



# WELLINGTON DANCE: STUDIO NEWS & DATES

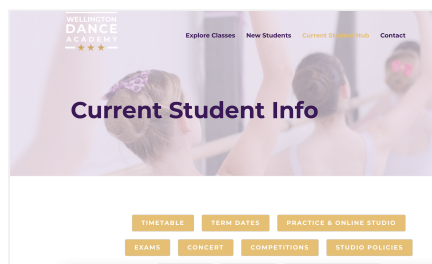
*Dear parents and students,*

Thank you for being part of Wellington Dance & Performing Arts Academy! A big welcome to our new students who have started this term. Please remember class spaces are yours for the 2022 school year - you don't need to re-enrol each term and all classes work on a year-long curriculum.

## 2022 Key Dates

<b>Term 1</b>	We started Friday 11th February and will finish on Thursday 14th April, before Easter.
<b>Term 2</b>	Monday 2nd May to Monday 4th July. No classes: Queen's Birthday Monday 6th June & Matariki Friday 24th June.
<b>Term 3</b>	Mon 25 July to Sun 2 October
<b>Term 4</b>	Mon 17 Oct to Mon 12 December. No classes Mon 24th Oct (Labour Day)
<b>Exam Dates</b>	NZAMD Exams and Medal Tests: late September (dates TBC by examiners) 'Ballet Grade School' practice week (daily practice Mon 10th - Fri 14th Oct) Ballet Grade Exams: 17 October - 18 November (dates TBC by examiners)

## Current Student Hub



You can find all the dance dates, reminders and information you need in one place - the HUB - Current Student Info section of our website. We keep this updated throughout the year. Check it out here:

[wellingtondance.co.nz/hub](https://wellingtondance.co.nz/hub)

## Dancers' Uniform and Hair

We have a studio uniform which helps all our dancers feel a sense of belonging, as well as being dressed for our teachers to be able to see their movements and provide feedback.

Here's our Studio Uniform page with details and where to get your dance uniform

<https://wellingtondance.co.nz/dance-uniform> Hair needs to be back off the face (bun for ballet, ponytail for other styles) to avoid distraction and allow safe turning. It doesn't have to be perfect, it just has to be up off your face.



## Houses at WDA!

Every WDA student and teacher is assigned to a 'house', either Trimmer (pink), Parris (yellow) or Ieremia (purple) - named after famous NZ dancers. Teachers let our new students know which house they are in (our preschool and junior students have colour coded name tags!). House points are given by teachers as positive reinforcement for class readiness, effort, attention and participation. Every term there is a winning house, whose members receive a chocolate treat and their house banner displayed in the hallway. **During the last week of Term 1, please dress up and dance in your house colours!**



## Omicron

With omicron now in our community we would like to remind parents and students a few important things:

- Until review on Thursday 24th March, all Preschool and Junior classes are **ONLINE**.
- All children attending studio classes are to be dropped off and picked up at the front of the studio.
- If parents are coming into the studio it is 1 parent per child. Please have your vaccine passes ready.
- **Room or Zoom?** All classes are available online. We have new teacher headsets and sound mixers for a better online dance experience. Preschool and Junior class remain ONLINE until review on Thursday 24th March.
- All students 8 years+ attending class in the studio are now required to wear a mask (review on Thursday 24th March). Teachers will provide students with water and rest breaks and adjust class plans to suit.
- Please check your email for zoom details and instructions.
- **Please stay home if you have any cold & flu type symptoms (dancers, team and parents).** If you are feeling up to it, you can watch your class online, or join in a catch-up class when you feel better.

WELLINGTON DANCE

### CLASS UPDATE

Preschool	ONLINE CLASSES next two weeks
Junior	ONLINE CLASSES next two weeks
Grades	Online or in-studio. Masks please 🧐
Seniors	Online or in-studio. Masks please 🧐

#### ONLINE CLASS ACCESS

[wellingtondance.co.nz/zoom](https://wellingtondance.co.nz/zoom) Password = **check your email**

## Need to see a Physiotherapist?



Did you know that our Dance Conditioning and Pointe teacher (Miss Sophie) is also a dance physiotherapist? Sophie offers a full range of dance specific services, including assessment and treatment of musculoskeletal injuries; dance conditioning homework programmes, orthopedic dance assessments (for full time tertiary training auditions) as well as myofascial release (tissue work / recovery sessions).

Sophie is an ex professional dancer and has 10 years clinical experience as a physiotherapist. Within her dance physio clinic she assesses and treats dance students, dance teachers and professional dancers in central Wellington.

If you would like to book an appointment, or for any other enquiries, please email: [sophieryanphysio@gmail.com](mailto:sophieryanphysio@gmail.com)

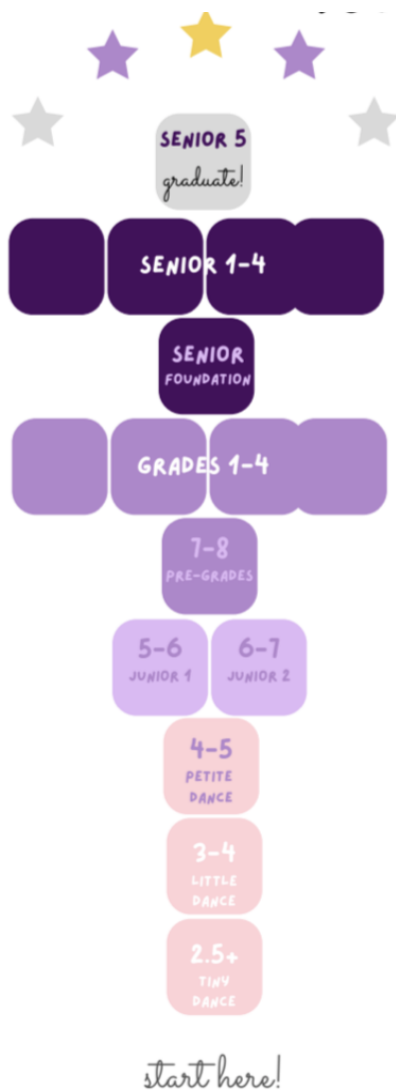
## Easter Egg Splits Challenge

Keep working on your stretches - show your teacher that you can get down into the splits by the end of Term 1 and you'll receive an Easter Egg!



## Student News

- Congratulations to all the dancers who took part in the *Royal Academy of Dance* Summer School in January. We had a large number of our students participate this year - so well done to all students! A special congratulations to Lucy Foy and Phoebe Barry who received an award for outstanding contribution at the RAD Summer School!
- *Alice Simpson* has been selected as a Level 1 scholar at the New Zealand School of Dance! Congratulations Alice - this is a great accomplishment. Congrats also to *Conor Newdick* for being selected again this year.



### 2022 Junior Ballet and Ballet Grades Pathway

You might have already seen our new 'roadmap' for our dancers. The idea is that dancers are able to follow both their WDA journey and school years right through to Year 13 when they graduate! Outlined below is the pathway for each junior level and grade and what this will look like for medal tests, class awards and exams this year.

Please note more information about entries, practices, fees and teacher recommendations will all be made available in **Term 2**.

**Ballet and Jazz Junior 1 & 2.** Will have the chance and option to sit an NZAMD medal test in September.

**Jazz Pre Grades.** Will have the option of sitting and NZAMD Jazz Pre Rosette exam. This will be in September.

**Ballet Pre Grades.** Will have the option of sitting a Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) Primary exam or class award. Students will need to complete Grade School in the second week of the October School holidays. Next year students will go onto Ballet Grade 1.

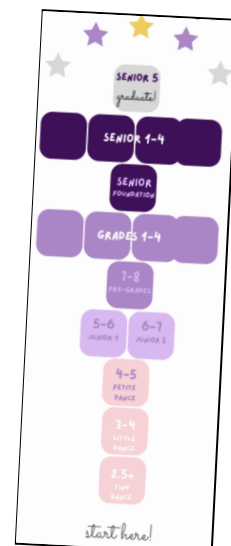
**Jazz Grade 1+.** Will have the option and are strongly encouraged to sit an NZAMD exam for their grade in September.

**Ballet Grades 2, 3 & 4.** Will be working towards sitting an *RAD Solo Performance Award*. All students must attend Grade School in the second week of the October school holidays. Next year students will be encouraged to sit the exam of their current grade (E.g. Ballet Grade 2 Solo Performance Award this year and Ballet Grade 2 exam next year). This will align students into their correct level for our roadmap and allow them time and breathing space to develop technique after 2020-2021.

**Ballet Grade 5.** Will have the option of an RAD exam or class award. Must attend Grade School in the second week of October school holidays.

**Ballet Senior students.** Will continue to work in their vocational levels and teachers will discuss exam options individually with students.

**Hip Hop, Lyrical, Musical Theatre, Tap students.** Will all have the option to enter an NZAMD medal test for their chosen discipline. This will be held in September.



## Introducing Georgia Hofsteede

We are delighted to welcome Georgia Hofsteede to our 2022 teaching team. Miss Georgia will be teaching Monday Ballet grade and senior classes. Below is a little more information about Miss Georgia. You can meet all of our Wellington Dance Teachers here: <https://wellingtondance.co.nz/teachers/>



*“Georgia is a Royal Academy of Dance Ballet Teacher, having completed her Certificate of Ballet Teaching studies in 2009.*

*Georgia has over 15 years experience in teaching ballet students from PreSchool age through to Advanced levels as well as competitive students & choreography.*

*Georgia successfully opened & operated her own Lower Hutt based Ballet Studio (GHDance) for nine years before she made the difficult decision to close its doors so she could focus more time on her young family. Since then, Georgia has continued to coach competition students & teach around the Wellington region.*

*Georgia thoroughly enjoys teaching ballet to students of all ages & abilities & loves celebrating their improvements & accomplishments alongside them.”*

We would also like to welcome Megan (teaching Friday extension), Jamie (teaching Preschool and Junior School) and Emily (teaching Ballet junior and grades) to our teaching team.

## ‘Colour The Costumes’ Competition

Attached to the back of this newsletter is a colouring competition. Please hand in to your teacher by the first week of Term 2. Winners will be announced in the second week.

## Questions?

Wendy is our *Studio Office Manager* and office hours are Monday/Tues 9.30am-5.30pm , Wed/Thurs 9.30am-3.00pm. Suzanne is our *Studio Artistic Director*, and is at the Thorndon studio Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 3.00-6.30pm. For any questions you may have, either chat to Suzanne or call Wendy on 04 2108642 or email [office@wellingtondance.co.nz](mailto:office@wellingtondance.co.nz). Please join our WDA Families Facebook group too - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/WDAfamilies>



# COLOUR THE COSTUMES!



Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

WDA Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Contact: \_\_\_\_\_