

# Vacani (Clapham)

## School of Dance

Broomwood Methodist Church Hall

### Newsletter – Autumn 2009

#### Term Dates

**Term starts on:** Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September      **Term ends on:** Saturday 12 December 2009  
**Half term will be:** 19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> October

- **No Saturday Pointe Work classes until after half term (see below for explanation)**
- **No ballet class on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September (unless informed otherwise)**

#### Welcome

Welcome back to a new year at the Vacani (Clapham) School of Dance. We hope you all had a wonderful summer, and extend a particularly warm greeting to our new students and their parents.

Overleaf I have listed an exciting diary of events including auditions for the London Children's Ballet production of 'Ballet Shoes'; the Cecchetti Association Choreography Workshop and Competition (many of you will remember we had two cup winners at last years competition); a special workshop for Boys given by Kasper Cornish (well known Principal Ballet Dancer who appeared on Channel 4's 'Faking It' – mild mannered ballet dancer trains to become a mean wrestler).

#### Miss Angelina's Leave

I will be returning to teaching classes in the Spring Term. In the meantime Miss Titania, who teaches at my Swiss Cottage Saturday School, and also teaches Modern Dance and Tap on Mondays has kindly agreed to teach for me on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. I was delighted when Miss Titania accepted the position as she is in great demand and is a wonderful teacher. Additionally Miss Stephanie Rossiter (aka Miss Steph) who is a trainee teacher and has worked as an assistant at my Swiss Cottage School for over two years has also kindly agreed to assist for us on Tuesdays and Thursdays and Miss Stephanie Lansdell will be assisting on Wednesdays. I will be in communication with my Vacani team on a daily basis – they will keep me informed of day to day news and will do their best to deal with any queries you may have at the beginning of term, and I will be popping in regularly to keep involved in the children's progress.

I'm delighted to say that Mrs Loftie's Thursday classes will be carrying on as usual.

#### Important Changes to Timetable for Autumn Term

- Miss Lizzie is performing in Carmen at the Royal Opera House this term. Due to busy rehearsal schedules Miss Lizzie is **only able to resume Saturday Pointe Work Classes after the Half Term**
- Miss Titania has a prior commitment to a performance project on the following dates. We are able to cover all the dates apart from Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September. Only classes on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September will be cancelled this term.
- **September:**  
Monday 28 - Replacement modern teacher  
Tuesday 29 - Mrs Loftie will be teaching – Intermediate Foundation pupils should attend the earlier St 7 class at 5.45pm  
**Wednesday 30 – Classes cancelled – you will not be charged for this class**
- **October**  
Tuesday 6 - Mrs Loftie will be teaching – Intermediate Foundation pupils should attend the earlier St 7 class at 5.45pm

Congratulations

- Over 500 children from around the UK auditioned for a place on the Cecchetti Associates Programme. I am delighted and proud to announce that six of our pupils were offered a place this year:  
**Breagha Campbell, Cecily Crawford, Leonora Monson, Lila Ovington, Ophelie Cohen, Diona Fona**
- I am also pleased to announce that two pupils gained places at the renowned vocational dance schools:  
**Arts Educational, Tring and English National Ballet School**
- I would like to congratulate all the pupils who passed their ballet examination last term, particularly those candidates who undertook the challenge of taking their Grade exams which are extremely hard to pass.

Invoices - Fee Payment and Half a term's notice in writing

Thank you to all of the parents who pay their fees on time (before the start of term). Vacani has to cover costs including hall fees, teachers and pianist fees which are payable in advance, and your prompt payment is vital. As I am sure you will appreciate, chasing payments takes up bookkeeping time and costs. Unfortunately due to such a large number of late payments our accountant has **introduced a £10 surcharge for payments made after the half term**. Please ensure, therefore, that payment is made promptly. Please could you also remember that if you do wish to withdraw your child we require **half a term's notice in writing**. This is extremely important to us as we do need sufficient time to plan registers, class numbers and inform children on waiting lists.

The Cecchetti Society  
**Choreographic Competition**  
Ages 7 – 18 years  
Solos – Duets – Trios – Groups

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2009**  
**Cecil Sharp House**  
**2 Regents Park Road, London NW1**

We are keen to encourage children to explore the field of choreography. If your child would like to take part please download the application form and competition rules from [www.vacani.com](http://www.vacani.com).

The closing date for application is 9<sup>th</sup> October  
The application form requires Miss Angelina's signature and only choreographies of the highest standard will be allowed to enter.  
Children interested in taking part should start choosing their music and start rehearsing very soon.

**Swine Flu**

If you suspect that your child has been in contact with swine flu please do not let them attend classes. We intend to keep classes running throughout the term but should we have to cancel classes as a result of swine flu we regret we will not be able to refund fees.

The Cecchetti Centre  
**A Special Workshop for Boys**  
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October – 2pm to 5pm  
Held at Dance Attic, Fulham SW6 1LY

**Kasper Cornish**

Principal dancer and Choreographer  
This workshop is offered to boys aged 8 to 13 years working at a minimum of Standard or Grade 2  
Fee: £25  
Closing date for application 20<sup>th</sup> September

**London Children's Ballet - Ballet Shoes**

The LCB is looking for 50 keen dancers of all shapes and sizes, aged 9 -14 (boys 9 -16) to dance in LCB's new production of *Ballet Shoes* in the West End in **April 2010**. The ballet offers a truly special chance to perform as part of a professional production with an orchestra. There are many challenging roles for boys and girls with great scope for beautiful classical dancing and an opportunity to make new friends. Only a small costume contribution is requested with scholarships offered in cases of need. All newcomers welcome!

**Special Search: An exceptional 8 year old girl with red hair would be considered for the part of Posy**  
**Application forms can be downloaded from the LCB website [www.londonchildrensballet.com](http://www.londonchildrensballet.com) and must be submitted by THURSDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2009**

**Angelina Spurrier**  
**Thank you for your co-operation**  
Ballet Director