

We have had a wonderful start to the new year!

A big thank you to all of our dancers and families for all of your support and cooperation in following all of protocols and drop off and pick up procedures. We are very proud of how everyone has adapted to the changes and love that our studio continues to be a happy and positive environment for our dancers to thrive!

SCREENING

Please remember to complete your screening form for every day that your dancer is attending class in person at the studio. If you are a parent of one of our Discover with Me dancers, please also complete the form for yourself. It would be very helpful if you could enter the name on your form exactly as it appears on your registration (check your portal). This will make it easier for the system to flag any forms that are missing each day.

We have now received clarification from the provincial government regarding vaccine passport requirements. Beginning September 22, all adult dance participants (either in adult programs or entering to participate in the Discover with Me program with their dancer), will be required to show proof of full vaccination against COVID-19. The final dose of Covid-19 vaccine must have been received at least 14 days before providing the proof of being fully vaccinated.

At this time, the proof of vaccination does not apply to our dancers under the age of 18, who are entering to participate in dance classes, or to those who may enter the studio to use the washroom, make a payment or to drop something off for their child (ie. those who are in the studio for a very short period of time). We will continue to update you if anything changes. Proof of vaccination will likely be required at most performance venues later in the year, but like everything related to Covid-19, it is evolving.

THEME OF THE MONTH

Each month we run a new theme for our dancers, adding to our feeling of community and providing everyone the opportunity to learn skills that will carry through into life, both inside and outside of the studio.

In September, our theme has been 'WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!' In our classes with children ages 6 and up, we have been talking about 'what makes them special' and finding out a 'fun fact' about all of our new friends. The studio is now decorated with little paper doll cut outs, sharing these facts!

We also plan to focus on how special our Grace Academy family is all year long!

Have you heard about our '**Sunshine Box**'?

Dancers or parents can drop a note in the box any time that they feel someone could use a little 'Grace Academy Sunshine'. Have you spotted someone showing kindness or working hard - has someone had a tough week at school? Do you want to encourage someone? Let us know and we will mail them a little note with Grace Academy love!

DANCE FOR THE CURE

For the past 10 years, we have taken part in the CIBC Run for the Cure, doing our part to put an end to breast cancer and provide hope for a cancer free future.

This year's run will be virtual, so our Run for the Cure team for 2021 will be called **DANCE FOR THE CURE! Our dancers are invited to wear crazy pink outfits to class from this Saturday, October 2nd to Friday, October 8th** and will spend some time talking about how we can help others in our day to day life. **We hope that families will consider making a donation to our team - simply go to runfortheure.com and search for our team name.**

You may also want to join as a team member and encourage your own family and friends to sponsor your dancing that week - OR- join the team and go for your own 5 km walk or run on Sunday, October 3rd! (sign up prior to Sunday)

We also respect that there are many causes that need our support - and many other types of cancer searching for a cure. Please feel free to use our 'pink week' as a time to support the cause that you feel most attachment to. It is all about giving what we can and sharing with others.

HAIR/UNIFORMS

We would like to remind everyone that dancers should attend class with their hair neatly tied back off of their face. Ballet students in grade 1 and above should have their hair in a bun – using a hair net and pins. A pony tail or braid would be appropriate for modern jazz and tap.

Dancers should also attend classes in the correct uniform for all classes. A uniform list was sent out with our 'back to dance' newsletter and can also be found in your portal under 'files' and then 'monthly newsletters'. Coming to class in the appropriate dance attire is an important part of their training. Older dancers should wear clear strap bras or black/navy sports bras with their dancewear.

Please note that dancers who have ballet class before or after another class should wear their ballet uniform for both classes. (Using convertible ballet tights for modern)

THANKSGIVING

REMINDER! There are no classes running from Saturday, October 9th- Monday, October 11th inclusive.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at any time for any questions that you may have. We are always happy to help!