

TINY'S AND MINI'S~☺ August news*

Hope you all are having great summer! Just a few reminders and some new information;

Both teams need to come in and get fitted for shoes during one of the **5:30-8:00 p.m. open houses** on August 16th or 18th. All shoes must be from the open house & not Dance N Things (it's a different color of tan). **This year we will open at 5:00 on Tuesday only for the team members so if you can make it at 5:00, please do so to avoid the madness☺ *please note~my staff will not be there until then so please do not to arrive before 5:00. You do need to pay when ordering. Other things you can pay for during open house are-balance of your team fee (\$125.00 **due** at open house), costume deposit for other classes, and class fees (optional). If you are a soloist, your fee is due to your choreographer when your sessions begin. Team will also receive the rest of their t-shirts that were ordered & possibly the garment bags if they are done. New Jackets & heart t-shirt will come in once classes start.

TINY's – will again wear slip-on jazz shoes in tan, no shoe strings. If you have an old pair you can wear those during dance classes. The dancer needs to be fitted; guessing sizes won't work☺ Everyone will need a new pair. \$34.50 plus tax. Tiny Soloists-may want to get their foot undeez at this time. Tiny's are not to wear foot undeez in Tiny team class please!

MINI'S- SAME shoes this year; NUDE FOOT UN-DEEZ. Some may want two-three pairs because of the wear and tear that these go through. Please understand this type of shoe is what makes our feet look & feel best. The dancer needs to be fitted, guessing sizes won't work☺ \$21.50 plus tax

Reminder that the \$125.00 fee is due by the Open Houses this year! A \$10.00 late fee will apply if the \$125.00 is not received. Unfortunately, a \$10.00 late fee also applied if we did not receive your summer commitment form 1 week after tryouts. If we had to call/e-mail looking for it, the fee applied. Your \$200.00 team fee covers such items as t-shirts, garment bag, costume/s, make-up, jacket, etc. Again, in January you will receive a final statement of where your money has gone. You may receive a credit or you may have a balance due depending on if you are a new or old member & the number of items you ordered. The one item we have you pay for when ordered (Nov.) is team hair. We wait for the summer highlights to fade out☺ and then have you in to match hair color. Each parent is responsible for deciding hair color with our color swatches.

**We will once again offer the flower BULB sale in September. This fundraiser is for individual accounts & the credits go straight onto your fee statement. This fundraiser is team only. Other fundraisers for the entire studio will also go on throughout the year.

During the 2nd week of classes they will receive calendar information as to when to wear which team shirt to class-~1st Tuesday of the month is team shirt day. They will wear this with black tights & booty shorts. Otherwise the dress code is; solid colored **BLACK leotard and BLACK (capri or footless) tights to every team class**. You can (optional) also order black booty shorts (low-rise or regular black booty shorts by BALERA can be found online \$9.00-\$11.00) to wear over leotard. No exceptions on dress code. Other classes really look up to these girls and we must maintain a higher standard. It's also a great look to clean routines & fix technique. Hair must be in a pony-tail or bun AND pulled back out of face. This year, notes will be sent home if the dress code or attendance policies start to become a problem. Their hair is a constant problem & distracts the little ones easily. Please put a head band in hair to keep it out of face. Please read the entire brochure for information. Attendance is also very important!!! You can also refer to your two page team information sheet you received before trying out.

A SUPER BIG thank you to Ashley Gunderson (summer team coordinator) & all those that helped Ashley organize the parade, worked on the float & and to all those that participated, hope everyone had a great time and the girls (and parents☺) looked awesome! I was super proud of our group!!!

ATTENDANCE-As we did this past year attendance will be looked upon slightly different for the dance teams. Parents come to me and say “my child only missed one practice in the fall for soccer” however, if every dancer takes their one turn missing for soccer then we never see everyone in class at the same time. Come to me if there is a specific important request. IF attendance is a problem the child will be put on performance probation where we decide if they will perform in March. Please, please make sure your child is in class. If they are sick and able to attend to watch, then that would be great. If they are too sick to come in, please send in a parent with a video camera. Last two weeks in Feb and all of March are mandatory to perform. Scheduling vacations during this time would not be a good idea because your child will **not** perform & will then affect all those on the team!!!! Gym time is also mandatory (you will receive schedule in Oct for the 2012 dates). With such big teams, the gym floor lines/entrance/exit points are crucial to their confidence!

Dates for 2012 contests are March 3rd (Centerville), 17th (Butler-Dayton Regional) and 24th (Oak Hills-Cincy Regional *new one we have not been to) & tentatively may do a stage contest May 19th/20th (may be just officers, we'll check school calendars later during the year). Officers State date; weekend of April 13th/14th/15th TBA

TINY/MINI FAMILY MEET AND GREET for Parents and Dancers:

The officer parents will be looking into a team “kickoff” gathering for dancers and parents.

OFFICER AUDITIONS- are on Wednesday, **AUGUST 24TH 5:30-6:30 (TINY'S) 6:45-8:00/8:15 (MINI'S) P.M.** In order to try-out you must have been on the team for one year and in 2nd/3rd grade for Tiny's and 5th/6th for Mini's. Please wear black leotard and black tights/booty shorts & make a statement with hair/make-up etc. Have a salute prepared (less than 20 seconds). This audition will run a lot like the June audition w/the addition of the salute and we will ask to hear several commands. We will prep you on the commands during the audition. They are the ones you watched your previous captain do last season. Officer duties for the year include making calls to their squad members for any reminders, gym rehearsals, practice cancellations due to weather etc. Officers are to be an example for the team with attendance, attitude, technique and dance memory! Officers boost morale and lend support to all team members during the year! Officer moms pretty much hold the title as well☺ Officer parents plan team functions and oversee the officer lines with the choreographers. I would like to introduce your new officer line choreographers this year; Miss Kim Owen & Miss April Caulfield (Mini's) along with Miss Kim Owen & Miss Margo Shininger (Tiny's). These teachers are very excited about the officer lines! So while considering a position for your child on the officer line please make sure your whole family is ready to be involved☺ Officer's will pay an additional \$100.00 into their team account by Oct 1st. We will talk about officer fees at the mtg (see below). Please RSVP to Danceexp@woh.rr.com if you are NOT trying out. Otherwise I will just put all returning members on the tryout score sheet. This is easier than asking who is trying out☺ The number of officers selected and the positions offered varies each year, **please understand** that we cannot take everyone and the judge's decision is final. 20% of their score is based on last year's attendance, work ethic, attitude and congeniality with other team members & staff. Tentatively Wednesday, August 31st we will have a meeting for new officers and parent/s. at 7:00 p.m. Good Luck and see you on the 24th of August! Good Luck to all of you because you're all fantastic kids!!!!

**Looking forward to a great
Dance Team season!!!!**