



**Welcome 2020!** T1 Inspirational Quote: Dance training can't be separate from life training. Everything that comes into our life is training. The qualities we admire in great dancing are the same we admire in human beings: honesty, courage, fearlessness, generosity, wisdom, depth, compassion & humanity" ~ Alonzo King

**Happy new year!...** a very warm welcome to all our new students and your families, and welcome back to everyone returning to their 2020 dancing year. We are really excited about everything this year has in store for us and can't wait to share it with you.

**The L.O.D Dancing Year...** For those of you who are new to the Studio, here's a brief run down for the year ahead: Our Ballet, Jazz and Tap students take exams in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the year whilst Contemporary students have an informal internal assessment mid-year. This is a wonderful way for students to focus and set goals and gain a real sense of achievement from their efforts and new-found skills. From there, we then turn our focus to the Production - a true highlight of the dancing year for all at the Studio! All students are expected to participate in both. Our Hip Hop & Commercial Dance classes have a more relaxed approach, where the focus is on trying different styles and learning new choreography. These classes won't have formal assessments but will of course get to show what they have achieved when they perform in the show.

**Teachers...** This year, alongside Miss Natalie and Miss Marina we continue to have Miss Milvia, Miss Kim & Miss Beth (Sammons) teaching. We will see more of Miss Beth as she takes on the Young Adult & Senior Tap classes along with the Hip Hop classes. At prizegiving we said very fond farewells to some of our longstanding teachers: Miss Gabby, Miss Emma, Miss Shenna & Miss Beth (Edridge) who are all moving from Wellington for various new adventures, and we wish them all the best. It is also with great sadness that we say goodbye to Miss Fiona. Fiona has just been offered a job in Melbourne, which takes her closer to family, and she begins it this month. We will so miss her but wish her all the best on her new career path. We are however thrilled to introduce our new teachers – Miss Tayla who will be taking over our Commercial and Contemporary classes, and Miss Megan who will be teaching tap alongside Miss Beth. We welcome back Miss Dani who will be helping in the senior jazz classes when her work commitments allow. We are also really excited that we will be having a lot of our senior assistants back on board, including Miss Adelene, Miss Emily, Miss Emma, Miss Grace & Miss Keisha.

**Over the holidays...**

- **Teachers:** Marina, Milvia and Natalie all attended the RAD Shaping Bodies Shaping Minds Conference in Melbourne. This was a fascinating and hugely informative weekend on best dance practises which they are all very excited to be sharing what they have learnt with students.
- **Studio Clean Up:** Our studios will hopefully feel fresh and clean after a big spring clean over the break.

**TERM 1 IMPORTANT DATES...**

<b>Term 1 Dates All Venues:</b>	<b>Mon 10 Feb – Thurs 9 Apr</b>
<b>Term 1 fees due:</b>	<b>Are now due</b>
<b>Buy &amp; Sell Day:</b>	<b>Sat 15 Feb</b>
<b>Phoenix Weekend:</b>	<b>Last Wkend T1 Hols: 25 &amp; 26 Apr</b>
<b>Production '20 Studio rehearsals:</b>	<b>Sun 22 Nov &amp; Sun 29 Nov</b>
<b>Production '20 Theatre rehearsals:</b>	<b>Thurs 3 &amp; Fri 4 Dec</b>
<b>Production '20 Shows:</b>	<b>Sat 5 &amp; Sun 6 Dec</b>

**Dates to Remember**

(please retain for future reference)

**2020 Term Dates:**

**T1: Mon 10 Feb – Thu 9 April**  
**T2: Tues 28 April - Sat 4 July**  
**T3: Mon 20 July - Sat 26 Sept**  
**T4: Mon 12 Oct - Sun 6 Dec**

**Holiday Programmes:**

**April Hols:**

**Ballet Vocational Exam School:**  
**2nd week: 20-24 April incl.**

**Phoenix Dance Workshop:**

**April 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> last weekend of the holidays)**

**July Hols:**

**Jazz/Ballet/Tap Exam School:**  
**2nd week: 13- 17 July**  
**AJDA Senior Congress:**  
**11-13 July**

**NZSD Winter School:**

**6 – 10 July**

**Exam Dates:**

**Jazz Exams: Term 3**  
**Entry Closing Date: TBC**

**Adv Jazz/Tap Exams: Term 3**

**Entry Closing Date: TBC**

**Ballet Exams:**

**Vocational Levels (Voc)**  
**May Voc: 4- 7 May approx.**  
**Closing Date: 27 Feb**

**Sept Voc: 1 Aug–14 Aug approx.**

**Closing Date: 14 May**

**Graded Exams: Term 3**

**August TBC**  
**Closing Date: TBC**

**End of Year Production:**

**Te Whaea Theatre**  
**Sunday Rehearsals: 22 Nov & 29 Nov**  
**Thursday Rehearsals: 3 Dec**  
**Friday Dress Rehearsal: 4 Dec**  
**Performances: 2 shows each day Sat 5 / Sun 6 Dec**



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**Term Fees...** Fees are due by Jan 24. Please login to find out your current balance. A couple of things to note: As per last year there is a \$20 on-off non-refundable registration fee which is charged in the 1<sup>st</sup> term of enrolment each Calendar Year. Easter Friday & Saturday classes that do not have an alternative class option available on the Timetable has been credited. Also due to an anomaly in our admin system for some students' manual adjustments need to be loaded for the correct fees to be charged. These can only be done after enrolment is completed so we apologise if the update has occurred after you have paid your fees. Any overpayment will sit as a credit on your portal balance to go against future fees. Balances still outstanding at the beginning of term will incur the 10% admin fee.

**Movitae...** We are really happy to be continuing our partnership with Movitae, and has been a fantastic way for students to "take their dance classes home". Every students enrolled at LOD Dance Studios should create their own account. If you haven't already done so, please go to [www.movitae.com](http://www.movitae.com) & email us or check the noticeboard for the Sign-Up code. The annual account fee has been included this year with your registration fee.

**LOD Uniform...** Please refer to the website to make sure all your uniform is current and correct for the new level of your child. Some levels will be going into new uniforms:

- **GRADE 1 BALLETT:** students move from pink into burgundy leotard & will now also need a character skirt & shoes (low heeled).
- **GRADE 3 BALLETT:** students may now wear the Cuban heeled character shoes.
- **DANCE SHORTS & LOD SINGLETTS:** We keep stock of these items for tap, contemporary, commercial & hip hop, and are available for order through your portal.
- **GRADE 5 BALLETT & ELEM 1 JAZZ:** Students move into Navy Leotards which are available from Dance Stop in Lower Hutt or can be ordered via us – see note below.
- **NAVY LEOTARDS/BLACK 7/8 LEGGINGS:** Some stock is available for order through the portal, otherwise we will be doing an order, which you can do at the Buy & Sell (or email us if you can't attend).
- **LET'S DANCE COMBO CLASS:** We have some stock available through the portal, and will do another order also at the Buy and Sell. (again, please email us if you can't attend).
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Please check the buy & sell paragraph below for info about how to purchase new uniform.

A reminder too, particularly in these warmer months, that students should remember to wear deodorant to class (As a rule of thumb this applies to all students 10years+). Jazz Students can wear dance shorts. Bring a bottle of water to class.

**Production 2020...** We have dates for the end of year show this year. It will be Friday 4, Saturday 5 & Sunday 6 Dec (end of week 8). We are in the theatre with rehearsals from Thurs 3 Dec with 2 Sunday rehearsals at the Studio preceding that Sunday 22 & 29 Nov. Please put these dates in your diary.

**Production 2019...** Thank you again to everyone for your help in making the 2019 Production such a success, and a big thank you as always to Infinite Monkeys & Stellar Studios for their continued support of the Studio. Both the photos and online video download are still in the editing process. We will send an email out with info on how to view when they are ready!

**Allergies...** In all our classes we have children who suffer from food allergies, (nuts, eggs, wheat, Kiwifruit to name a few) so please just a gentle reminder to take this into consideration when packing after school snacks.

**Snack Food & Food Packaging at the Studio...** We would really like to promote both healthy snacks and sustainable packaging at the Studio this year. Therefore, we please kindly ask that students try to minimise food packaging of snacks that are bought into the Studio, and we would like to encourage students eating as much healthy food as possible.

**RAD Grade Ballet Exams 2020:** This year marks the Centenary of R.A.D, and as such, there is a number of special events being held to celebrate. One major event being held in the UK in September, means that the scheduling of Term 3 exams has changed for this year only. 2020 RAD exams will instead be in August. To accommodate the significant decrease in preparation time, we will be looking at other ways to ensure students are ready for their exams. One of the ways we are considering is a Holiday Programme in both April as well as the standard programme in July. More info about this will be coming out shortly.



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**Private Lessons and Studio Hire...** Private lessons and personal studio hire and both available throughout the year. These can be a great way to consolidate what has been taught in class or, help a student who is having particular difficulty. Please note, that spaces both with the Studio & teacher availability throughout the year is at a premium, so please contact us well in advance if you would like to book some in.

**No private lessons Week 1 of July Holidays:** With such a busy holiday programme, and a huge workload for our teachers, both that week and then ongoing through Term 3 (& then Term 4!) we will be unable to take private lessons in the first week of the holidays. We need to allow our teachers time to rest & prepare and ensure their wellbeing over the busy period. As such, the Studio will be **fully** closed the first week of the winter break.

While private lessons are a great tool leading into exams, we also feel that they serve best when they are utilised throughout the year, so students have the time to really hone what has been taught both in class and in their one on one time. If students have particular skills they want to hone, or get on top of syllabus work, using a studio for their own practise can be the best way to do this.

Private lessons are \$35 per 1/2hr, \$45 per 3/4hr or \$70 per hr, with discounted rate for multiple bookings. Students can hire a Studio for \$10 per hour during studio opening times, or \$30 outside of business hours.

**Wallace St Road Closure & Parking...** As many of you will already be aware, Wallace St is currently closed due to water mains work, until mid 2020. This may mean increases to traffic flow along Adelaide Road. Please allow some extra time in your travel time, especially if classes fall within peak hour traffic. At this stage, there is no changes to parking on Adelaide Rd, but this may be reassessed depending on the congestion over the affected time period.

Currently, the northbound side of Adelaide Rd is either coupon parking (2hrs free) or 60min parking. The south side is the same, aside from the clearway time: 4pm-6pm weekdays. Parking in the business parks on Broomhedge St is welcome outside of business hours (9am – 5pm). There is also some parking along the adjacent side streets. There is a pedestrian crossing which is helpful, especially with younger children. There is also a pay parking site next to Salvation Coffee. We are confident with enough time there shouldn't be any parking issues for parents.

#### **LOD Term 1 Events:**

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Uniform Buy & Sell Day on Sat 15 February 9am - 11.00am.** We will continue the very successful Buy & Sell day for "near new" 2nd hand uniform. We will be collecting gear during the first week of classes so please bring anything you wish to sell to your first class. We are happy for your child to wear appropriate non-uniform gear during these weeks if you are wishing to check out the buy/sell before purchasing uniform. Apologies to the Saturday parents as you will need to bring any gear into the Studio before your first day of classes.

**What To Do If You Are Selling:** PLACE EACH ITEM IN A SEPARATE PLASTIC BAG WITH YOUR NAME & THE SIZE ON IT. We will price all gear, & anything that doesn't sell we will pass back to the owners after the sale. You are then welcome to list anything in the buy & sell folder in the reception area. We charge a handling fee of \$5 per item sold. Please note we will only take goods that are of good quality, and not overly worn or faded.

**What To Do If You Are Buying:** Come along with your child on **Sat 15 Feb (wk 1 of term) 9am – 11am PLEASE BRING CASH.** As a general guideline, prices will range from \$10 for smaller items to \$40 for larger items.

**New Uniform Purchases:** If you wish to purchase new uniform, we will be offering sizing to order some items, including:

- Lilac leotards and skirts
- Burgundy character skirts
- Navy leotards
- LOD Leggings.
- We will also have some LOD gear available for purchase, including: Singlets, dance shorts/bootlegs, long sleeve tops & hoodies.

- **RNZB Dance Education Events...** The Royal New Zealand Ballet will be offering a number of fantastic events for dance students this term. Of particular interest are the open classes, which are open to classical students from approx. Grade 3 level and above. For full details please go to: <http://rnzb.org.nz/education/for-dancers-3/open-classes/> – book quickly to avoid disappointment!



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**LOD in the community:**

- **Giving Back...**We are really grateful to all our LOD families and the commitment they have to the studio & we are always looking at ways we can give back to our local communities and create networks with other local businesses. If you know of any way we can support your local school or business, whether it be giveaways/gifts for fundraisers, private auctions, fairs or demonstrations at your school or kindy please let us know!
- **Community Notice Board...** If you would like to promote local businesses, fairs or other events, please feel free to utilise this space but please ask us first. In return we would love to be able to have a mention in your School, Kindy, Childcare Centre newsletter or a flyer on their noticeboard, or your work noticeboard.
- **Facebook & Google Reviews/Testimonials...** We are really grateful that our greatest number of new enrolments comes from referrals and word of mouth, and thank you all for your positive feedback both to us and in the community. These testimonials speak volumes to potential new families – if anyone would feel comfortable reviewing us on Facebook or Google we would really value your contributions!
- **Stay Up To Date:** We will regularly update the website, Facebook and Instagram with any studio info. Like or follow us to ensure you stay up to date, and be sure to keep an eye on our website calendar: <http://www.loddance.co.nz/dates/> . All our important studio dates to remember can be found here, and there is the option to export any events straight to your google or icalendar!

**General Studio Info:**

Studios	Dressing Rooms & Toilets:	Parking:	Fees:	Class absences:
We have 3 studios, and classes alternate between them. Parents may view their child's class from the viewing window in Studio 1 or 3. To preserve the dance floor, all tap classes are held in Studio 2.	We have boys & girls dressing rooms off reception. Toilets are communal with the other tenants, so we ask that students refrain from changing in them. We do have some toys kept in the boys dressing room, to entertain younger ones. Please be sure to tidy them away after you leave.	There is limited parking on the left hand side of Broomhedge St. Please mind the business allocated parks, as they do reserve the right to tow anyone in their spaces. There are usually spaces on Adelaide Rd (but check the clearways) or on adjacent streets.	Invoices will be sent out via email over the last week of Jan. The last day for payment is: <b>Fri 24 Jan</b> <b>N.B Internet payments are preferred.</b> Any payments made after Term commencement will incur a 10% admin fee. Full details of our payment methods are available on the website.	Please text if your child is going to be absent from class. See Portal class info for correct teacher: <b>Marina: 027 242 9319</b> <b>Natalie: 021 532 216</b> <b>Milvia: 027 468 0150</b> <b>Kim: 021 102 6122</b> <b>Beth S: 0277471728</b> <b>Tayla:</b>



Here's to a great term of Dancing!  
Marina, Natalie & the L.O.D Staff

