

OFFICE

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

Personal callers by
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SUMMER TERM CLASSES START MONDAY 25TH APRIL

Pre-term the office will be open from 10 am until 1 pm on
20th, 21st & 22nd April

**PLEASE NOTE that both CHELMER VILLAGE and
MISS SUSAN'S classes at SPRINGFIELD start back,
pre-term, on 21st and 22nd April respectively.**

Dear Parents and Students,

With an early Easter we seem to have been on holiday for ever but, as I write this, the children have gone back to school and it will soon be time to start dancing and singing again. Don't forget that, should you be feeling a little frumpy and full of chocolate, we have Barre Fusion on Monday and Thursday mornings, and Monday evening, to help you get back into shape.

As always, this newsletter contains a great deal of important and, we hope, interesting information so please take a few moments to sit down with a cuppa and read it through. We have a lot of great events coming up and we hope you will keep the dates free, pending further information, culminating in our biennial show from 11th to 15th July 2017!!

Due to a change in teaching faculty, and the number of children moving to new classes, there are a few timetable changes so please do make a note of anything that affects you. Also, please consult your class allocation notice and, if we've managed to allocate the wrong class, please let us know— fingers do sometimes have a mind of their own!

For existing students, along with your class allocation notice is your invoice. If you are new to us this term a BIG WELCOME—your invoice will follow in a couple of weeks. As always, if there is something you don't understand or think we've got wrong, please do not hesitate to get in touch by email or phone.

With best wishes to you all for a happy and successful term.

*Elisabeth Swan
Principal*



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



www.facebook.com/WestonSchoolOfDance

Thank You

to Miss Natasha who has been instrumental in teaching not only our Junior Ballet but also Commercial Dance/Jazz at our Springfield branch. We were sorry to lose her at the end of last term and wish her every success in her new job.

Welcome

We are delighted that Miss Jo, an established member of our teaching faculty, will be taking over most of Miss Natasha's classes. Miss Jo comes from a professional background, having trained in Musical Theatre at the Arts Educational School, London. She then went on to sing and dance professionally, not least touring in the show 'Abbamania'. She has worked in cabaret and toured with function bands throughout Europe. Since retiring from the bright lights Miss Jo has concentrated on teaching—and being a 'mum'.

Congratulations to ...

HARRY BROWN who has successfully auditioned for the Foundation Performing Arts course at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts;

MADDIE SPRING who has successfully auditioned for the full-time vocational Performing Arts course at Evolution Foundation College.

We wish both students the very best of luck in their chosen careers.

ex-student, **CLAIRE ORME**, youngest daughter of Sharon, who has become engaged to Duncan McManus. Claire and Duncan have been a couple for a number of years, having met whilst working professionally in the entertainment business, which they both continue to do. They will be married in "The Lakes" on 14th May next year and we wish them continued happiness and success.

Timetable

There are a number of changes to the timetable, most notably at our Springfield Branch. We have endeavoured to contact parents in many cases but, due to the time lapse between contact and response, it has not been possible to do this in all situations. We apologise, therefore, if you are disappointed that you were not consulted but I hope that the new times will be possible for you.

Grade 3 Ballet Classes

Due to the Friday Grade 3 Ballet class being fully subscribed a new class is being offered on Thursdays, from 4.00 pm until 5.00 pm at CYGAMS HQ. We realise that this will mean a dash straight from school but, if anyone would like to attend this class, please let the office know. Children who have just taken their Grade 2 Ballet exam will have been allocated the Standard 3 class on Wednesdays so please let us know if you would like to change this to the Thursday Grade 3 class.

Grade or Standard?

There is no difference in the training between the Standards and Grades and most of the dance vocabulary is just the same. The difference comes at the time of the examination where, in a Standard (Class Exam), the teacher conducts the exam in sets of up to four candidates. The emphasis is on presentation, enjoyment and interpretation. Grade candidates are entered two at a time, without their teacher. The marking system here is biased towards technical skill and accuracy.

Springfield Classes

Parents should be advised that Miss Susan's classes (Standard 1, Standard 2 and Grade 2 Ballet) will be held in the Boleyn Room (where Miss Natasha was last term). Miss Jo's classes, with the exception of Senior Plus Commercial Dance/Jazz, will be in the Springfield Room. The timetable for that branch is now as follows:

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Miss Jo's classes | Springfield Room | Miss Susan's classes | Boleyn Room |
| 4.00 pm - 4.30 pm | Under 5s | | |
| 4.30 pm - 5.15 pm | Primary Ballet | 4.30 pm - 5.15 pm | Standard 1 Ballet |
| 5.15 pm - 6.15 pm | Snr Com Dance/Jazz | 5.15 pm - 6.15 pm | Standard 2 Ballet |
| 6.15 pm - 7.15 pm | Jnr Com Dance/Jazz | 6.15 pm - 7.15 pm | Grade 2 Ballet |
| 7.30 pm - 8.30 pm | Snr+ Com Dance/Jazz | | |

Parents will observe that the Senior and Junior Commercial Dance/Jazz classes dovetail with the Grade 2 and Standard 2 ballet classes and it is hoped that some of the ballet students might like to try the Commercial Dance/Jazz. The first lesson is free and the usual termly rate would add less than £4 per week to your invoice. However, the first term attracts a 50% discount, so under £2 per week.

As Miss Jo is also a skilled Musical Theatre teacher we would be pleased to offer this discipline at Springfield (drama, dance & singing). Please contact the office if you might be interested (prices as for Commercial Dance/Jazz).

Coming Soon!

2nd July Chelmer Village Green

Springfield & Chelmer Village Fun Day

The Weston will be represented with a stall at this event and we hope some of our Springfield and Chelmer Village would like to dance

2nd to 4th August CYGAMS HQ, Chelmsford

Summer of Pop and Rock

Four days of fun and dance, suitable for all students and their friends. Early booking essential!

* * * * *

4th September

Chelmsford County High School

Open Day

This is an annual event, and your chance to come and discuss classes, purchase uniform etc. The day will also incorporate:

Choreographic Competition

We are delighted to be holding a choreographic competition this year. We will be encouraging all the students to make up their own dances, either as a solo, duet or group, and perform it at the beginning of the afternoon. This will be adjudicated on the day and the winner will receive our choreography trophy.

Prizegiving

Always a great afternoon we will be presenting exam certificates, certificates of merit and special school trophies. We will be inviting our Commercial Dance/Jazz and Musical Theatre students to perform as well as the Choreographic Competition. We might even have a ballet demonstration this year!

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20th November

Widford Village Hall

Tapathon

Help us to help break the world record of the most people tapping the same short routine at the same time, throughout the country. Full details to follow.

Dates for the Summer & Autumn Terms 2016

Summer term 2016

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Office opens | Wednesday 20th April |
| Term commences | Monday 25th April |
| Half-term (no classes) | Monday 30th May to Saturday 4th June inclusive |
| Term ends | Monday 11th July |

There will be no classes on Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May 2016

Autumn term 2016

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Office opens | Wednesday 7th September |
| Term commences | Monday 12th September |
| Half-term (no classes) | Monday 17th to Saturday 29th October inclusive (two weeks) |
| Term ends | Saturday 26th November |

Temporary Class Alterations

Chelmer Village: Due to the local elections and the EU referendum there will be no classes at this venue on Thursdays 5th May or 23rd June respectfully. Classes will be held instead, pre-term, on Thursday 21st April and at the end of term, on Thursday 14th July.

Springfield Parish Centre: MISS SUSAN'S CLASSES (Standard 1, Standard 2 and Grade 2) will not be held at this venue on Friday 6th May but will be held instead, pre-term, on Friday 22nd April in the Springfield Room. MISS JO'S CLASSES (Under 5's, Primary and Commercial Dance) are unaffected and will be held as scheduled although, on 6th May, they will all be held in the Boleyn Room

Uniform Sales

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

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Chelmer Village Hall | Thursday 21st April | 4.15 pm—6.15 pm |
| Springfield Parish Centre | Friday 29th April | 4.15 pm—6.15 pm |
| Great Dunmow Primary School | Saturday 30th April | 9.30 am—12.30 pm |
| Widford Village Hall | Saturday 7th May | 9.30 am—12.30 pm |

Uniform may also be ordered and paid for on-line at www.theweston.dance.

Alternatively, you can obtain an order form from your teacher or download one from the Members' Section of the website. Where possible, goods will be sent to the student's first class after the weekend.

Second-hand Uniform

We regret that, with the exception of 'Oxford' tap shoes, we are not in the position to sell second-hand uniform - we simply don't have the storage space - sorry.

SALE!! SALE!! SALE!!

We have a good stock of pink seamed ballet tights in adult sizes which we would be pleased to sell at the special price of £3.60 per pair. More rugged than the seamless tights these are a bargain! Please go online to order, or contact the school office.