

LONDON JUNIOR BALLET

LJB



NEWS

Winter 1999

BEST WISHES

Congratulations to all students for working so hard this term. It is lovely to see a positive and careful approach to your work – keep it up. The staff and I have been impressed with the high standard of dancing we are seeing in all of the classes.

Nicola Bowden

TELEPHONE NUMBER

You are probably aware that telephone numbers are changing soon. It is already possible to use the new London numbers. The new London Junior Ballet telephone and fax number is: **020 7833 8235**

SCHOLARSHIPS

The London Junior Ballet Scholarship audition was adjudicated by Jane Sanig. Jane Elliot taught the class. A full scholarship was awarded to Natasha Jones and a second was divided between Sarah Wilkinson and Sophie Brown. Well done! Jane Sanig and Jane Elliot remarked how high the standard was at the audition.



Natasha Jones, Sarah Wilkinson, Jane Sanig and Sophie Brown

ASSESSMENTS

The spring term brings with it assessments. These take place on two Saturdays, 4th and 11th March. The two external assessors for these classes will be Judy Maden and Stuart Beckett.

BOYS' COACHING

The Boys' Coaching class introduced this term has been a great success. We increased our boys numbers from four to nine. We are

looking forward to increasing this number over the coming year.

KEVIN RICHMOND

We are grateful to Kevin Richmond for agreeing to take the Boys' Coaching class. Kevin danced with the English National Ballet. During a period of 22 years with the Company Kevin has worked with some of the world's most distinguished choreographers including Rudolf Nureyev, Alvin Ailey, Frederick Ashton, Peter Schaufuss and Christopher Bruce. He has taught as a guest teacher with ARC Dance Company, The Queensland Ballet School, Re-animators, Pineapple Dance

Studio, Bodyworks and the London Studio Centre. Having retired from English National Ballet earlier this year Kevin has enrolled on the Professional Dancers' Teaching Course at the Royal Academy of Dancing in order to validate and extend his knowledge of classical ballet teaching.

MY FIRST TERM AT THE ROYAL BALLET SCHOOL

My first week at White Lodge was exciting. The ballet was really easy to start with but now it is getting harder. We also have extra things like Dalcroze, Greek and History of Ballet which is quite interesting. We get up at 7.00 and have breakfast at 7.30. Classes start at 8.30 and finish at 4.00. We have lunch at 1.00 and tea at 6.00. Every night we go to bed at 9.00.

At the minute it is very exciting because we have met Jennifer Saunders (from Absolutely

Fabulous). She is doing a programme for Omnibus on White Lodge, using Year 7 girls. This will be on T.V. in December. We were also on T.V. when the Opera House opened, in a tableau where we all stood on stage and looked lovely. Some of my friends will be in "Nutcracker" at Christmas and I am very excited for them. I am a cover for a mouse that, in case you didn't know, means if somebody who is a mouse is ill then I take their place. I can't wait to see my friends in it. I come home nearly every weekend but when I don't outings are organised at the weekends, which I go on. It is nice to know a member of staff (Miss Goodhew) because she is a nice person to talk to. All the staff and pupils are nice here and I really like it but I do miss being at LJB. It is nice to know I can come and visit, and to see my brother Oliver dance. I miss you all at the London Junior Ballet.

Araminta Wraith

MICROSOAP

For all of you who don't watch "Microsoap" on Wednesdays and Sundays (BBC1), Albey Brookes in 2PK is one of its stars. He plays the part of Robby Smart. He has completed 26 episodes so far. The series was nominated for a Children's BAFTA award this year. On 7th November at the awards ceremony "Microsoap" won best Best Children's Drama.

LONDON JUNIOR BALLET ASSOCIATION

In this first letter to you as chairman I should like to thank those committee members who elected me into this position. It was both an unexpected pleasure and surprise. Working alongside Mary Bayford is always a pleasure and along with Candy Jones, Anne Taylor, Sue Boldero, and Sue Hardaker it will be good fun, I know. Under the direction of Nicky Bowden, and the teachers we are privileged to have at London Junior Ballet, the new millennium will show how good it is to be here and how much we must support the teachers, children and parents alike.

This time last year Araminta had just started the round of auditions, which I can remember was quite an experience. Many people had things to say but the best piece of advice to her came from Nicky Bowden who told her to 'enjoy the day, to do her very best and to remember that Miss Bowden was sitting on her shoulder'. My advice to parents would be,

leave plenty of time so you can dash into the petrol station on the way for the forgotten hairspray - yes, they do stock it, and while the children are in the audition partake in shopping therapy, lunch and plenty of coffee.

I should like to wish teachers, parents and children alike a very happy Christmas and New Year and to look forward to a splendid millennium year.

Kay Wraith

UNIFORM

We have decided to add to the boys' uniform a black leather belt. This should be no more than half an inch wide.

And a little reminder that the way students present themselves in class is very important. There have been a few lapses - dirty shoes, ribbons not tied properly, messy hair etc. and no more scrunchies please!

AUDITION DATES

The London Junior Ballet audition dates for entry in September 2000 are **4th June and 2nd September**. If you have any friends interested in auditioning application forms etc. are available from the office.

LJB SPRING AND SUMMER DATES

SPRING	SUMMER
15. January	29 April
22 January	6 May
29 January	13 May
5 February	20 May
12 February	27 May
	3 June
26 February	17 June
4 March	24 June
11 March	1 July
18 March	8 July
25 March	

And finally -

Have a great holiday and

Happy Christmas

Peter Railton