



**Website:** [www.basscoastballet.com.au](http://www.basscoastballet.com.au)

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## **March 2016 Newsletter**

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### **Dear Bass Coast Ballet School families,**

It is hard to believe we are already nearly at the end of Term 1. Whilst it has been a very short term, it has also been a very busy time of positive changes for our school, with the committee all working hard to implement these changes. Please take time to read this newsletter so that you understand all that is happening. Most of all we would like to wish all of our families a VERY HAPPY EASTER.

*Regards Tonya and Chris.*

### **Wonthaggi Theatrical Group Rehearsal Hall**

As many of our Wonthaggi students will know, we now have our very own (shared) home in Wonthaggi! After years of negotiation we have finally started to hold classes in the Wonthaggi Theatre Group (WTG) venue at the State Coal Mine.

Wonthaggi Students who have been lucky enough to dance at this venue have appreciated the size of the hall and its lovely sprung floor - which was funded by the Bass Coast Ballet School.

While the venue is still being completed, it will continue to improve over the next few months: the floor will be coated, making it less slippery; mirrors will be purchased and installed; six massive air conditioners will be installed and hopefully, with a few adjustments we will be able to divide the hall to hold two classes at once.

In the meantime we thank everyone for their patience and understanding, as we look forward to many years of partnership with the amazing WTG.

### **Farewell to Miss Leasal**

We are very sad to be saying "goodbye" to Miss Leasal at the end of this term. Leasal joined our school almost two years ago and taught jazz and tap at both Wonthaggi and Cowes.

Last year when she was very busy creating the magnificent choreography in WTG's production of "Pippin" she scaled back to teaching in Cowes only. Leasal is now busier than ever with all kinds of things, so is leaving us for the time being. We know all of her students will miss her, and we wish her all the best for everything she does in the future.

The good news is that Miss Angie Chapman will be taking over all of Leasal's classes in Cowes. Angie taught at our school many years ago, and returned last year to teach jazz and tap in Wonthaggi. We are all really pleased that Angie has agreed to also teach in Cowes, and as our Wonthaggi students can testify she is a wonderful teacher. Angie will try to make it to some of the Cowes classes over the next couple of weeks to say "hello" to everyone and to help make a smooth transition next term. Please do everything you can to make her feel welcome.

## **NEW CONCERT FORMAT FOR 2016**

A big thank you to everyone who provided us with feedback about our 2015 end of year concert. The committee has taken a lot of time to discuss all the feedback (both positive and negative) that was received and address any areas of concern.

After reading this feedback, speaking with our teachers, and looking at our own experiences of the logistics and practical elements it takes to run the concert we realized that we needed to change the way the concert is run to ensure that it is enjoyable and safe for all concerned.

Our student numbers are at a record high - over 250 - and fitting that number of students backstage into the dressing rooms has become increasingly difficult. So, it has been decided to split the concert into three performances:

- Friday night (2 December): Intermediate and Senior Students
- Saturday afternoon (3 December): Junior and some senior students
- Saturday night (3 December): Intermediate and Senior Students

The afternoon performance will be approximately one hour long - with no interval, showcasing the work of our youngest and some of our older students, so that parents can see the start of the dance journey and how it develops.

The afternoon performance will be timed so that once it finishes there won't be a long gap until the evening performance begins, so that parents who have students appearing in either concert do not have to hang around Wonthaggi for ages until the next concert starts.

You will be notified as soon as it has been confirmed exactly which students will be performing in which concert.

In addition, during the week leading up to the concerts we will endeavor to schedule rehearsal times to limit the amount of travel as much as possible, particularly for our Cowes students.

We are also reviewing our tickets prices and there will be discounts available for people who attend two performances.

We are all looking forward to our new look concert this year and our teachers are already working very hard on ideas and choreography.

*Stay tuned for details as they come to hand!*

## **Cancelling Classes**

Unfortunately, recently for various reasons we have had to cancel some classes at short notice. We do our best to notify everyone as soon as we know that the classes won't be running by sending out a Tiqbiz notification and email.

To ensure that you are always notified you can help us get you this information by:

- Making sure you have downloaded the Tiqbiz app (instructions are on our website under the FOR PARENTS tab.
- Making sure that we have your correct mobile phone number and email address. You can update your information at any time by logging on to your Family Account Login and entering the relevant information. Again, instructions are on our website under the FOR PARENTS tab.

## Cecchetti Events

Detailed information regarding various Cecchetti events: Medal Awards, Encouragement Awards, Cecchetti Convention, Choreography Competition, Scholars Auditions as well as Examinations or Assessments can be found on our website under the EVENTS & NEWS tab.

### How do I enter a Cecchetti Event?

Very easily - simply go to our website: [www.basscoastballet.com.au](http://www.basscoastballet.com.au), click on the PARENTS tab and go to the Family Account Login. Log in to your account. From the “I want to:” drop down menu select:

**Register for an Event** or click on **Event Registration tab**.

Click of EVENT CALENDAR button. Go to the month that the Event is to be held. Click on the Event. Complete any details that need to be answered. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on SUBMIT REGISTRATION. All done!

### The fine print ....

Only enter Events that you are able to attend. By registering for an Event you are agreeing to pay all Entry Fees, regardless of whether your child attends or not.

Event Entry Fees are added to your Family Account Login Fees and Payments section.

## Our Website: [www.basscoastballet.com.au](http://www.basscoastballet.com.au)

Just a reminder that our website has a wealth of information about our school, so if you have any queries we strongly recommend that you take the time to have a look and see if the information you need is there. If you can't find what your looking for, please contact the lovely Janine Sheean, whose number is at the top of this newsletter.

Also, if you have a suggestion for the website drop us an email at: [bcballet1@gmail.com](mailto:bcballet1@gmail.com).

## Watching Week

Just a reminder that during the final week of terms 1, 2 and 3 parents may sit in and watch their child's class. Watching week will commence from Saturday, 19 March through to Thursday 24 March.

## 2016 Choreography Afternoon and AGM

Will be on Sunday, 24 July. Details to follow shortly.

## KC's Hip Hop Tournament

Will be on Saturday, 27 August. Details to follow shortly.

Happy Easter and safe holidays. See you in Term 2.