

# The Brent Street Times

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The Official News & Gossip Source for Brent Street

Pour yourselves a cup of tea, sit down, get out your pens and diaries! There is a lot of information in these pages for you to digest! Included with this Newsletter is a complete Concert Guide which should help you with all your Concert questions.

Welcome back for Term 4! As usual this term is an exciting and busy time for everyone. The first day of classes for Term 4 is on SATURDAY Oct 17. This is BEFORE school goes back. Don't miss this day as we have a lot to achieve in the next few weeks! Note that the Hollywood Dance Competition is on for the older kids on this day so many of the Teen, Pre Senior and Senior classes are affected. If you are in this age group and are not competing at Hollywood please check with us to make sure your class has not been cancelled. This only affects classes in this older age group after 1.30pm.

For your diaries - The last day of Term is Sunday December 20th.

## **R.A.D CLASSICAL BALLET EXAMS**

In the first week back many of our children are taking their R.A.D Ballet exams in Studio B1. Please keep this in mind when arriving at the studio as we need to keep noise to a minimum in the Foyer area. The teachers and kids have worked so hard preparing for these exams and we wish them all the best of luck.

## **CLASS PARENTS**

Earlier this year we set up a class parent system which has helped enormously with communication over the Eisteddfod season. We will continue to use this system over the busy Concert period so that you have a reliable source to answer any questions you may have. Please make yourself aware of whom your class parent is and use them as a first point of contact with questions.

Note that these parents are volunteering their time and communication should be to answer simple questions only eg; hair styles, arrival times. Personal matters or complaints should remain with Brent Street staff.

## **A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

As many of you are aware, in 2008 Brent Street merged with Elaine Education. These are exciting times for our studios. Please see the attached letter from the Chairman of the Board of Elaine Education, Mr Nick Fairfax.

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of Brent St,

As Chairman of Elaine Education and on behalf of the JB Fairfax family, I am delighted to be involved with Australia's premier performing arts institution. I would like to congratulate Jacqui, Marianne and Karen for the years of hard work, dedication and devotion in building the vibrant artistic community that is Brent Street.

Importantly the Howard family will continue to part own and work full time in the business. Together with Elaine Education we plan to build on the successes of the past to guide Brent Street into an even more prestigious performing arts institution. This will entail improving on all aspects of the school from the Talent Development High School, the Full time course and down to the youngest members in the Petites. Over the coming months you should start to notice improvements in the efficiency of the schools administration, improvements in facilities, growth in our external profile and continued artistic growth.

My family are particularly excited about this investment and passionately believe that the performing arts are of great value to both those individuals who participate in it and to the wider community. I hope to meet many of you soon either at the school or at one of the many Brent Street events.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Fairfax  
Chairman, Elaine Education

## **COSTUMES FOR OUR CONCERT**

The enormous task of costuming is now well underway. If you haven't received your invoice in the mail it will be sent to you in the next few weeks. Please settle this promptly so all costuming can be completed in time. Note that we can not issue your child with a costume until it has been paid for. Parents please label EVERYTHING - all shoes, costumes etc. This helps to significantly reduce dressing room chaos!!

Don't panic if you don't get your costume until the last minute. With THOUSANDS of costumes to organise this is an ENORMOUS job but eventually every student will be costumed! Those classes who are providing their own costumes will receive a note to confirm requirements in class next week.

## **CALLING ALL BOYS**

This is an invitation to EVERY BRENT STREET BOY over 5 years to perform in what is always the most popular routine of both Main Concerts. We have a slightly different feel to the Boys routine this year but Sshh it's a surprise and only those boys involved will find out at the 1<sup>st</sup> rehearsal. There is no charge for rehearsals or costumes for this routine but you will need to be available on all of the 5 following rehearsal times.

Saturdays Oct 24, Oct 31, Nov 7, Nov 14.

All Pre-Jnr Boys Saturdays 8.30am – 9.30am

All Jnr Boys Saturdays 5.30pm – 6.30pm

All PreTeen and Teen Boys Saturdays 4.30pm - 5.30pm

All PreSnr and Snr Boys Saturdays 6.30pm – 7.30pm

#ALL BOYS are then required to attend a Full Dress Run on Saturday Nov 21. 6.30pm – 8pm

## **REVISED CONCERT SCHEDULE**

There have been some major changes to the preliminary Concert Week schedule that has been posted on our Noticeboard for some weeks. Unfortunately we were unable to secure the use of the Theatre Royal on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov so the Petite rehearsals have been moved to either the Monday or Tuesday afternoons in Concert week.

Please see the attached Concert Week schedule. I apologise in advance for any inconvenience this change has on you. We are pressured to put as much information on the Noticeboard as early as possible to help parents plan your diaries but unfortunately circumstances like this are beyond our control.

## **CLASSICAL EVENING CANCELLED**

There are many reasons for cancelling this years Classical Evening at the Theatre Royal. The unavailability of the theatre on Sunday meant we lost 2 rehearsal afternoons at the theatre, the RAD exam results would not have been back yet and our very early Concert week left only a few weeks following the Ballet exams to get everything ready in time. It simply would have put a ridiculous amount of pressure on the Students and teachers alike to be ready for a Classical Concert. The smaller audience numbers expected at this event would also have made ticket prices very expensive. I know many people will be disappointed about this (and many will be happy!) but the Classical concert will return next year with the re-introduction of our Fulltime Classical Contemporary Course. The Contemporary routines will be performing in the Main Concerts

We will be having a Classical Ballet presentation Evening on the Courtyard stage at Brent Street on Monday December 14 at 5pm (presuming the RAD results are back!) This presentation will prelude the final Private Singing Night so hang around for a fun night!

## **FINAL PRIVATE SINGING NIGHT FOR 2009**

Private Singing Students- Mark it in your diary! The final Singing Night for 2009 will be on the evening of **Dec 14**. Weather permitting it will be held outdoors on the Courtyard Stage at Brent Street following the Ballet presentation. Further details TBA closer to the event.

## **SINGING CONCERT**

Our Group Singing Classes will be performing in the Brent Street Courtyard on **Sat Dec 5<sup>th</sup>** from 7pm. ALL Singing students will be required on this night. The Evening is FREE to all Parents and a Carols by Candlelight celebration will follow the performances. You are ALL welcome to enjoy this fun, relaxed and festive evening. A great way to finish off a great year! BYO safety candles and picnic rug. The P & F will be providing a barbeque dinner and refreshments. Too easy!!

## **DRAMA WEEK**

All Drama Classes end of year performance will be scheduled in our Drama week between **Monday Dec 7 – Sat Dec 12.**

Each class has a different performance time.

Your child will receive performance information and scheduling in class so please look out for the note!

Parents, as a reminder – It is very difficult to rehearse and prepare Drama pieces without a consistent cast so please assist our dedicated Drama teachers by prioritising your child's attendance over these busy weeks!

A detailed timetable for ALL Drama performances will be posted on the Notice Board in the Foyer.



## **JANUARY 2010 SUMMER SCHOOL**

Our Summer school in January has become so popular that you now have 2 fantastic weeks to choose from. Choose from Jan 6 -10th or Jan 11-15<sup>th</sup>. Many great friendships have been made this way. This is a great way to meet kids with similar interests many of whom come from interstate. Summer school application forms are available from the front desk. Book in early to avoid disappointment.

Don't forget gift certificates are available – This is a popular Christmas gift!

## **BRENT STREET AGENCY AUDITIONS**

Brent Street Agency has been representing some of Australia's leading child talent for over 20 years. Although we are deliberately a small agency we are always on the lookout for outgoing children in particular age groups.

We are holding Agency auditions for 2010 representation on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Nov.

It is necessary that you apply for an audition time by emailing [agency@brentstreet.com.au](mailto:agency@brentstreet.com.au). Auditions are by application via email only.

## **EZYPAY**

Just a reminder that your membership payments for 2009 were spread over 52 weeks so your Ezypay payments will continue through the holiday period finishing Jan, 2010.

## **2010**

A further newsletter with information regarding 2010 information and enrolments will be sent to you in the week following our Main Concerts. Please hold your questions regarding next year until you receive this information.

Remember, to avoid having to wait in the queue at the front desk enquiries and payments can be made anytime over the phone. The nature of our business means that the front desk is at its peak between the hours of 4 -7pm weeknights and Saturday mornings so phone payments may be an easier option for you.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Concerts,

TEAM BRENT STREET