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Dear Parents and Students,

The “countdown” is on for our Performance! There are only seven lessons remaining for many classes and six lessons remaining for Monday classes because of Memorial day.

Dress Rehearsal: Saturday Morning, May 30
Recital: Saturday Evening, May 30
Westfield South Middle School

We ask that you make every effort to continually see that your child attends all classes regularly and on time. We want her to feel comfortable on stage and perform to the best of her ability. Unnecessary stress and confusion can result from absences and tardiness. Please be aware that any student who misses classes is in jeopardy of being taken out of her dance.

COSTUMES-Distributed Week of May 4 During Class Times

Your child's recital costume will be distributed the week of May 4 *only to those students whose tuition and late fees are paid in full for the year*. We will not release a costume to a child whose tuition is not fully paid. This is a potentially difficult position for your child as well as for our faculty. *Please* update your accounts before May 4.

Dancers will try their costumes on at the end of their classes that week, so it would be helpful if a parent of each child could arrange to be at the studio 15 minutes before classes are scheduled to end that week. This will give parents the opportunity to see how the costume should be worn and whether any adjustments need to be made.

VOLUNTEERS:

As many of you know, a performance of this type cannot be produced without the aid of patient and good-natured volunteers. A volunteer sign-up sheet is currently posted in the waiting room. If you can do so, we ask that you consider helping us at Dress Rehearsal or at the Production. Only those parents who have volunteered their help will be allowed to remain in the auditorium at Dress Rehearsal. Assistance is needed with the supervision of children at both Dress Rehearsal and the Performance. We also need volunteers to collect tickets and distribute programs before the Production. (However, please keep in mind that door volunteers cannot save seats. Please do not volunteer unless you have a family member or friend who can save one seat for you.) All volunteers at Recital are required to purchase a ticket if they will be taking a seat. Please be assured that anyone who does offer to help will not miss his/her child's performance.

REMINDER: Fourth Quarter Tuition was due March 16th.

SUMMER CLASSES:

Pre-registration for our summer intensives are going on right now! We look forward to entering our second summer with a new type of summer schedule. We are hoping for it to feel like similar to summer program like

those some of our students have attended elsewhere in the past minus the sleep away factor. Please consider having your child attend summer classes. It is very important to their classical ballet training (especially for more advanced students and for those who are pursuing pointe studies). We do understand that summer is a less regimented time, however. It is fine for students not to attend all weeks due to vacations/trips, etc. Please refer to the schedule for more information.

Other Notes:

1. We ask that you consider having young children stay to watch the remaining half of the ballet at our recital. We have found that those children who do observe the older students find it to be very fun. We also feel that watching the "older girls" has served to be an educational and inspirational experience for our young dancers. (They talk about it for a long time afterward!) We do not require the young dancers who perform in the first half of the ballet to purchase a ticket for a seat as we are trying to encourage them to stay. It's a little late for some of the little ones, but it is a special night!

2. I thought I would notify parents in advance that children in the first half of "*Cinderella*" will be asked to arrive at the Middle School on Saturday morning, May 30 (Dress Rehearsal) by 9:30-9:45am at the latest. Please keep in mind that we will start on time: 10:00 a.m..

During this busy time, we ask that you try to take a few minutes each week to read the bulletin board or website. This will help to keep you continuously updated.

A newsletter with further information regarding tickets, rehearsal and performance times, etc. will be issued at the beginning of May. Until then, please call or email the studio if questions arise.

On a side note, in an effort to help the environment by using less paper, you will now receive Newsletters, Billing statements, and other correspondences by email. Newsletters will be sent in the form of a pdf file. These files require the use of the Adobe Acrobat software. This software is available for free online if you do not already have it on your computer. If you are having difficulty opening these attachments please contact me via email or phone and I will be glad to help. Please note that there will be a copy of our newsletters posted in the waiting area for your convenience as well as on the website.

Sincerely,



Alicia Killela