

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **6th January - 23rd March**
Opera Australia presents Mozarts "The Magic Flute", a fusion of Dance and Opera now showing at Sydney Opera House.
- **Mon 26th - Sat 31st March**
Bring a friend week for all classes except G4 & up Ballet
- **Mon 2nd - Thurs 5th April**
Open Week for Wigglebugs to Grade 1 and 6-8 Hip Hop
- **Thursday 5th April**
Last day of Term 1
- **Monday 23rd April**
First day of Term 2
- **Wednesday 25th April**
DAY OFF- Anzac Day
- **Saturday 19th May G4-8**
Ballet exams closing date
RAD entry forms must be returned to the studio.

FOR THE DIARY!

- **April- Wednesday 25th**
ANZAC DAY- No Classes
- **August**
G4 - 8 RAD Ballet Exams
- **Sunday August 19th**
Pullers Tap Exams
- **Sunday August 26th**
Jazz Assessments
- **Sunday September 9th**
Modern Assesments
- **Sunday 4th & 11th November**
Junior Concert Photo & Rehearsal Days
- **Sunday 25th November**
Junior Concerts
- **Sunday 2nd December**
Senior Concert Photo & Rehearsal Days
- **Sunday 16th December**
TBC Senior Concert

Another exciting year ahead of us! Each year I feel the time passing quicker than the last, but not once has my passion for the arts proved any the lesser.

I would like to welcome all of our parents and students, new and old back, to The Academy for what is shaping up to be an amazing 2012! I hope all the children have settled into classes & are enjoying their dancing, acting, and singing so far.

Miss Jo, Miss Danielle, and I all attended the *Royal Academy of Dance* teachers seminar in January. The RAD has introduced new concepts within classical ballet which now takes in Grades 1, 2 & 3 (as well as the Pre-Primary and Primary introduced 2 years ago) - very exciting to teach, and so much fun for the children without loosing the essence of Classical Ballet.

With so much new content, the RAD has advised that these grades cannot be examined

until 2013. As such, it has been decided that Pre-Primary, Primary, Grades 1, 2, & 3 (the grades encompassing the new work) will all sit for their exams in May of 2013. The other grades will sit for their exams in August as usual. This brings us in line with the majority of dance schools in NSW, and will ensure the children can gain their own personal best with that little extra time.

There is a new addition within The Academy walls for 2012: this being our new **Dancewear Shop upstairs**. We sell all Academy uniform requirements of the highest quality for a wonderfully cheap price. We have placed several new orders for shoes and dancewear so feel free to ask about their arrival.

Just a note regarding Bullying. As with any institution, we have experienced bullying between students in the past. This is completely unacceptable, and I stress that if students are found to be bullying each other there will be serious consequences. This action is against our ethos and we

try to instill acceptance and respect for all in all our students.

What truly amazing concerts were seen at the end of 2011! The students not only danced beautifully, but were all wonderfully behaved. The Senior concert was an outstanding success, and a farewell to some seniors who went on to full time dance courses in 2012. How proud we are of them.

Read about our planned trip to Prague with our senior students!

I would like to advise that if you have any queries about classes, your child's progress or any concerns, I am available to discuss them. Contact me via the studio numbers during the day & make an appointment to speak to me outside of class times.

I wish all of you the best for the coming year, and look forward to a wonderful year of dancing, singing, acrobatics, and acting.

Miss Pauline

WOULD YOU LIKE A DISCOUNT OFF YOUR FEES ?

All fees at The Academy are due in the **first week** of each term. Fees not paid within the first 2 weeks of term will have a fee of \$25 added onto their account unless arrangements have been made with Miss Pauline. (This is as per the enrolment application signed by all parents on enrolling their child/children at The Academy.)

We recognise that this last 12 months have been a difficult time financially for many families. Prompt payment of outstanding fees is an important factor when considering the costs of classes. We greatly appreciate those parents who do pay promptly or who have spoken to us and made alternative arrangements via a payment plan.

As a way of saying "Thank YOU!", to those parents who have made this effort, fees **paid in full** within the **first week** of Term will receive an **8% discount** off their fees. (This offer only applies to those who have no outstanding accounts.)

Late payment of fees impacts negatively on all of us. There are many costs involved in running a performing arts centre such as this, and without prompt payment, these cannot be met.

One such cost is paying our teachers - all of whom are held in very high esteem within the dance world and without whom your children would not receive such an excellent standard of teaching. They deserve to be able to be paid promptly for their work.

Please ensure **ALL FEES** are paid in full within the first two weeks of term, or if a payment plan has been organised **before** the end of Term 1. Recurring late fees will be accrued on outstanding fees, class places cannot be held for students whose fees are not up to date (including late fee charges), and **cannot attend any classes**.

If you are experiencing real difficulties, please make arrangements to speak to Miss Pauline in private before the end of Term 1, where we can come to some arrangement without penalty.

WELCOME TEACHERS

You may have noticed some **new** teachers at the studio and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce them to you and welcome them to The Academy. Our new teachers bring with them a wealth of knowledge and are highly respected in their fields of work.

Miss Jess Franke: Miss Jessica Franke will be joining our staff fulltime both behind the scenes and teaching classes. Miss Jess is a past student of The Academy, going on to study fulltime at WAAPA (Perth) and performing professionally with companies such as *Sydney Dance Company* and *Mod Dance Company*. She brings a wealth of experience in Classical and Modern dance, as well as an extensive understanding in Dancer Body Maintenance and Injury Management. She is so excited to be able to join the Academy Family on a permanent basis!

Miss Samara Bugden: Miss Samara will be teaching some of our Jazz classes this year. We are so excited to have her on board at The Academy. Miss Samara is an accomplished teacher, and is currently completing a degree in Physical Education and Dance.

And of course, we welcome back our "old" teachers:

Miss Jo: teaching ballet, jazz, Wigglebugs & Hip Hop. Miss Joanna Mouhtar is holds an RAD Teaching Diploma, which entailed 2 years of study at Tertiary level. Her students have all excelled in their exam results and her choreographic abilities have been well received in the competitive Eisteddfod arena.

Miss Cody: teaches Tap, Ballet and Jazz. Miss Cody Poole undertook most of her teacher training in the UK with the RAD and ISTD. Continuing her training in Australia in all dance genres, she is presently attending university studying to become a High School Teacher specializing in Dance. Cody finished student teacher training at The Academy.

Miss Eloise: Eloise Evans is a professional singer, working mainly in the operatic style. She is versatile in all styles of voice training, and takes private singing & piano lessons on Saturdays at The Academy.

Mr Robert: Another teacher who has completed most of his training with The Academy, Robert Thompson has also workshopped with numerous world renowned choreographers and has appeared in numerous theatrical productions. He presently teaches Hip Hop & Jazz at The Academy

Miss Amanda: We are excited to welcome back Miss Amanda who will be taking our little ones in a few classes. Amanda has just completed her Adv Foundation Ballet exam with a fantastic result! She is both a beautiful dancer and a wonderful teacher.

Mr Steven: We welcome back Mr Steven who will be taking several classes over several age groups. He has a wealth of knowledge in so many areas of the performing arts, and is a fantastic teacher in every right. He is teaching Acrobatics, Contemporary, Jazz, and Hip Hop.

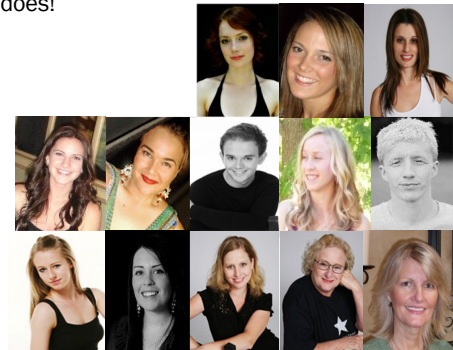
Miss Brittany: Miss Brittany is taking our little ones on Saturdays. She is a wonderful asset to the studio and creates a wonderful bond with her students, as well as helping them to grow substantially in their dancing.

Miss Jess Presti: We are excited to have the lovely Miss Jess Presti back this year teaching Ballet. She is a beautiful dancer, having studied at the McDonald College, and excels in teaching technique and dance appreciation.

Miss Danielle: We are delighted to welcome Miss Danielle back to The Academy with her permanent classes after an extended maternity leave. Danielle has danced professionally in Canada, USA, and Australia, and has a wealth of knowledge to pass on to our students in Ballet, Modern & Jazz styles.

Miss Pauline: As our most senior teacher, Pauline holds the highest Tertiary degree in Dance - a B.Phil (Hons) - which is recognised throughout the world. She has also been awarded a Life Membership to the RAD. She has been an examiner for Ballet, Modern, Jazz & Tap.

And although not a teacher, we cannot forget to welcome back the amazing Gunilla! She can always be found behind the front desk, giving helpful advice on all Academy matters, and taking fees, etc. Without her, The Academy would not run as well as it does!



CONGRATULATIONS!

A few of our students are leaving us this year to study full time dance at various institutions. We are so proud of them all and wish them all the best for their studies in 2012!

Anabella Sammut: National College of Dance, Newcastle

Katie-Anne Clarke: Ev&Bow, Sydney

Georgia Ellery: The McDonald College of the Arts, Strathfield



Picture Right: Anna Hawkins

PAYMENT OPTION - Direct Bank Transfer

Very important: Please ensure that you use the **student's name** as your customer reference, otherwise we have **no** way of knowing who the payment is for.

Academy bank details are as follows:

NAME: Performing Arts Macarthur Pty Ltd
BANK: ANZ
BSB: 012556
ACCT #: 261617201

OTHER PAYMENT OPTIONS

You may of course still pay via the following methods:

Cheque – In person at reception, via post or in the cheque drop box located on the right hand corner of the front counter
Cash/Eftpos – In person at reception
Credit Card – In person at reception or over the phone

Academy postal address: PO BOX 7185, Mount Annan, NSW, 2570

Bring a Friend Week (Week 9)

During Term 1, The Academy will be holding a **"Bring a Friend"** week. During this week, certain classes will be available to try ONE extra class from the list, at no cost. If your child has ONE friend that he/she would like to bring to any of the listed classes, they are both welcome, again at no cost. The friend will not need any special clothing, etc, but can wear shorts, top and bare feet.

Forms will be available at the front desk before the end of Week 6, and will need to be returned one week prior to the **"Bring a Friend"** week.

The classes that are able to be attended are as follows;

- Wigglebugs
- Beginners-Grade 4 All styles
- All Hip Hop
- All open classes
- No Ballet above Grade 4 level allowed, this is due to the high level of technical proficiency required.



Do you have a friend you would like to bring along to try a class for FREE?



DID YOU KNOW?

Are you aware of all the genres that can be learnt at The Academy? As well as Wigglebugs, Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop and Modern dance styles, we also provide the opportunity to learn Drama, Musical Theatre, Acrobatics, Singing and Piano.

Singing lessons are available as private lessons (1 person), and also for the younger children, there is the option to learn with a friend. This will halve the cost and is available for those children aged from 5 years up to 10 years. These can be booked in for Saturdays. There are only a few places available, so book quickly to avoid disappointment.

Private Piano lessons are available on a Saturday, and are 1/2 hour long. Cost is \$37.00. Bookings are essential, and there are only a few places left so don't miss out.

Dance Shop



UPSTAIRS
OPENING HOURS

MONDAY	4PM-6:30PM
TUESDAY	10AM-12PM & 4PM-6:30PM
WEDNESDAY	4:15PM-6:30PM
THURSDAY	4PM-6:30PM
FRIDAY	CLOSED
SATURDAY	10:15AM-2:30PM

TEL: 0246 470255

NEW DANCEWEAR SHOP 2012!

We are excited to announce the opening of our new dance supplies shop located on Level 1 of The Academy. The shop will stock items such as ballet skirts, leotards, ballet shoes, tap & jazz shoes, dance bags, tights and more! The items will be at cheaper prices than most dance suppliers in the area. Feel free to come and have a look (or stock up for the new year) where Nerilee or Jessica can help you with any queries, fittings or purchases!

GROOMING - part of learning Dance is the discipline of being well groomed for ALL classes: correct coloured leotard, correct shoes, hair in a bun.

The Academy believes that students need to be encouraged to not only lead a healthy lifestyle, but also to take pride in their achievements and their appearance. Grooming for class is an important part of dance training, encouraging personal discipline and self-esteem. Students are expected to come to ballet class wearing correct uniform with hair in a bun, covered by a hair net;

all other dance classes should have hair securely tied back off the face; short hair can be held off the face with a headband. Please ensure that your child is punctual to all classes & dressed appropriately. Socks or stockings must be worn with shoes at all times. Appropriate shoes must be worn to all classes.



NOT like this!



Like This!

Please attend all classes groomed neatly with hair in a bun & in correct coloured uniform

BECOME OUR FRIEND ON FACEBOOK!

The Academy is delighted to be part of the online networking site, Facebook! You can Find us by searching for “The Academy of Performing Arts Macarthur” and sending a request. There are constant updates on upcoming events and achievements.

NOTE TO ALL STUDENTS WHO HAVE FACEBOOK THEMSELVES

If a teacher has not accepted your friend request, it is not because they don't like you! Due to child duty of care guidelines, teachers at the Academy are unable to have students as friends until the student is 18 years of age. This ensures the safety and privacy of both parties. However they are more than happy to communicate with you via the studio's account .



Pijama Dress up Week!

Week 5



February 27th - March 3rd

- Wigglebugs & Beginners
- Pre-Primary & Primary
- Grade 1, Grade 2 & Grade 3
- 6-8yrs Hip Hop

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

www.apamacarthur.com.au

Have you seen our updated Web Page? Check it out! Keep up to date. Visit us online today. Check our links, newsletters and leave us a message in the guest book!

Term 2, 2012

START

23/4/2012

FINISH

30/6/2012