyone.

The Spring term came and went so quickly and, with such an early Easter, 2016 seems to be going faster than ever. We have a very busy few weeks ahead of us now as we hurtle towards July.

ORCHARD SHOW

Yes, it's that time of year again!!! **Tickets for "Game On!" our 2016 show will go on sale very soon. Tickets for the 2 Crayford shows go on sale on Monday 18th April and tickets for the 2 New Ash Green/Swanscombe shows on Monday 25th April.** Everyone should know which shows they/ their children are performing in. For anyone still confused by the whole thing, please see below;

CRAYFORD STUDENTS; Baby & Preparatory classes (Saturday 9.45am-11am / Monday 4- 4.30pm and Wednesday 4.15-5pm) will just appear in Matinee show at 1pm on Sunday 10th July. ALL OTHER Crayford students will appear in the evening show at 7pm on Saturday 9th July and the Matinee show at 1pm Sunday 10th July.

NEW ASH GREEN & SWANSCOMBE STUDENTS; Baby class (NAG Saturday 9.30am) will just appear in Matinee show at 2.30pm on Saturday 9th July. ALL OTHER students will appear in the Matinee show at 2.30pm on Saturday 9th July and the Evening show on Sunday 10th July at 5pm.

NB Senior Students who attend classes in Crayford from 8pm – 10pm on a Wednesday and from 8pm on a Monday will appear in all 4 shows.

Please ensure that you purchase tickets for the correct show(s). If you do make a mistake, you should contact the Theatre as soon as possible. When buying tickets over the phone or in person, the Box Office staff ***should*** be able to advise you correctly. A £1.50 Booking fee is added by the Theatre on to the price of every ticket. The only way to avoid paying this is by purchasing at least 10 tickets for any of the performances (only applies if you buy 10 for the same performance). You may therefore wish to consider getting together with other parents to purchase tickets!

PLEASE NOTE that the tickets are available Online, over the telephone and in person at the theatre box office. Tickets will NOT be available to purchase before **10.15am** on the above dates from any of the available booking systems. Phone ; 01322 220000 or online ; www.orchardtheatre.co.uk

Information notices that cover ALL aspects of the show are now being displayed in the dance school. Please make sure that you have a look. These notices will be available to download from our website if you'd like a copy to keep. We DO try to get the correct information to everyone. Please come in or email us via the website if there is anything you wish to ask about the show. We are always happy to help. You will appreciate that with over 500 students to deal with, things do sometimes get overlooked and our systems are not infallible!!

COSTUMES

Show costumes are being organised at the moment. Everything that we are providing should soon be ready for purchase. Please note that ALL costumes must be paid for BEFORE they are taken home and it is your responsibility to ensure that all costumes have been purchased and/or hired before the dress rehearsal. Costumes will not be available for sale or hire at the rehearsals. As you know, we always try to keep the costs of costumes down as much as possible. We try to hire out items where we can for a nominal fee. However, please be aware that these items belong to us and they must be returned at the end of the show. Bags are provided in each dressing room for this purpose. Missing items from a set of costumes often mean that we are unable to use them again, particularly as we have large groups of students to costume. We sometimes ask parents and students to purchase whole costumes or

bits of costumes from places like Primark and Matalan. Please could you be aware that these items are often only available for a short time from these stores. We ask that you do not leave the purchase of these things until the last minute. If you have problems getting anything, please let us know asap.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

People who have joined Sylvera within the last 3-4 years have given us their email addresses as part of their registration details. Anyone who has been with us longer than that is unlikely to have given us this information. We are in the process of trying to update our administration system so that there will be more email communication i.e. invoices, newsletters etc. We are hoping to get this started in September so, in preparation, we would like to ensure that we have everybody's email address ready. When you pay your fees for this term, you will be asked for your up to date email address and we will make a note of it on the student record card in our card index system. We are hoping that this will make things simpler in the long run

CONGRATULATIONS

A big "WELL DONE" to those of you who took IDTA exams in the 4 sessions held in December and February. There were some absolutely fantastic results including a few students who achieved extremely high marks.

Children from Crayford and New Ash Green were once again involved in the Walk Tall Panto "Aladdin" at the Mick Jagger Centre in December. Girls from Swanscombe and New Ash Green also appeared as part of the "Mother Grease" panto in South Darenth with the Horton Kirby Village players. Congratulations to **Evie and Darcie Hawes, Jessica Wemyss, Drew Stevens, Katie Nash, Macey Page, Annabel Booker, Cara Hampsheir, Isabel Smart, Rebecca Shafford, Rebecca Myers, Paige and Grace Edwards, Zara and James Warren, McKenzie Hodges, Charlotte Shergold- Brown, Niamh Geraghty, Abbi and Emilie Lees, Hannah and Bethany Stonehouse, Bethany Marsh, Sophie Saunders, Lily Stone, Lucy Cochrane, Tillie Fewell, Abigail Russell, Daisy Wilkinson, Maisie and Ava Jones, Darci Walker and Ella Keeling.** They all worked really hard and had a great time.

Ella and James Warren have, once again successfully auditioned for the English Youth Ballets forthcoming production of The Nutcracker and Ballet Etudes at the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks. Well done to both of you!

We also must congratulate all of our students who have successfully auditioned for "**Bugsy Malone**" which will be this year's summer production by the Orchard Youth Theatre. Congratulations and Break a Leg!!

Connor Wilson who has been studying dance at the Brit School as well as coming along to the senior Wednesday class has been very busy. Not only has he just been accepted into the Centre Performing Arts College on a 3 year full scholarship from September, he has also recently appeared in an amazing costume with the Brit School in the opening dance number at the Brit Awards and was later spotted on TV at the after show party!! All our best wishes to Connor for what we are sure will be a very exciting future.

CHAPERONES

As all of you who have been involved with our shows know, we very much rely on our fantastic teams of chaperones to help supervise and get the students ready for their stage appearances. We cannot run the show without these wonderful people. If anyone would like to help backstage this year, we are always looking for enough chaperones so your help will be invaluable. All you need is a current DBS/ Police check certificate and lots of energy and patience. It really is a lot of fun. Backstage is a very exciting place to be at our shows and we think the chaperones enjoy it all as much as the performers! If you are interested, please let one of the teachers know and we'll add you to our list.

CLASSES- What to Wear?

We would like to remind parents and students, that we do expect ALL students to come to class properly dressed to dance. To dress correctly, is part of the whole dance experience and we have noticed that, far too many children are turning up at classes wearing unsuitable clothing! Whilst, as you will appreciate, we have always been fairly lenient over this, please note that it is not acceptable for Students to attend classes wearing their school uniform, jeans or football shirts (to name but a few unacceptable items). We do not want students to wear anything but black jazz trousers or black leggings or ballet tights on their legs and either a leotard, a Sylvera T shirt (Black or Pink) OR a PLAIN Black T shirt on their body. We are not asking anyone to spend out lots of money on expensive dance wear, but we are asking parents to ensure that their children are appropriately dressed.

Many thanks for taking the time to read this and for your continuing support