



January  
2012

*Dance Desires*  
school of dance

ASPIRE TO YOU DANCE DESIRES!

NEWSLETTER

## Welcome Back to Term 1!

I truly hope that everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday filled with lots of friends, family and fun! A big WELCOME to all the new students in 2012, I am sure you will settle in very quickly and make many new friends. Please ensure you read through this newsletter as there are many important dates and details to be noted. I am looking forward to getting back into teaching and seeing all those friendly faces again.

Principal  
Alanna Partridge

### TRIAL CLASSES

Over the next two weeks there will be a lot of new children trialling classes, it will require patience and understanding from both the students and parents. We hope to have all new students settled into classes as soon as possible to minimize the disruption. Parents wishing to discuss their child's class options can contact Miss Alanna.

### TEACHING STAFF 2012

I would like to welcome back our teaching staff for 2012 Principal Miss Alanna Partridge, Miss Elena Ziebel, Miss Jessica Hutchinson and Miss Kathryn Noble. These teachers bring a wealth of knowledge and passion to every class they teach which is evident in the strong relationships and personalized training they offer to Dance Desires students. Miss Alanna has personally trained each of her teachers for extended periods throughout their dance training. All of the Dance Desires staff have experience in the varying genres of dance and have participated in multiple dance and teaching

examinations. I would also like to welcome back our assistant teachers, Miss Samantha, Miss Eleanor, Miss Zoe, and Miss Angelina.

### ENROLMENT FORMS

ALL students, existing and new, need to complete an enrolment form. Please ensure that all enrolment forms are returned by the first class of term 1. Students who are participating in class/es without an enrolment form are not covered by insurance and are at risk if we do not have their emergency contact and medical information. Please find the spare enrolment forms attached to the notice board in the foyer or download them from our website [www.dancedesires.com](http://www.dancedesires.com) under Newsletter, Forms & Handbooks.

### OFFICE HOURS

Please feel free to contact Miss Alanna on 0438 305 440 Monday – Friday between 10am and 3pm or email [dancedesires@gmail.com](mailto:dancedesires@gmail.com) anytime. Miss Alanna will not be answering her phone outside these hours, however feel free to leave a message and she will return your call a.s.a.p.

### CONTACT DETAILS

Phone: 0438 305 440  
Email: [dancedesires@gmail.com](mailto:dancedesires@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.dancedesires.com](http://www.dancedesires.com)  
Office Address: 30 Altair St Springvale South 3172

### TERM DATES 2012

Term 1: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January to Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March  
Term 2: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April – Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June  
Term 3: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July - Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September  
Term 4: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October – Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December



### FEES

A fees invoice will be issued to each family of Dance Desires in the first 2 weeks of term. Please refer to the due date and payment options located at the top of the invoice. A couple of important notes:

- All cheques and cash MUST be placed in a clearly labelled envelope with the students name, class and exact amount enclosed
- Internet transfers MUST be accompanied with the student's full name and code located at the top of the invoice
- Your invoice also acts as your receipt. Please keep the top section of the invoice for your personal records and hand the bottom slip into Miss Alanna.

## GROOMING

Students are encouraged to have their hair in a ballet bun for all classes. The ballet bun assists in keeping the hair out of the student's eyes and face, and allows the student to execute particular dance moves such as pirouettes and jumps with freedom of movement. Students will also behave and feel like a dancer if they are appropriately attired. If you have never done a ballet bun before or you need some refreshing please refer to the instructions in the foyer of the Dance Desires Studio or to our website, [www.dancedesires.com](http://www.dancedesires.com).

## GROOMING AWARDS

To encourage good grooming behaviors in the students, Dance Desires offers a grooming award at the end of each Term. The recipient of this award has their name published in the newsletter and receives a small grooming gift which is presented to them in class.

## NON UNIFORM ITEMS

Students will not be allowed to wear any non-uniform items into class. Dance Desires uniform has been carefully selected so that teachers are able to see that correct technique and muscle alignment are being taught. Sticking to the uniform requirement in the lower levels also helps to avoid jealousy. Non-uniform items include:

- Bike shorts
- ¾ leggings
- Baggy Jumpers or T-shirts

## 2<sup>ND</sup> HAND UNIFORM

Now is the time to get the children to try on all their shoes & attire to ensure it fits. As you are aware students grow so rapidly over the Christmas break and they are sure to have grown out of their shoes. Don't miss out on the mad rush for second hand uniforms in the first 2 weeks – be well prepared:

Please place any items you wish to sell in the second hand tub. Ensure your items are together, clearly labeled with your name, contact information and asking price. Miss Alanna will leave the box out for parents to look through however due to her teaching commitment's will not be able to assist you with fitting.



## GRADE 1 CHARACTER SHOES

All grade 1 dance students who are now attending twice a week will require Character shoes. These are black canvas shoes with a small heel. These shoes will be used for a portion of the student's ballet class and will be worn in their ballet exam. 'Character' is a style of dance that is based on tradition ethnic dances such as Russian, Hungarian, & Polish. There are particular steps within this style that cannot be performed successfully without the character shoes. Students should endeavor to have their character shoes no later than WEEK 4 of TERM 1, however the sooner they have them the better. If you are lucky enough to get a pair second hand snap them up while you can. \*Grade 1 students who are only attending once a week will not require these shoes as they will not be participating in a ballet exam.

## SUMMER HEAT

With the warming weather now settling in, we would encourage all parents to provide their child with a drink bottle. Please give the children WATER only, as fizzy drinks and cordial only make the children thirsty. There is also a kitchen where children can refill their drink bottles. It is also best not to wear dance tights in this hot weather as children can quickly overheat. Please ensure that the children have ballet socks or anklets to wear inside their dancing shoes to avoid friction on the back of the heel.

# School Rules relating to Neighbors

## IMPORTANT RULES

- All Dance Desires families must be respectful of our surrounding neighbors and leave quietly and promptly after your class is finished. Please do not allow students to climb on neighboring fences or torment their pets. Please make every endeavor to keep noise to a minimum.
- Parents need to apply to all parking rules and restrictions in the surrounding area. Please do not park in or across neighboring houses/driveways, even if you are only dropping your child off. This is to be both courteous to our neighbors and to ensure the safety of your child/ren. Neighbors have been instructed to take the number plates of any offending vehicle and report them to the police so that a fine can be issued.
- Please do not enter into an argument or dispute with our neighbors and always ensure you are respectful of their property and belongings, regardless of their behavior.

## TEACHER TRAINING

During the 2012 school holidays Miss Alanna and Miss Jessica attended the S.F.D Convention to brush up on their syllabus knowledge and teaching skills. They enjoyed this experience and had lots of fun catching up with teachers from all across Victoria.

Miss Alanna also spent an intensive week in Sydney learning the new Grade 1, 2 & 3 R.A.D syllabus. This exciting new update, brings a breath of fresh air to the art of ballet. The music is a beautiful selection of orchestrated music and the steps are designed to help children stay inspired while encouraging creative and individual thinkers. Although this new syllabus will not be examined until 2013, you will start to see glimmers of the new work throughout the childrens regular classes.

## EXCITING NEWS

For those of you who may not know Miss Alanna has been given the honour of joining the S.F.D Examining Board. She will be examining the S.F.D Dance Fusion Syllabus. Miss Alanna was also given the opportunity to teach at the S.F.D January Convention. This is a very important progression in Miss Alanna's career and also reflects well on Dance Desires and its students.



## PRIVATE LESSONS

Students who are involved in a regular Private Lesson – please note that your private lessons will commence the 3rd week of Term 1- this allows Miss Alanna to settle into regular class and welcome new students in this time. Please refer to the Private Lesson Timetable on the Dance Desires website.

## OVERDUE FEES

There are unfortunately parents who have still not finalized their accounts from last year – these accounts need to be paid before your child/ren start in term 1 of 2012. Any overdue fees in 2012 will be charged a late fee of \$20 – which will be strictly adhered to.

## THANKYOU

A very sincere thank you to all the parents, families and students who placed so much thought and time into the beautiful gifts I received at the end of year concert. The gifts have all taken pride and place in my home and are a constant reminder of the wonderful students and families that make up Dance Desires.



## 2011 EXAM RESULTS

Some students have still not collected their exam results from 2011. Could you please collect these from Miss Alanna during the first week of term. This includes students who participated in exams late in 2011.

## CONCERT DATES 2012

Please ensure the following dates are listed in your diaries and on your family calendar.

**Photo Day:** Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November (TBC)

**Theatre Rehearsal:** Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November

**Concert:** Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

## STUDIO CLEANER

We are currently looking for a studio cleaner. Your duties would include tasks such as vacuuming, mirror cleaning, mopping, sweeping, and general tidying. It is approximately 2hrs a week and days and times are pretty flexible however most of the work will need to be completed outside of class time. The studio cleaner will receive a significant reduction on their child/rens fees. If you are interested please contact Miss Alanna.

## COSTUME HELPERS

As you can imagine there is a huge amount of cleaning and organizing after the 2011 end of year concert. Many of the costumes have still not been counted and packed appropriately. We are currently looking for volunteers to help count, fold and pack costumes. Unlike the studio cleaner responsibilities, this can be done while your child is in class. Many hands will make light work. If you can help with this process please arrive 10 minutes before your child's class, so that Miss Alanna can explain what needs doing. This is very simple work, but too much for Miss Alanna to do on her own. Any help will be appreciated.

## MISSING COSTUMES

There is a complete set of costumes missing after the 2011 concert. They are Dance Desires Kinder Dance 2, 'Sunshine, Lollypops and Rainbow' costumes. A bright pink leotard with multi coloured fluoro tutu skirt. If by any chance you took these home or you know where they are please let Miss Alanna know, as she is extremely worried.

