

BENNETT SCHOOL OF BALLET & JAZZ

End of Year Show Notice 2021

Information about Tickets, Helpers, Final Week Rehearsals & Performances

As you can probably imagine, Mrs Bennett is incredibly busy at this time of the year designing costumes, purchasing fabric, sewing, choreographing dances and, of course, teaching! Consequently, all communication about the End of Year Show (questions, offers of help, etc.) should be sent to Tor at endofyearshowbennettschool@gmail.com



The end of year show “Snow Queen” is able to go ahead under Alert Level 2, but there will need to be some modifications to ensure we comply with all requirements and we keep everyone safe. This means that we’re having to adapt some of our systems and rethink the way we do things.

As a result, some things may take longer than usual or need to be done differently. We ask for your patience and cooperation during this time and that you remember what’s most important in all of this – that your children get the opportunity to perform on stage and share with us their love of dance.

Thank you! 😊

TICKETS

There will be fewer tickets available for each show than usual because of the need for social distancing within the theatre. We can sit people together if they’re all in one group, but we need to leave empty seats around each group.

This year we will be implementing allocated seating so that we can ensure social distancing is maintained but we maximise the number of people we can safely fit into the Auditorium for each performance. However, the seats will be allocated by BSBJ so that we can look at the group sizes and strategically place them within the theatre to “waste” as few seats as possible (while following Level 2 restrictions). When you purchase tickets we’ll take your name and then when you come to the show we’ll have a list of everyone attending and their allocated seats.

All audience members aged 12 years and over will need to wear a mask at all times and sign in using the QR code or by manually filling in the sign-in sheet. There will also be hand sanitiser available in the foyer.

Tickets for “Snow Queen” can be purchased at BSBJ in the Stuart St entrance from 10am to 12pm on Saturday 20 November and Saturday 27 November and in the foyer of the Kavanagh College Auditorium during the rehearsals there on Monday 29 November, Wednesday 1 December and Thursday 2 December, or by putting the correct money in an envelope with the following details on the front - your child’s name, your name, your email address, the performance you wish to attend and the number of adult, children or family tickets required. Tickets will be then be given to your child at their next lesson.

Please note that there are no eftpos facilities at the dance school or at the theatre so tickets can be purchased with cash only.

In order to watch all or part of a show, a ticket must be purchased. Unfortunately we cannot accept IOUs and people are not allowed to just pop into the theatre to watch their child dance. The revenue from ticket sales is very important for helping to cover the costs associated with putting on the show and having people coming

and going from the auditorium is very distracting for both the performers and the rest of the audience, as well as being a health and safety issue.

Ticket prices are as follows:	Adult (18 years and over)	\$18.00
	Child (5 years & over)	\$10.00
	Child (under 5 years)	Free (no seat)
	Family Ticket	\$46.00 (2 adults & 2 children)

Please note that this year any free Children tickets (for under 5 year olds) cannot have a seat allocated to them (because of the smaller number of seats available) so the child will need to sit on someone's lap. If you would like a seat for your under 5 year old, then you will need to purchase a Child ticket (\$10).

It is unlikely that there will be door sales this year because of the reduced number of tickets available for each show (as a result of social distancing requirements).

VOLUNTEER HELPERS FOR THE PERFORMANCES

Parents/Caregivers are needed to help with the following jobs for the end of year show:

- * Supervising children in a dressing room during one of the performances. (This requires you to stay in the dressing room for the duration of the whole show.)
- * Helping with front of house for one of the performances (taking tickets, giving out programmes, showing people to their seats, etc.).
- * Helping the Tiny Tots into and out of their costumes at the dress rehearsal (Thursday 2 December, 3.45pm-5.00pm, Kavanagh College).

If you can help with any of the above jobs, please let Tor know via text (027-635-1512) or email (endofyearshowbennettschool@gmail.com). Your support is very much appreciated.

FINAL WEEK REHEARSALS

During the week of the show (the week starting Monday 29 November), all dance classes will be replaced by rehearsals at the Kavanagh College Auditorium.

Given the number of students involved in the show, we're never going to be able to work in with everyone's schedules. However, it's very important that everyone is at all the rehearsals they're meant to be at and that they stay for the whole time they're meant to be there so that everyone is fully prepared for their experience on stage. It can be very difficult if students are not at these rehearsals as your child's class is like a team and it is very hard to practise the dance with people missing and frustrating for our teachers and the dancers who are at the rehearsal.

Closed Rehearsals

All the rehearsals at the Kavanagh College Auditorium will be **closed rehearsals**. This means that parents, caregivers and anyone else not in the show will not be allowed into the Auditorium before or during rehearsals. This is so the students and the production team can focus completely on the rehearsal without interruptions and without people constantly coming in and out of the Auditorium.

Children can be dropped off in the foyer and either go into the Auditorium on their own or, if they're a bit younger and unsure, they will be taken into the Auditorium by a senior student who will then ensure they are seated with their class and are settled.

As teachers and parents we take the safety of your children/our students very seriously and we can reassure you that they will be perfectly safe while at these rehearsals. The children will be required to be in the Auditorium at all times (either sitting in a seat in the audience or on stage). There will be an adult in the foyer at all times who will ensure that any students who come out of the Auditorium to use the bathroom return to the Auditorium once finished and do not slip outside.

Final Week Rehearsal Schedule

The Final Week Rehearsal Schedule is a separate document, as well as the list of Who's Who in the show. Please refer to these documents to check what character your child is in the show and when they're required during the final week rehearsals.

Students should be ready to start rehearsals at 4pm sharp rather than just arriving at 4pm and still needing to get changed. In order to get through everything, we can't afford to waste any time.

The Tiny Tots are only required on Thursday 2 December (the Dress Rehearsal) from 3.45pm-5pm.

If after reading the Final Week Rehearsal Schedule you're still unsure when your child is required to attend rehearsals at Kavanagh College, please check with Tor in advance.

PLEASE NOTE: For the Monday and Wednesday rehearsals, some students are only required until 6pm while others are required until 7pm – this is clearly indicated on the rehearsal schedule. At the Thursday Dress Rehearsal, though, all students (other than Tiny Tots and Adults) are required from 4pm-7pm.

Dress Rehearsal

The rehearsal on Thursday 2 December will be a Dress Rehearsal. Please make sure that students arrive in time to find their costume, get changed and be ready to start at 4pm – we suggest arriving at 3.45pm.

No make-up is required for the dress rehearsal.

Tiny Tots – please go directly to the Common Room when you arrive at Kavanagh College rather than going to the Auditorium. The Common Room is the building slightly to your left as you walk up the driveway (on the corner of York Place and Tennyson Street) towards the Auditorium. There will also be signs up indicating where the Common Room is.

As with the rehearsals on Monday and Wednesday, the Dress Rehearsal will be a **closed rehearsal** and no parents, caregivers or other adults will be allowed into the Auditorium. There will be plenty of senior students available to assist any younger students who need help.

All Tiny Tots will get changed in the Common Room. There will be a number of adult helpers assigned to assist and any parents or caregivers who are willing to stay and give a hand will be most welcome. However, please be aware that you will be helping in the Common Room and not accompanying the children to the Auditorium. Once the Tiny Tots are all in their costumes, the senior students who have been assigned to the Tiny Tots classes will come over to the Common Room and escort their class to the Auditorium. This is what will happen for the actual shows and so it's great for the little ones to get to practise this in advance.

Once the Dress Rehearsal is finished for the Tiny Tots, the senior students will bring the Tiny Tots back to the Common Room where they will take off their costume and then they will be ready to go home. During the rehearsal, the parents and caregivers of Tiny Tots can either wait in the Common Room or pop away and come back at 5pm to collect their little ones. All Tiny Tots should be picked up from the Common Room and the adult helpers will make sure that no Tiny Tots are left in the Common Room unsupervised in the event that a parent or caregiver is a little late getting back.

What Your Child Needs At The Rehearsals & Shows

Please make sure that your child has the following items when they come to the final week rehearsals at the Kavanagh College Auditorium and to the performances:

- Ballet shoes and/or jazz shoes.
- Pink ballet tights (girls in ballet classes).
- White socks (boys in ballet classes).
- Full length black leggings (jazz students).
- Dance clothes (for Monday and Wednesday rehearsals).
- Water (it can get hot in the Auditorium) and some food to snack on.
- Things to do while not on stage – this could include homework, books to read, activity books, colouring books, electronic devices (with the sound turned off), etc.

Please make sure that your child's items, particularly dance shoes, are named. Also, if you have a younger child, it's a good idea to check their bag before leaving Kavanagh College after their rehearsal just to make sure they've picked up their dance shoes. (We had a few left behind at rehearsals in the past.)

PERFORMANCES

Friday 3 December at 6.00pm, Saturday 4 December at 1.00pm, Saturday 4 December at 4.30pm

Your child will be required at Kavanagh College at 5.30pm on Friday and at 12.30pm and 4.00pm on Saturday. The children will be told which classroom they will be using as a dressing room during the final week rehearsals and this information will also be emailed to families. During the performances all children will be supervised in their dressing room by adult helpers before and after they dance.

Please do not send children along earlier than half an hour before the shows - the dressing rooms will be not be supervised before these times and the children don't need more time than this to put on their costumes.

The concert goes for approximately 2½ hours and children may stay between the shows on Saturday. They will not be allowed to leave and go anywhere, so please make sure they have plenty of food and drink with them.

Please note the following when preparing your child at home for the performances:

- Long hair must be in a bun (fringes and any loose wisps of hair must be pinned back) and short hair must be in a ponytail or clipped back at the sides with bobby pins.
- Make-up and hair should be done at home with just final touches completed in the dressing rooms if necessary. It's simply not possible for a small number of helpers to do hair and make-up for large numbers of students in a short amount of time, so please do this at home beforehand. All students (even Tiny Tots) need to have their hair and make-up done in this way as this is dance etiquette.
NOTE: Videos showing how to do hair and make-up will be available to view on the BSBJ Facebook page closer to the time of the performances.
- Nail polish is not permitted and should be removed prior to the shows please.
- NO JEWELLERY AT ALL IS TO BE WORN (except for medic alert bracelets). Please leave all valuable jewellery at home for safety reasons.
- All students need to bring their dance shoes and tights/socks/leggings as required. These will not be provided.

All costumes need to be left tidily in the dressing rooms after each show. **Please do not take the costumes home** between shows (in case something gets damaged or left at home by mistake) or after the final show (as the costumes are often re-used from year to year or sometimes hired out to other schools).

Please send your children to the shows with snacks, water and things to do quietly. It can get quite hot in the dressing rooms and so it's important that the children remain hydrated. Electronic devices may be used in the dressing rooms, but the dance school is not responsible for anything that goes missing or is damaged.

During the shows, the children are supervised in the dressing rooms and the younger children are escorted to and from the auditorium by responsible senior students so they are never left alone.

PARKING

Parking around Kavanagh College can be tight, so please make sure that you leave enough time to park somewhere safely when dropping off and picking up your child from the final week rehearsals.

Please **DO NOT** park up the driveway at Kavanagh College or drive up there to drop off children (both on rehearsal and show days) – even if the driveway is not chained off. It is extremely dangerous to have vehicles moving in and out of the driveway as there will be lots of people, including very small children, wandering around.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no further dance classes for 2021 after the show.

If you have any questions at all about the Show or the Final Week Rehearsals, please don't hesitate to email Tor or stop by the Stuart St entrance of BSBJ on Saturday 20 November or Saturday 27 November between 10am and 12pm and ask Tor (who will be there selling tickets).

Please remember that the production team has had many, many years of experience and we all want the show to be a wonderful experience for your child – and for all the proud parents, caregivers, extended family members and friends in the audience.

We're very grateful this year that we can actually still stage a show, albeit with restrictions and smaller than usual audiences, and we thank you for your co-operation and for your support as we navigate our way through this new reality.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Saturday 20 November & Saturday 27 November

Tor will be at the Stuart St entrance of BSBJ selling tickets and answering questions - 10am-12pm.

Saturday 20 November

Zoom meeting at 2.30pm for new dance school parents to go over any questions you may have and to run through how things work at the shows. (The link for this will be distributed closer to the time.)

Monday 29 November & Wednesday 1 December

Rehearsals at the Kavanagh College Auditorium (see separate Final Week Rehearsal Schedule for details).

Thursday 2 December

Dress rehearsal at the Kavanagh College Auditorium (see separate Final Week Rehearsal Schedule for details).

Friday 3 December

Performance at the Kavanagh College Auditorium at 6pm.

Saturday 4 December

Performances at the Kavanagh College Auditorium at 1pm and 4.30pm.

