

April Update (1)

I hope this email finds you well and rested after a beautiful sunny Easter Weekend.

As the Summer Term starts up next week, we are introducing a reduced timetable (attached) for classes Grade 1 and above, *excluding* Pointe, Higher grade and Vocational ballet classes and Contemporary Jazz. We have tried to keep classes at their usual time or thereabouts, but have reduced the duration to 30 minutes. Modern Theatre classes will be focusing on stretching and strengthening exercises and ballet will concentrate on the barre and other more static elements of the class. Therefore for ballet a chair or other surface at an appropriate height will be needed to act as a barre and the camera will need to be pointed at hip height.

Some classes are not being offered online as we feel that the value of the classes would be very limited.

For this first half term we are encouraging Vocational Ballet classes and Grades 6, 7 and 8 to keep syllabus knowledge current using the syllabus resources available via the RAD App or the RAD online shop and safely practicing at home. We would also encourage you to maintain ballet fitness using online workouts e.g. Lazy Dancer on YouTube, www.breakingballet.com or Ruth and Kate Ballet Live on Facebook live.

We hope that students who attend our Pointe classes have been able to take home the strengthening exercises we practice in class, the warm up exercises we do at the barre and tips for wearing in pointe shoes and can safely and carefully practice at home.

If anyone without a timetabled class has any particular queries regarding syllabus or technique please contact us to arrange a private class.

Our classes will be conducted via Zoom which I am sure many of you are familiar with by now and will be invoiced as a block of 5 classes at £3 per 30 minute class, £4 per Adult Tap and Jazz class. At half term we will be reviewing the situation and will keep you posted of any changes.

If you would like to join a class please email us at info@harpenddance.com to reserve your place and receive the link to join. Classes will start Monday 20 April and the timetable may change dependant on numbers signing up.

Due to Safeguarding concerns please DO NOT pass class links on to ANYONE. All class applications must come straight to us.

I am sure many of you have found online classes to enjoy over the holidays and we would encourage you to share your recommendations on our Facebook group. We would also love for our students to be enjoying learning about dance from watching classic Musicals – again feel free to ask for recommendations via email or our Facebook group - and would love to see any dances choreographed in response to the music or styles shown in the films. One of our ex pupils sent a video of her choreography from Hong Kong and it was so lovely to see!

SHOW UPDATE

Due to the uncertainties regarding when big gatherings will be allowed again, along with a delayed exam schedule due to missed classes and cancelled exam sessions, it is looking likely that our 2021 show will be moving to March 2022, with an additional Leavers Showcase in July 2021 so that those who would have been enjoying their last show in 2021 don't miss out.

Thank you to everyone for your support as we try to accept and adapt in a time of ever changing deadlines and restrictions. We will dance together again soon!



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