

# The Brent Street Times

The Official News & Gossip Source for Brent Street

Welcome to Brent Street 2010. Already the year feels great! Yet again our students who represented us in the Showcase National Dance Championships in Queensland in January were outstanding. The results and scores speak for themselves and can be viewed on our Noticeboard in the front foyer. Congratulations to all the students. We are very proud of the incredible talent Brent Street is producing!

I would like to say a huge welcome to the new families that are joining us. We hope that your journey at Brent Street is a long and happy one and we look forward to getting to know your children.

## The first few weeks

The buzz and excitement of the first few weeks may seem overwhelming to newcomers but let us reassure you that while it may look chaotic, we have an organised system to get the students sorted into classes as quickly as possible. In saying that, it may take a few weeks of working out levels and classes and reorganising timetables and we ask for your patience as we settle into our new schedule. We have a very experienced team of teachers assessing and grading the students and this is something we take very seriously. Unfortunately we will not have the time to discuss our decisions with parents in the first few weeks so we ask that you allow us this time to "get it right" before we are able to address any concerns you may have. Our beautiful studios have large glass windows making it very easy for parents to view the classes at any time throughout the year. However, once your child is settled into class we encourage you to drop and leave as soon as possible. There are a number of reasons for this. Firstly, the children and teachers who are working in class find it very distracting and intimidating to be constantly on display while they are trying to explore their creativity and also traffic congestion throughout our buildings during peak times (particularly in the first few weeks) can be a problem. We are fortunate to be in a café precinct and encourage you to enjoy the nearby facilities. If your child is younger and needs you to stay around please stand as far back from the windows as possible and be considerate of not participating in distractive activities (like eating yummy treats with younger siblings!) Parents are not permitted inside the studio classrooms at any time.

If you are running late to pick up your child please call the front desk on 8323 6666 (save this number to your phone now) so that we can safely hold him/her at the front desk until you arrive.

## Toilets

Please make it part of your routine to visit the toilets immediately before coming in to class. This is especially

important to all parents of Petites and Pre-Juniors, as chaperoning children to the toilets is very time consuming. Even if your child says they don't need to go, please take them anyway! Toilets are located adjacent to the show ring under the front reception area or down the orange staircase if you are out in the rear studios. Can I take this opportunity to request that we all make a huge effort to keep our toilets clean. Parents-your help with this matter is greatly appreciated. If you see any students disrespecting our property in any way please let us know immediately.

## New Faces

You will notice some new people on our Team. Annette Hannigan will be holding the fort at the front desk replacing Shelley (who has taken off to travel the world!). Be kind to Annette as she finds her feet (and resist the urge to call her Ms Hannigan!)

We also have a new general Manager, Suzy Yates, and many new and exciting teachers join our faculty. Welcome aboard!

## 2010 Timetable

The Timetable is an ongoing project and is likely to change slightly in the first few weeks of each year. It is very important that you revisit your enrolment requests with our NEW timetable (updated 28/1/10). You may find that your schedule has adjusted slightly. Please do this BEFORE coming in for your first day of classes. The latest version of the Timetable is always available on our website.

## Boys

Brent Street Loves Boys! And our recent successes on "So you think you can Dance" proves that!!!! Dance is for both guys and girls!

To encourage you to bring along your funky brothers, cousins, neighbours, friends, we now have a series of All Boys classes (taught by a male teacher) for all ages on Monday nights.

See timetable for times/ages and give your son a go! But be quick- these classes are filling up quickly.

## Goodbye Shoe Shop

After Sat 27<sup>th</sup> February we will no longer be selling the full range of Bloch Dancewear and shoes from our front desk. If you need new gear please purchase within the first few weeks, as after that date you will need to purchase from a Dance wear store. We will continue to sell some basic dancewear, Petite Ballets and "Brent Street" Merchandise. Hopefully this will make our front desk more accessible!

## Getting Organised

We will always try to give you as much information as we can to help you all to organise your busy lives. Your best tool in staying informed is to check the Noticeboard in our front Foyer regularly. Notes often go out in class (but many don't seem to make it home) so check the Notice board to make sure you are not missing out on valuable information. See the Calendar of Events below. More detailed information regarding these events will be posted closer to the events.

### Brent Street 2010 Calendar of Events

#### January

Thurs 28 TDHS commences  
Fri 29 Term 1 classes commence

#### March

Mon 22 Private Singing night 1

#### April

Thurs 1 Last Day Term 1  
1 -14 EQ Easter Show  
Mon 19 Term 2 commences

#### May

1-6 TDHS Camp  
Mon 10 Industry

#### June

21 Private Singing Night 2  
21-25 CSTD Tap exams  
28- 2 TDHS Production week

#### July

2/3/4 Last Day classes for Term 2  
Mon 5 – 9 Winter Camp  
10 - 20 Fulltime Course USA Trip  
Mon 19 Term 3 commences

#### August

Wed 4 City of Sydney Jazz Finals at Opera House

#### September

Mon 13 Private Singing night 3  
Mon 20 Industry  
Sat 25 Last Day classes Term 3

#### October

3 – 7 RAD Ballet Seminar  
7/8/9/10 Hollywood Dance Comps  
11 –15 RAD Ballet exam week  
Mon 11 Term 4 commences  
24/24 Showcase Dance Comp Shellharbour  
(Pre-Jnr – Teen only)

#### November

15 – 20 Petite Concert week at Seymour Centre  
29 - Dec 4 Tentative Christmas Concert Week  
(Venue TBC)

#### December

Thurs 2 Fulltime Graduation (TBC)  
Mon 6 Private Singing night 4  
Sat 18 Last day of Classes Term 4

## Parking

EQ offers 2 hours free parking during the day and 25mins after 6pm so collecting your child should not be a problem. Always check the signs at the entrance to the EQ carpark for SPECIAL EVENT parking days. On these days only and after 6pm everyday you will need to validate your

parking ticket in the little blue box on our front reception desk.

## Eisteddfod/Dance Competitions

As always some classes will be competing in Eisteddfods. Please refer to the Calendar of Events to pencil in these dates and we will notify the classes closer to the event as to who will compete and rehearsal times. In 2010 we anticipate competing in City of Sydney, Hollywood and Showcase.

## Classical Ballet

Classical Ballet is the foundation for all forms of Dance. Although it may not always be the first choice made your child we strongly suggest that you encourage them to learn Ballet as early as possible. A strong Classical technique will benefit all other styles. Brent Street does the RAD syllabus and classes are available from 5 yrs. Please speak to us if you have any questions regarding your child's RAD Ballet Grades. A Reminder –Classical Ballet is a discipline and requires appropriate attire and footwear. Students are expected to be dressed appropriately with hair tied back in a neat bun for ALL Classical classes.

## Lost Property

Once again we continue to mount up a HUGE lost property pile! So much money is wasted on good dance shoes without partners. Dance shoes are expensive! How to avoid this expense? Put your name on all your dance shoes NOW, before Day 1.

Check your child's Dance bag at the end of every dancing day. If your child has accidentally picked up an extra shoe, contact the shoes owner (which you will know ONLY if they have named it) or place it in the lost property basket on your next visit to the studio. Always check out these baskets when you have a spare minute. You will be surprised what we collect –including expensive school gear!

## Petite News

*I am very excited to start the New Year and get to know all of the new "Petites" that are joining us. We welcome Miss Tiara to this department who will be working closely with me teaching your beautiful children. You will receive "Petite Newsletters" with specific news and information for this Age group in your first classes with us.*



*See you in class, Miss Tahnee*

Classes resume this Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January. It is essential that you have re-enrolled for 2010 BEFORE you come back to classes. Please do not just "show up" on the first day back. Contact us immediately if you have not yet re-enrolled.

We look forward to seeing you all. It's going to be a great year!

Team Brent Street

