

OFFICE

Opening hours:
10.00 am - 1.00 pm
(weekdays only)

Personal callers by
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SUMMER TERM STARTS MONDAY 28TH APRIL

HOWEVER, PLEASE NOTE

Chelmer Village classes recommence on 24th April

Springfield classes recommence on 25th April

Dear Parents and Students,

I do hope you have enjoyed a happy and restful Easter, and have been able to make the most of the better weather.

Easter is always a bit of a gastronomic holiday, with hot-cross buns and Easter eggs, and perhaps you need to work off those extra pounds. Mums and dads—please remember that we have some adult classes to which you would be most welcome. Don't let the children have all the fun!

Our last term finished with the usual four days of examinations and I ask you to please be patient for the results. They will be sent to you just as soon as we receive them.

The holiday was quite a short one but we still managed to cram in a great deal of dancing. "Strictly" rehearsals were high on the agenda and we hope all the students have enjoyed working towards this Easter Sunday event.

With regards to classes for the new term, we have moved all those who took examinations up to the next level. Should the class allocated not be convenient please don't hesitate to let us know and we will be pleased to do our best to accommodate you in an alternative class.

The summer term is always a stressful one for our students with GCSE and A Level examinations and I wish everyone success at this busy time. All the teachers look forward to seeing everyone back for the final term of the academic year.

*Elisabeth Swan
Principal*



Please "Like us" on Facebook and "Share" with your friends. Recommendations very welcome



www.facebook.com/WestonSchoolOfDance

New Arrival

Congratulations to **Miss Penny** who gave birth to son, Asher, at 10.52 pm on 9th February, weighing in at 8lb 1oz.



Congratulations

to **Jasmine Bailey** who won the Senior Mabel Ryan Gold Medal last November at the Cecchetti Classical Ballet Awards competition which took place at the Lilian Baylis Theatre at Sadler's Wells in London. Competition was fierce but we are immensely proud of Jasmine who danced brilliantly and was an exceptional ambassador for The Weston.

Performances

Strictly Weston

As this newsletter is going to print almost fifty of our students will be performing at Riverside Ice and Leisure as part of *An Evening with the Stars of Strictly Come Dancing*. Rehearsals took place during the spring half-term and the Easter holiday and the end result is a stunning performance of two items choreographed by Miss Ruth, with the assistance of Miss Marie. Huge thanks to everyone for their time and commitment, and especially to Miss Ruth who has given up much of her holiday to ensure that everything would be as good as it possibly could be. Please go to the School website to read more about this event.

Arts Festival

Some of our students (and teachers) have been working exceptionally hard of late, rehearsing for various performances for which The Weston were invited to take part. A Community Arts Festival was held at St John's Church in Old Moulsham in March and a number of our senior students entertained a small audience with a variety of dances. Thank you, girls, for giving up your time - it is much appreciated.

Zoodies and Trackies

We are delighted to introduce our new range of outer garments, printed with the school logo. Zoodies (zipped hoodies), track pants, t-shirts and vests (for seniors) are now all available to order via the School website. Made of high quality fabric, the zoodies and trackies are navy, printed in light blue. Adult Zoodies are Smartphone compatible! White cotton-lycra t-shirts, and tank vests for seniors, are printed with the school logo on the left breast. These garments, available to all, now form the uniform for Street Dance and Musical Theatre students.

Website Refreshed

Geoff has been beaver away over the holiday to update our website and make it tablet and Smartphone compatible. We hope you will like the new look which should go live in the next couple of weeks. The website carries all the information on the School you are likely to need, including maps showing the locations of our halls, a Class Finder, in case you want an alternative class, the Timetable, biographies of teachers, and much more. New web address coming soon!

Timetable Changes

There are a couple of class changes this term and, as a result, subsequent class times may well have changed. Please be so good as to check your Class Allocation Notice:

Tuesdays - CYGAMS HQ
There is no longer a Primary Ballet class on Tuesdays at CYGAMS HQ which has now been replaced with Grade 3 Ballet.

Saturdays - Widford
There is now only one Primary Ballet class on Saturdays at Widford Village Hall.

Name Change

Please be aware that we have changed the name of Hip-Hop/Jazz to Street Dance/Jazz as this better reflects the styles of dance taught in these classes which are much broader than just Hip-Hop. We hope everyone will continue to enjoy these classes and will promote them to their “non-dancing” friends.

Prizegiving

Plans are afoot to reinstate our Prizegiving afternoon. This was always such a happy event, with students receiving their examination certificates, School certificates of merit, and School trophies. Due to the huge cost of the Chelmsford Civic Theatre we have been looking for an alternative venue and hope we have found just the place. The date we have earmarked is Sunday 7th September 2014 so please pop this in your diary and we will confirm details as soon as we have them. As well as all the presentations, the Street Dance/Jazz and Musical Theatre students will entertain you to ensure you have a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon.

Old Westonians

Rebecca Adams continues to dance at her university in Loughborough. She has joined the Dance Society and has been selected for the advanced tap team which competed and won the Inter-University Dance Competition at Durham last term, and came second in a field of fifteen at a recent Universities at Loughborough Dance Competition. She has been asked to choreograph the ballets in a forthcoming performance of the opera, Cinderella. Here's hoping she has time for her academic studies, too.

Rosie Frasca has landed the leading role of Frances “Baby” Houseman in the UK Tour of *Dirty Dancing* (www.dirtydancingontour.com). Rosie left The Weston and trained at LAMDA following which she has played Bianca in the International Tour of *The Taming of the Shrew*, and Holly in the UK Tour of *At First Sight*. Rosie puts her dancing skills down entirely to her training at The Weston. We wish her continued success.

Jessica Smart has signed a contract with Royal Caribbean and starts a tour of some rather exotic places on board one of their sumptuous cruise ships - having had to travel to Miami to rehearse! Good Luck, Jessica.

Dates for the Summer and Autumn Terms 2014

Summer term 2014

Office opens	Wednesday 23rd April
Term commences	Monday 28th April
Half term (no classes)	Monday 26th May to Saturday 31st May
Term ends	Monday 14th July 2014

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no classes on Bank Holiday Monday 5th May 2014

Autumn term 2014

Office opens	Wednesday 3rd September
Term commences	Monday 8th September
Half term (no classes)	Monday 20th October to Saturday 2nd November (2 weeks)
Term ends	Saturday 29th November

Temporary Class Alterations

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the following classes have been rescheduled:

Chelmer Village—There will be no classes at this venue on Thursday 22nd May but they will be held instead, prior to the commencement of term, on Thursday 24th April;

Springfield Parish Centre—There will be no classes at this venue on Friday 27th June but they will be held instead, prior to the commencement of term, on Friday 25th April.

Changing Facilities

We regret that not all of our halls have changing facilities and so you are advised to change at home or school and pop a track suit over the top. Parents of children at Springfield Parish Centre are particularly requested not to change the children in public areas, especially the café, as these are covered by CCTV and it would not be appropriate to record them on camera.

Uniform Sales

The sale of Ballet, Modern and Tap uniform will take place as follows:

Springfield Parish Centre	Friday 2nd May	4.15 pm—6.15 pm
Chelmer Village Hall	Thursday 8th May	4.15 pm—6.15 pm
Widford Village Hall	Saturday 10th May	10.15 am—12.15 pm
Great Dunmow Primary School	Saturday 17th May	9.15 am—12.15 pm

Uniform may also be ordered and paid for on-line at www.westonschools.co.uk

Uniform Enquiries and Supply

The School holds a considerable amount of uniform in stock. If you are unable to attend any of the scheduled sale sessions, and do not wish to order on-line, please obtain an order form from your class teacher, complete it and send it to the office with your payment. Where possible, goods will be sent to the student's first class after the weekend.