

Autumn Term 2013 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Children

Now we are settled into the Autumn term here is a look ahead to a few of the events that will be taking place at the Academy this academic year.

Before we start, a quick reflection on the huge success that was 'The Show'... It took a while, but I think we have all now recovered from "A Step In Time". I must take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped make it happen. So many willing and enthusiastic parents, ex-students, current students and family and friends made sure this show ran smoothly and I really do appreciate all of your efforts. While I have received many cards and comments on what a roaring success it was, we were very aware that it was just too long! Trying to fit 300 children on stage and give everyone the time they deserve is now impossible. So we have a provisional plan in place to make sure we don't end up with a another 'epic' length show!!

'A Step In Time' Photographs

Beautiful on stage photographs are now available to view and purchase from TAPA. Please visit <http://www.templeacademy.co.uk/TAPASHOWPHOTOS/>

All images will be supplied digitally @ £5 each at 72 dpi – screen resolution (email/on screen/facebook) or £9 each for full resolution at 300 dpi (for developing/printing).

Photo sales are cash only. Please note the numbers you require, your name, email address and the payment in an envelope marked "Show Photos" – with your name also on the front.

Discounts are available for 5 or more images. Please email showphotos@templeacademy.co.uk if you have any further questions.

'A Step In Time' DVD

We have placed the first order for the DVD's and they should be with us soon. If you still haven't ordered yours please put your name on the list in reception along with payment of £15.99 in cash or cheques made payable to TAPA.

I think it makes sense to lay out the plans for the next four years as we have lots of exciting things planned and in that, I will include the plan for the show 2015.

2013/14 - We will mainly be focusing on exam work within the ballet, tap, modern and drama classes with assessments for singing, jazz and contemporary classes. The TAPA Theatre Company will be continuing with their schedule of performances each term under new directorship (please see teacher news).

The drama and singing classes will join with the TTC to produce a Musical Theatre variety show whereas the dance classes will have an open week at the end of the Autumn term for parents to view the work they have covered, plus (drum roll please) the Choreographic Competition returns (we know some of you already have music ready!!!!). In summary the year will bring TAPA students the opportunity to take exams, perform, compete and most importantly, grow as performers.

Term Dates 2013/14

October Half Term 28th Oct – 1st Nov (Inc)

End of Term Saturday 14th December

Spring Term –

Monday 6th January – Saturday 5th April

Half Term – 17th – 22nd February (inc)

Summer Term –

Monday 22nd April – Saturday 12th July

Half Term – 26th May – 1st June (inc)

2014/15 - We hope to start with exam sessions during the Autumn term, depending on numbers, and then we will launch in to our biennial show but with a difference.

We are going to double cast some of the younger children in the show!! So for example; in the last show we had Primary ballet classes from Tuesdays and Wednesdays performing 'Rainbow' and Primary ballet from Mondays and Saturdays performing 'Count on Me' With the new way of working, we would create one dance (for example 'Rainbow') and ALL Primary classes would learn and perform this piece (with varying choreography if ability differs) but take part in two performances each. We would extend our time in the theatre to four shows in total.

Senior students will continue to perform in all four shows which will be a nice privilege for them, and something to work towards for the younger children. It will significantly lighten the load on us (as show producers), the chaperones and also (most importantly) the younger children. This way, we will allow ourselves to carry on producing unique shows but with a lot less stress for all involved!!

Nearer the time we will have worked out specific details so everyone will know, from the beginning, which two shows their children are performing in so can plan tickets/lifts/schedules accordingly. All very exciting and hopefully it means the teachers won't resign!!! (It's hard work!!)

2015/16 - This year will be a complete mixture! We are hoping to accomplish the following:

One set of exams for those who takes a syllabus class and are ready to do so.

A competition of some description be it in-house or with another company.

A West End show with Mardi Gras Productions similar to the Christmas 2012 show at Her Majesty's Theatre.

And finally....

A trip to Disneyland Paris (our third visit!) to perform a twenty minute showcase*

2016/17 - Unbelievably this year will be the 20th anniversary of my school. I took over The Snowden Dance Studios in September 1997 (my former evening dance school) just a few years after graduating as a qualified teacher. With around 90 students and absolutely no idea what I was letting myself in for. I didn't realise at the time that it wasn't a job I was taking on but a completely new way of life. The past (currently 16) years have all been determined by the business and it has had highs and lows, pros and cons, indescribably good days and absolutely dreadful days but I wouldn't change a thing. The friendships I have made throughout my time as Principal with various people who have spent time at the school has made my life a blessed one.

So, to celebrate this achievement, we are going to put on a spectacular one-off show at a prestigious West End theatre (tbc). We will be inviting past students and teachers back to either participate or be part of the celebration as it is YOU who have made the school what it is.

Details are still being confirmed as it is four years away but I do know that it will be a very special event to mark a very special milestone.

Autumn Term Teachers

Monday: Miss Emma and Miss Nicki, Charlie Bruce

Tuesday: Miss Sophie and Miss Emily

Wednesday: Miss Sophie and Miss Emily

Thursday: Miss Sophie and Miss Nicki

Friday: Miss Sophie, Miss Claire and Miss Nicki

Saturday: Miss Emma and Miss Nicki

Theatre Company: Aylssa Kyria and Katy Day

This term we have said a sad goodbye to Miss Katie as she takes on more work with her own business. We are also sorry to say goodbye to Jonathan and Holly after just one term with TTC. They have both been offered work over Christmas and will need to move away to take up their new positions.

TAPA Agency

Following two days of auditions the Agency Directors now have around 20 children on the books. Auditions are coming up and children are busy already!

New Classes

We have added the following sessions to the timetable this term. If your child would like to come along and try any of the below please contact reception or email Miss Sophie at sophie@templeacademy.co.uk

MONDAY

Mini Tap & Modern 3.45pm

Pre Primary Ballet 4.15pm

Pre Primary Tap & Modern 4.45pm

FRIDAY

Babies ballet (2-3yrs of age) 9.30am

Student Success

Congratulations to all the GCSE and A level students on your achievements over the summer. You really are such a clever bunch!!

A HUGE congratulation to Scarlett Brooks-Read for successfully auditioning for this years panto at The Stag Theatre. You can see Scarlett perform with Alan Kennedy (Dr Karl from Neighbours!) and Andy Abraham (X Factor) in Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood from 7th December to 5th January.

TAPA's going viral (we hope)

On Saturday October 19th , we will be shooting our first video advert. This advert will be shot to go on our brand new website to promote what we do here. It's going to be shot DURING our usual Saturday morning madness so please can we ask everyone who attends classes on that day to come looking as lovely as usual with neat hair, full uniform and most importantly – big smiles!! More details will be sent to Saturday classes this week.

Have a fantastic term and keep working hard!

Best wishes

Miss Nicki

* Spaces are limited and will be offered to the students to who we feel will gain The most from this often gruelling but rewarding experience. We will only take fully committed, hard working children as places on this showcase stage are very competitive and ere is a tough audition process to be accepted.