

# The Commotion Times

ISSUE #1 - 1st February 2010

**Welcome** to Commotion School of Performing Arts for 2010. We are about to begin a very exciting year filled with amazing opportunities and awesome experiences.

Over the last week Commotion has had more than 165 brand new enrolments. This proves once again that we are the fastest growing performing arts school in South-West Sydney.

Welcome to all of the new students. I know that the more experienced Commotionettes will offer you a warm welcome and help make the transition into our school easy for students and their parents.

Due to the large intake of new students, as well as lots of current students increasing their weekly class amount and moving into new age groups, there will naturally need to be some shuffling around between classes. The nature of our timetable provides an opportunity to put each student into a class best suited for their experience and capabilities. Over the next few weeks many students will be given a note to take home requesting they change to a different but similar class that may be better suited to their needs. We do this to ensure every Commotion student gets the most out of their experience with us, and can feel comfortable and confident in their class work and surroundings.

I ask for your patience as we sort through the changes that need to be made. The first week of dancing here is always a very busy one at the studio. Last year we had a very crowded foyer, and I'm expecting it to get even more chaotic and busy this year. Please understand that after a week or so, once we settle in to our new timetable, most parents just drop their children off at the door, and things around the studio calm down significantly.

I thank you in advance for your patience while we work through this hectic introduction to the year.

There are a couple of things that can be done to help alleviate congestion in the foyer and stress at the studio...

- Please don't bring prams inside for the first 2 weeks, as they take up too much space.

- Students need to take their bags into class with them, nothing should be left in the foyer.

- Once you've dropped your child off for their dance class, you may like to go over the road for a coffee, or even sit outside on our table and chairs.

- If you have a question for the teacher, please email it or call before 3pm, as they will be very busy once classes start each day.

- Don't forget to read through the 2010 Student Handbook which is on the website. This has answers to most of your questions.

- The toilet is across the car park next to the florist. The key is held at the desk. Please make sure that younger students have been to the toilet before their class starts so as not to disrupt the lesson.

Finally, please don't stress if the class has too many students in it. We will be moving kids to different classes to make sure that no class is over populated. This will take a couple of weeks, but in time there will be balance.

We have strict guidelines for how many we will allow into each class, and though in the first week, there may be over 30 in a class, this will change as we observe the students aptitude and ability and we move everyone into their right class.

## **TROUPE...**

Auditions for Troupe will be in class over the first few weeks of this term. The process is simple, stress-free and designed to cause as little anxiety as possible. Invitations will be given out in a few weeks.

## **\*\*\*BREAKING NEWS\*\*\***

Due to the high amount of new students joining this year, we will be holding a special audition for Troupe, only open to new students and students who weren't in Troupe last year. This will be held on **Friday 12th February**. Please turn up to the timeslot listed in the timetable for the age group Troupe that you want to audition for. The age cut off is late September (so a 12 year old who turns 13 in September can still audition for 12/under Troupe.)

Attendance at this special audition is not compulsory to admittance into Troupe, but it will increase your chances of being considered. It will also offer a good opportunity to get to know me and for me to get to know you. If you can't make it, don't worry, students will also be selected from their regular classes for Troupe.

If you are coming to the special audition, just bring your Jazz shoes, Hip Hop shoes and a smile.

## **IN OTHER NEWS...**

Commotion concert DVDs and photo DVDs are still available at the front desk. Purchase your copy today.

New Commotion dancewear will be coming in about 2 weeks, keep an eye out for fresh stock.

The Commotion website has been updated and has plenty of information to keep everyone educated about the goings on around here, and future events and performances.

Visit [www.commotionkids.com](http://www.commotionkids.com) and add it to your favourites. Or better yet, make it your homepage.

Friday students, please note that Glenn Wood Tap and Technique classes will start THIS week, even though troupe doesn't start for a few more weeks. Please make sure you get the note about times.

Thank you,

Ben Stokes