

Issue 12
Feb/Mar '16
Term 4

Top Hat Chat

Message from the Principal...

What a fantastic end to a short but sweet term.

The highlight for me??... The Musical Theatre Evening! I am just so wonderfully proud of the professionalism of all our students, and their performances. Congratulations to all who took part.

Next up we have 'Show Term'!! Preparations begin for our Matinee and Evening performances on July 9th. Costume buying, rehearsing, stressing.... My favourite time of year!!! I know all of our Top Hat teachers are excited to make 'POPTASTIC' our best show yet... Bring on the fun!

Good luck to all students taking part in Northampton dance festival. Shine like the stars you are...

And in the spirit of the forthcoming show preparations, a rather apt quote...

'I'm not telling you it's going to be EASY. I'm telling you it's going to be WORTH IT.'

I wish you all a very Happy Easter Break

Miss Julie xxx



Julie McKenna's

Top Hat

THEATRE SCHOOL



YOU HELPED US RAISE £5819.89 TO SEND OUR STUDENTS TO PERFORM AT DISNEY!!



Hello Top Hatters!

We have had a brilliant term of fundraising...

Our festival presentation evening was wonderful, the children were brilliant, and we raised just under £80.

We also had the fabulous Top Hat Talent show, which was a roaring success and raised £257.50!

Our Night with Dolly bought in £1187.50 and was so much fun!

And the final fundraiser for last term... The Clothes Swishing event, which raised £285.

All profits from the fabulous Musical Theatre Showcase were added to the pot too!

Along with raffles here and there, cake sales and tuck shop, we have proved that every little helps!!

A huge thanks you to those who have supported us in any way!



And we have so much more to look forward to in the Summer term!

Northampton Carnival (11th of June!)

The meeting to discuss decoration and ideas is on the 14th of April 7:30 at The Spinney Hill Pub please feel free to join us!

Our Wonderful Sharon Burn is organising another **Fashion Show! 30th of April!** (Any aspiring models please contact her!)

Summer Fete Party! 16th of July at The Spinney Hill Pub

It is going to be a brilliant afternoon of fun and games a great way to end an amazing year!

And for Disney...

The Big Sleepover this weekend (**1st of April at Berserk!**) Bring your duvets and pillows!

Car Wash- 17th of April at Harlstone Heath Garden Centre

The Disney peeps will be jetting off in about 9 weeks and are working hard to prepare. They have had some great fundraisers this year and we are very proud at the effort put in to the events.

The next FOTHS meeting is on the 5th of May - Venue TBC

Every one is welcome to join us to prepare for our summer activities.

Thank you to everyone who has come and supported us at an event, has paid for a raffle ticket or made a donation, we really are so very grateful.

The FOTHS Team.

Star Pupils

Evie Dark is Miss Julie's Star pupil
For showing great improvement over the last term.
Miss Julie is very proud of her progress and how far she has come!

Evie Dark is also Miss Emma's Star Pupil!
Since September Evie's progress has grown so much.
She is always polite and works very hard, which was proven when she
gained Distinctions in her last 2 dance exams!
Keep up the good work!

Remaya Barnes gets the title from Miss Tracey
For always giving it her all!

Beth Pritchard takes it for Miss Em
An absolute pleasure to have in class! Perfectly behaved and just bursts with
character with everything she does! Such a fab little performer!

Eva Preston wins it for Miss Soeli.
So polite and well mannered, she works super hard and listens very well!
She is a lovely little dancer!

And last but not least, **Ethan Ewen** gets Miss Kelly's vote.
He is always ready to go and does all that is asked of him!
He has really started coming out of his shell the last half term
A superstar in the making!



Top Hat Theatre School



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Top Hat Theatre School



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Editor's note

The time has come for Top Hat Chat to gain a new lease of life and a new editor! I have now resigned as editor to hand you over to Miss Em, who will take the reins, (although I will still be involved in writing the twirling sections!) Thank you for all your support over the last two years, and I hope you enjoy reading the new editions of your newsletter.

Deb x

Eek! Here's hoping I can live up to Deb's high standards!

Please keep all of your updates and info coming in on Facebook or via email so I may keep everyone up to date with the school's successes and victories and any other business!

Feedback on the new design/structure is also welcomed, this is your newsletter so you need to like it!

Em x

Top Hat Twirlers

National Championships 2016

Ten of our twirlers took part in the National Baton Twirling Championships in Crawley over the Easter weekend, having been selected at the Area competition in February, which is a massive achievement in itself.

Nationals gives twirlers an opportunity to move up to the next stage if they are placed in the top 7 places (at Beginner and Novice level) and in the top 3 at Intermediate level.

Our results are below...

Jess Crouch

Senior Plus Inter - Solo - 6th

Senior Plus - Poise & Personality 5th

Senior Plus Inter - Fancy Strut - 6th

Caitlin Jilbert

Senior 1 Inter -Solo - 4th

Senior 1 - Poise & Personality - 4th

Senior 1 Inter/Adv - 2 Baton - 7th

Milly McNeer

Junior 1 Novice Solo - 7th

Dance Twirl - 3rd

Fancy Strut - 5th

Milly now moves up to Inter in these sections

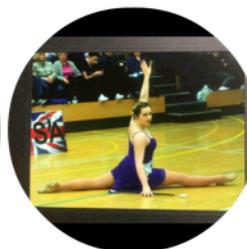
Megan Rowles

Junior 2 Poise & Personality - 5th

Ruby Tweed

Juvenile 2 Beginner Solo - 5th

Fancy Strut - 7th



And special mention to the other 5 Top Hat students who twirled their socks off ...

Libby Burton, Eadie Rose Clarke, Rheanne Firman, Alessia Maxsted, & Codie Mitchell

Congratulations to all the athletes who took part in what was three tough days of competition

England Selections 2016

Following the three days of National Competition, some very tired twirlers took part in the selection process for International competitions to represent their country.

Caitlin Jilbert, who is part of the England Team, will be representing the country at the World Championships, which will be held in Sweden in August.

Megan Rowles is part of the Envoy Group who have been chosen to represent England in Artistic Twirl at the European Cup in France in July.

Both the England Team and Envoy Group will be performing at the British Open in May. Good luck to both of you, and congratulations on your selection.

FESTIVAL NEWS



We continued to increase our presence at local Festivals over the last term, with lots of new faces giving it a go, and 3 of our specially choreographed group numbers having their debut. Lots of high marks, good feedback and super proud parents and teachers! And the best part?? The wonderful team spirit of the Top Hat Family! And we had some medal winners too...

Bedfordshire Festival

Alice Burn - Song - 1st

Milton Keynes Festival

Jay Jay, Darcie and Poppy - Trio - 1st

Alycia Goredema - Tap solo - 3rd

Maggie Shaw - Drama Solo - 1st

Amalie Lines - Drama - 3rd

Evie Dark - Poem - 1st

Rheanne Firman - Drama - 1st

Joely Wright - Song - 1st

Maggie Shaw & Eadie Rose Clarke - Drama (I think) - 1st

Northampton Festival of Dance is just around the corner, running from 4th - 9th April at The Cripps Hall. The lovely Caroline Karabin has been keeping everyone up to date with times etc, but if you are unsure of anything, please do get in touch sooner rather than later.

As communicated over email recently, the group numbers currently being set by Miss Emma are not yet ready for this festival but will be firing on all cylinders for the next festival. All entry fees that were paid for these numbers will be made up for with a free rehearsal next term.

Take a moment to think...

I found the most perfect quote to capture the general feeling from the teachers at the moment, and I really want every pupil to think about what it means to them...

'You are rewarding a teacher poorly if you remain always the pupil'

Festivals are a great confidence builder! Go out there and have fun! If possible, watch your competition, this is how you will get better! Take responsibility for your own improvement. Be proactive! Take every opportunity you can to improve yourself, be it practicing, stretching, watching inspirational performances on You Tube or TV, or buddying up with your dance friends and giving each other honest feedback!

Performance comes from the heart, and that is something a teacher cannot control. 'Dancing with the feet is one thing, but dancing with the heart is another'

'PRACTICE LIKE YOU'VE NEVER WON, PERFORM LIKE YOU'VE NEVER LOST'