CAVAT
THEATRE ARTS

NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2020

Firstly we would just like to say a huge thank you to all of those who continued their classes with us on zoom over the lockdown. It has been a funny time for all of us but we were so overwhelmed by everyone's support over the last few months, it really did mean the world to us. Now we can't wait to get back to classes in venues in September and have got some BIG news to go with that so please read this letter carefully. There is a lot of important information in this letter and it is a long one so we recommend sitting down with a cuppa and a couple of biscuits for the next 10mins while you give this a read!

*** NEW VENUE! ***

As of September 2020 we will no longer be running our Saturday classes from Ridgeway Primary School. All classes originally based at Ridgeway will now be at St. Mary's Church on Purley Oaks Road. St Mary's is just a minutes walk from our main venue Sanderstead Memorial Hall and will be run with social distancing measures and one way systems as per our other venues.
St Mary's offers us three beautiful and spacious halls to use for our busy Saturday schedule. Parking is available on the Purley Oaks Road and Beech Avenue as per our Sanderstead Memorial Hall parking.
All other Saturday morning classes will still be set at Sanderstead Memorial Hall as per your child's timetable.
New timetable info will be sent out soon with your child's new venue information for clarification of this, all class times and days will remain as per your timetable sent out in July.



St Mary's Church, Purley Oaks Road, Sanderstead, CR2 0NR

***** Covid19 *****
Important, please read carefully

Social Distancing

- All classes will always be run at a reduced capacity and with 2metres social distance between students and teachers .
- Students will be asked to stand on spots instructed by the teachers to decrease any risk of contact with other students.
- Parents/Guardians are not permitted to stay on the premises during classes, this includes pre-school. We ask you all to please respect our drop off and pick up policy while it is in place.
- *(If you have a child under the age of 4 starting a class for the first time with us and are worried about this, please drop us an email regarding this and we will put a plan in place).*

Drop off and Pick Up

- All venues will have clear signs showing drop off points and pick up points. Please ensure you read these signs carefully and follow all instructions while keeping 2metres from other parents/guardians.
- Students will pass hand sanitising stations on their way in and out of the building to ensure they are washing their hands before and after class.
- All adults must wear masks for drop off and pick up.
- If you would like your child to walk home without a guardian or meet you in your car then we will need this sent to us by email giving us clear permission to allow your child to leave the premises unattended.
- There is a 5 minute change over gap between each lesson to ensure students get in and out of the building safely with minimal contact between classes.
- On a Saturday at St Marys Church (previous Ridgeway classes) we will not be able to have shared sign in and out sheets, therefore we will be asking you to sign in with an assistant on arrival and sign out with an assistant when leaving. Assistants will be holding clipboards of the childs FIRST class of the day and this is where they should sign in, they will then sign out with the assistant holding the clipboard of the students LAST class of the day. Assistants will be walking students between lessons ensuring students are never left unattended between classes.

Hygiene

- We ask all parents/guardians to ensure children are sent to class in a freshly cleaned uniform every day. We understand this may mean students have to mix and match their uniform occasionally and ask you to do your best in sending students in the correct, clean uniform. More options can be found on our website should they be required and Cavat leggings/t shirts are acceptable for jazz classes if it saved a leotard for another day of the week.
- Students and teachers will be asked to use the hand sanitizing stations between every class.
- Teacher will not be using props in class, please keep a close eye on your emails from your teachers asking students to bring their own props into classes each week.
- Students will be assigned a chair when entering the building, they will be asked to put their dance bag and a labelled drinks bottle on this chair along with any other props they have been asked to bring. Please refrain from sending students into the building with any unessential items such as coats, school book bags etc. Students should only have the essentials for their lessons ahead that day to keep outside items to a minimum in the building.
- Students are not permitted to dance in bare feet. Please ensure students have ballet shoes or jazz shoes for any classes they may have worn bare feet for in the past. These can be bought from our website.
- Students must bring their own drinks bottle to class and this MUST be clearly labelled with their name, they will not be able to borrow cups in the building and we do not want students accidentally mixing up their drinks between classes.

- If students have a snack break between classes they are not permitted to share food or cutlery with other students. In most venues there will be a designated “break area” between classes for students to socially distance during their break.
- Ballet barres will not be used in class for the foreseeable except for Pointe classes.
- Teachers will have masks and gloves to wear when changing Pre-school and Primary students shoes between classes. We encourage parents to change any laces on shoes to elastics or teach children to tie their own laces to keep contact between students and teachers to a minimum.

In the event of another lockdown –

- Classes will continue for the remainder of the term or the specified lockdown time on zoom.
- Refunds are not able to be given in the event of another lockdown but we will do our best to offer an alternative where possible, this is most likely to be online.
- If classes need to continue on zoom for a following term after this Parents/Guardians will not be obligated to pay for online classes.
- You will be informed by email and social media of any changed regarding classes, not by phone. Please ensure you have our email address saved to your mail address book so we do not go into spam and you do not miss important updates.

Signs / Symptoms & Exposure & Track and Trace –

- If your child or a member their bubble or household has been asked to self-isolate or is showing signs of Coronavirus (new and persistent dry cough, temperature, loss of taste or smell, difficulty breathing) then please do not send them to class and inform us immediately by email. You are asked to follow the rules of the NHS track and trace and get yourself tested immediately and if the test is positive to let us know ASAP.
- We will be running a track and trace system via our registers. If we are informed of a student who has tested positive we will inform all pupils in that student’s class by email immediately and those classes will continue online for the following week and assessed on a case by case basis.
- All Cavat staff will be following the same rules and guidelines regarding track and trace and the student will be informed if they have been in close proximity to a staff member who has tested positive for Coronavirus.

Private Schools –

We are still awaiting confirmation from Laleham Lea, Old Palace and Cumnor House regarding external clubs teaching in schools in September. We are hopeful to be back at the schools at some point in the Autumn Term but for now we recommend confirming a space in one of our Cavat Main School classes in the week or on a Saturday until we have confirmation of Private School classes continuing. Thank you for your patience and understanding in this matter.

Exams –

If students were due to take an exam in academic year 2019-2020 then we have moved the class up to the next grade and they will no longer take this exam in order to keep the students progressing through the grades and strengthening their technique. If you paid for an exam session which was cancelled for March or June, we do have a note of this and this payment will be deducted from your fees next term. We are yet to have confirmation from the ISTD regarding exams for this academic year and will keep you updated with any necessary exam information via email.

We hope this answers any questions or concerns you may have about returning to Cavat in September and I hope you are as excited as we are to get back to venues! We have a full Covid19 specific risk assessment on file at every venue. This is available by email on request.

Invoices will be sent shortly along with a Covid19 disclaimers covering all the above points, we ask all parents to carefully read this and sign it before attending classes in September.

*** Teacher News***

Congratulations to our lovely ballet and acro teacher Steph and her husband James who welcomed their second little one into the world over lockdown. Emilia Lillian Stephanie Stocker was born in April during the lockdown! Harry is really enjoying being a big brother!
We can't wait to welcome Steph back from her maternity leave this September.





It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to five of our lovely teachers this year. Lucy, Matthew, Christine, Emilia and Maria will sadly not be returning to classes in September but we hope to see them back with us at Cavat in the future and wish them all the luck on their next adventures.

We are also extremely excited to be welcoming back our lovely Principal of the school, Caroline Aslett! Caroline will be teaching Monday morning preschool and tiny toes classes at Christ Church in Purley as of September. After attending the tiny toes classes with her daughters Megan and Leonie as students she is very much looking forward to teaching the classes again while her daughter move up to the next grades within the school.

A message from Caroline –



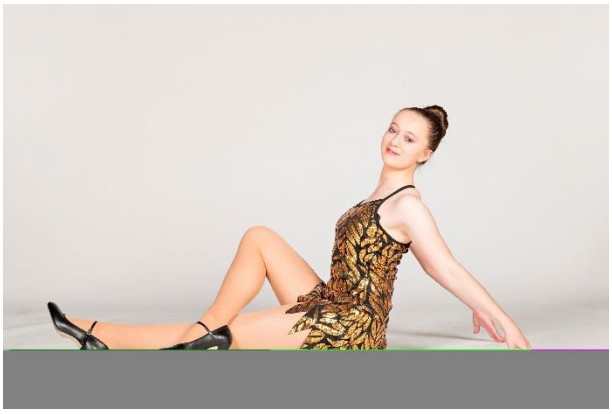
After 5 years away from regular teaching and working behind the scenes, it feels lovely to be teaching again next month, since both my girls will be at full time school & nursery.
I've really missed the interaction with the children & of course dance & can't wait to get back.
I just wanted to thank you all personally for all the support during the last 6 months & hope that the coming terms bring us all a little normality.
We've been working hard over the Summer to get everything in place for a safe & fun return to venues.
I look forward to seeing some children in September and catching up with more familiar faces over our shows in the summer- all being well & keeping everything crossed!

Cavat Leavers 2020

We are so proud of all of our students who come through Cavat over the years and build some amazing relationships with those who follow through the grades with us from our younger classes through to adults. We would like to wish a huge congratulations to all of those leaving us this year who were unable to finish off their final year with us in a studio due to Covid19.



Amelia Beresford joined Cavat for our Pre-School classes and has seen her Cavat journey right through from baby classed to 18 years old. Milly will be continuing her dance training at University in September.



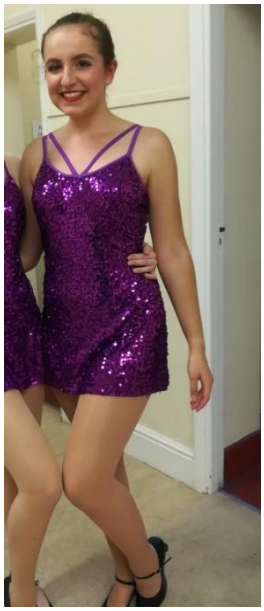
Anna Crossley started her journey with us at Cavat at a very young age and has continued to grow with us along the way. Anna is hoping to study psychology at university in September.



Ella Salter joined Cavat from Pre-School classes and has grown up with Cavat from baby class right through until now. Ella will now be starting her next adventure at university. She is hoping to study speech and language therapy at Birmingham University.



Kate Jukes is another one of our baby class students who has seen her Cavat journey out right up until the end of her school years. Kate has been offered a place at Bird College to study musical theatre and hopes to continue a career in the performing arts.



Rhianna Culverwell joined Cavat at 6 years old and has been a committed student ever since. Rhianna is planning to focus on her exams and apply to study history at university next year.



Lydia Hervey also joined us from baby class and has seen her Cavat journey from preschool up until 18 years old! Lydia is planning to continue her training by studying music at Liverpool University in September.

Of course another special thank you must be made to all our special dance mums and dads who have helped us throughout the years. To those who got involved with chaperoning, sewing costumes and volunteering their time to Cavat over their child's time with us – we thank you, it could not be done without you! Goodbye and please stay in touch all leaving parents and students!

*** IT'S SHOW YEAR! ***

As most of you are aware, we are scheduled to do our bi-annual shows in 2021!

All senior and junior show pupils will be required to attend a compulsory rehearsal at Sanderstead Memorial Hall on Saturday 19th June 2021. You will be emailed a time slot closer to the day.

Our senior show will be held at the Harlequin theatre in Redhill. The dates are as follows –
Friday 25th June - Compulsory Dress / Tech Rehearsal at The Harlequin Theatre.
Saturday 26th June 2021 – Show Performance Days at The Harlequin Theatre.

Our Junior show is scheduled to take place on Friday 2nd, Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th July 2021 at Sanderstead Memorial Hall.
We are so hopeful that we are still able to go ahead with the shows but will be awaiting government guidance on this before being able to confirm this.
Please pop the above dates in your diary and we hope to clarify this with you all before January 2021.

Watch Week

Please note all watch weeks and Christmas performances are to be confirmed for now. We hope to be in touch with more information on this soon as and when government guidance is updated.

Bad weather this winter

In the event of snow this winter, please check the school website www.cavatschool.co.uk or the school facebook page (Cavat Theatre Arts) for updates if classes are running. There are too many children involved to do a personal ring round of everyone so updates will be done by email and social media only. Alternative lessons will be offered if we have to cancel classes, rather than class refunds and classes may be switched to zoom until weather is safe for travel.

Uniform

Cavat uniform is available on our website. We are also now offering peronalised uniform as well as bags, onesies and other new items. Checkout all of our personalised options on our website.
Please ensure your child has the correct uniform for all classes and exams.

TPA

We are very pleased and excited to announce that will now have an association with TPA Casting. We hope this will give our students the opportunity to be forwarded for castings and auditions for TV and stage performing work as well as modelling . This can be a wonderful and exciting experience as well as a great insight into the industry for all ages.

If this is something that is of interest to you, please email to tpacasting@hotmail.com to express your interest.

***Competitions ***

We will be running a lot more competitions over the next academic year. Some of the prizes can consist of uniform, personalised items from our online store and sometimes even half a term of free classes. You can only enter to win the competitions by following our Facebook and Instagram pages so be sure to go and give us a like to be in for a chance of winning our next competition!

Sanderstead Memorial Hall

Sanderstead Memorial Hall are looking for local residents to volunteer to be a part of the SMH Committee. If you are interested please contact them directly 020 8668 2783.

Cavat Classes

Classes Currently running at Cavat are –
Ballet, Modern, Tap, Street, Acro, Singing, Musical Theatre, Drama , Private Singing, Jazz, Contemporary!
To trial a new class in September please email info@cavatschool.co.uk

Please note – half a terms notice is required in order to cease classes. Please always check your invoice for updates regarding this.

TERM DATES AND DIARY DATES CAN BE FOUND ON THE NEXT PAGE!

DIARY DATES	**Date(s)**	**Venue**
Term Starts (excluding Lamda)	Monday 7th September	SMH, St Marys, Christ Church
Last class of half term	Friday 23rd October	
Half Term	Saturday 24th October – Sunday 1st November	All Venues
Audition Technique Workshop 9am – 3:30pm Age 14+	Sunday 25th October	SMH
Mini Movers	Monday 26th October	SMH
Classes Recommence	Monday 2nd November	All Venues
End of term	Sunday 12th December	All venues
Spring Term Commences	Monday 4th January	All Venues
HALF TERM	Sunday 14th Feb - Sunday 21st February	All venues
Mini Movers Workshop	Monday 15th February	SMH
Mini Movers Workshop	Tuesday 16th February	SMH
Classes Recommence	Monday 22nd February	SMH
End of Term	Sunday 28th March	All Venues
Mini Movers	Monday 12th April	SMH
Mini Movers	Tuesday 13th April	SMH
Easter School	Wednesday 14th April – Friday 16th April	SMH
Summer Term commences	Monday 19th April 2021	All Venues
No Classes (Bank Holiday)	Monday 3rd May 2021	All Venues

Diary Date	**Date (s)**	**Venue**
HALF TERM	Saturday 28th May - Sunday 6th June	All Venues
Classes Recommence	Monday 7th June 2021	All Venues
Show Rehearsal (times tbc)	Saturday 19th June	SMH
COMPULSORY Dress and Tech Rehearsal (TBC)	Friday 25th June	The Harlequin Theatre, Redhill
Senior Shows	Saturday 26th June	The Harlequin Theatre, Redhill
Junior Shows (tbc)	Friday 2nd, Saturday 3rd, Sunday 4th July 2021	SMH
End of term	Sunday 4th July 2021	All Venues
Mini Movers Workshop	Monday 26th July	SMH
Summer School	Tuesday 27th July - Friday 30th July	SMH

For private school (Old Palace, Laleham Lea, Cumnor House) dates are yet to be confirmed, please continue to refer to the website www.cavatschool.co.uk for updates.