

# BENNETT SCHOOL OF BALLET & JAZZ

## FEBRUARY 2025



A big welcome to all new and returning students and their families. We hope the start of the year is going well for everyone and we look forward to you being a part of BSBJ in 2025.

### **NEW PARENTS**

If you have not yet completed an enrolment form for your child/ren, please see Mrs Bennett. This is vital in case a child becomes ill during a dance class and parents need to be contacted urgently.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child/ren, I would appreciate you contacting me during the day between 9am and 2.30pm (027-208-7413) rather than while I'm teaching or after hours. You can also email at any time ([bennettballetandjazz@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bennettballetandjazz@xtra.co.nz)) or text. Emails and texts are checked throughout the day.

If, however, you do need to contact me URGENTLY during teaching time, I am available by cell phone on 027-208-7413. If it is not answered, please leave a message or text and I will call you back as soon as I can. Your cooperation with this is much appreciated.

### **TERM 1 FEES**

To ensure the successful running of the dance school, term fees need to be paid within two weeks of your invoice being sent. Thank you.

For internet banking the account # is 06 0901 0416601 00 (Please make sure that you include your child's surname, their first name or initial, and the Account Number as otherwise it can sometimes be difficult to know exactly who the payment is for.)

### **BENNETT SCHOOL OF BALLET & JAZZ HANDBOOK**

We have a BSBJ Handbook for parents and students. The Handbook was emailed in November 2024 to all families and it can also be read on the BSBJ website ([www.bennettballetandjazz.co.nz](http://www.bennettballetandjazz.co.nz)). Parents new to the dance school in 2025 should have received the Handbook with their enrolment form, but please let us know if you didn't get this and we can email it to you.

All parents and students should read the Handbook as it contains important information about the dance school and may clarify any questions you have. Paper copies of the Handbook are available from your child's teacher if you are unable to access it online.

### **EXISTING STUDENT DETAILS**

Please let Mrs Bennett know (preferably via email) if any information about your child and/or your contact details have changed recently – e.g. cell phone numbers for emergency contact, email addresses, medical issues, etc. It's important that we have up to date information for health and safety reasons.

### **EMAILS**

You may need to check the spam filter on your email account and add BSBJ as a friend in order to receive emails from the dance school. Please check your emails for notices regularly. It is your responsibility to check and read these notices so you are aware of what's happening at the dance school. Notices may be longer than one page, so please always check for any additional pages. Notices are also posted on the notice board outside Studio 1.

### **NOTICES ON THE WEBSITE**

The latest notice is always posted on the dance school website (click on the link at the bottom of the Home page), so please check there if you need information about an upcoming event or date.

You can also "Like" the Bennett School of Ballet & Jazz on Facebook as current information can be found there too. (Please note, though, that we do not put the notices on Facebook.) We also use Instagram to share information.

## **ANNIVERSARY DAY - PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

The dance school will be closed on **Monday 24 March** to observe Otago Anniversary Day.

## **NAMING CLOTHING**

Please make sure you name all dance clothing so that when things such as crossovers are taken off in class and bits and pieces are left in the Dressing Room they can easily be returned to their owner. If there are 20 pink crossovers that are all the same it's very difficult to know which one is yours without names on them.

## **BENNETT SCHOOL OF BALLET & JAZZ T-SHIRTS & HOODIES**

If you would like to order a Bennett School of Ballet & Jazz t-shirt (\$45) or zip front hoodie (\$70), please email Mrs Bennett and let her know your child's size. The t-shirts are black with the red dancer logo on the front and Bennett School of Ballet & Jazz written on the back. The zip front hoodies are black with the red dancer logo on the front, Bennett School of Ballet & Jazz written on the back and BSBJ initials down the arm.

Kids t-shirt sizes are 2 – 16

Adult t-shirt sizes are Women's 8 – 16 and Unisex S – 5XL

**Kids Hoodie Size Chart** (NOTE: The measurements are the size of the garment, not the size of the person)

Measurement (cm)	^06	^08	^10	^12	^14	^16
FullChest	80	85	90	95	100	105
Length(Top Shoulder Point)	48.5	51.5	54.5	57.5	60.5	63.5

**Adults Hoodie Size Chart** (NOTE: The measurements are the size of the garment, not the size of the person)

Measurement (cm)	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	5XL
FullChest	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	150
Length(Top Shoulder Point)	66.5	69.5	72	74.5	77	79.5	82	87

The closing date for t-shirt and hoodie orders is 12 March 2025.

## **LAST YEAR'S SHOW**

**Concert Photos** - Photos that were taken at last year's show are now available to view and download.

Photobucket:

<https://photobucket.com/u/bennettballetandjazz/a/39b79092-a8cd-4e54-9bc7-2986caa27fd4>

If you're asked to sign in, then use the following user name and password:

User name: bennettballetandjazz

Password: bennettballet

Google Drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/15f9NMpQGQUiOI3PgoFXIRLOFC1R7jhN?usp=sharing>

**Lost Property** - The box of lost property from last year's show is located in the Dressing Room.

## **CRAZY HAIR WEEK**

During the dance school year we have special weeks for a bit of fun. This term we're going to have a Crazy Hair Week during the week of March 10-15 when students are welcome to come to their dance classes with crazy hair styles. This is completely optional, though, and students can choose whether or not they would like to take part.

## **SECONDHAND CLOTHES & SHOES TO SELL**

Please feel free to bring in any secondhand dance clothes or shoes that you would like to sell as these are always in great demand particularly at the start of the year. Put each piece of clothing into a plastic bag with your name, phone number, and the price on the outside. If you're selling shoes, please just put one shoe into a bag with your name, phone number, and the price on it and give the second shoe to a teacher for safe keeping. All bags with goods for sale should be put on the sales table in the Dressing Room. Mrs Bennett will let you know when an item has sold.

If you would like to purchase an item from the sales table, please bring the correct money to pay for it (cash only) as change is not available.

### **NOISE & BEHAVIOUR IN THE CORRIDOR**

Just a reminder to families that the King Edward Court Building is a privately owned building with many users so please be respectful of the environment and the many different people in the building. This includes ensuring that children don't run up and down the corridors, jump or roll down the stairs, shout/make loud noises, or leave food lying around. This applies to children both before and after attending classes, or while waiting for siblings to finish classes. A lot of noise in the corridor can also be very distracting for the students in class. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **NO SMOKING/VAPING**

The King Edward Court building and grounds are a smoke and vape free zone.

### **MISS EMMA'S MATERNITY LEAVE**

Big congratulations to Miss Emma and Mr Andrew for the upcoming arrival of their baby girl! We can't wait to have another student at the dance school and we're all looking forward to supporting Miss Emma on this exciting new journey of parenthood.

Miss Emma will be taking a short absence when she's due and will be returning to classes in Term 2. Miss Kate, Miss Ana, Miss Matilda, and Mrs B will be covering some of Miss Emma's classes and we have two amazing new teachers who will be covering Miss Emma's Tap and Adults Jazz classes. We are excited to have them both on board!

Introducing **Miss Rebecca** who will be covering the Saturday Tap classes:

My name is Rebecca McCracken and I'm from Ōtepoti, Dunedin. I started dancing at the age of four and developed a strong passion for Tap Dancing. I had the privilege of training in ballet and jazz at the Bennett School before moving to Auckland to further my dance studies. I've had the joy of performing in numerous local musical theatre productions and spent several years running my own dance school, where I taught competitive Tap. After completing my dance studies at Auckland University, I earned a Master's Degree in Teaching and Learning. I am a teacher at Silverstream School where I enjoy fostering the love of learning while sharing my love for the performing arts. I look forward to getting to know you all and sharing my passion for Tap!

And **Miss Sophie** who will be covering Adults Jazz, Adults Tap, and Advanced Tap:

Sophie studied a Musical Theatre diploma at the Australian Performing Arts Grammar School in 2014, but before that was dancing from the age of 3. She taught at the dance school she attended in the North Island before relocating down south where she was a teacher for Danceworks Queenstown and now has East Otago Dance. Sophie has been in five shows with East Otago Musical Theatre, but this year is on the sidelines as she welcomed her daughter Heidi in August. Sophie is most looking forward to creating a fun and focused dance environment with her classes.

All going according to plan, Miss Emma will be on maternity leave starting 10 March.

Shona Bennett

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