



Fall 2017 Newsletter

Welcome to the 2017/18 Season

We would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to all of our new families at EDCI this season, as well as to welcome back all of our returning families. We thank you for choosing Expressions Dance Centre Inc. for the 2017/18 Dance Season. We have a very exciting year ahead, as this year marks our studio's 15th year in the Whitby Dance Industry. We have lots of new and exciting opportunities coming to our studio this season, as well as many of our favourite "EDCI Annual Traditions" returning once again throughout the year.

Communication

Here at EDCI, we believe that communication is the key to success, therefore we will produce a **Studio Newsletter** & provide regular **E-news Updates** as more information becomes available. We also post **in-studio bulletins/reminders**. You are encouraged to **view the information boards at the studio regularly** when you come for your classes.

You can visit the EDCI website expressionsdance.ca as we will update our EDCI homepage on a regular basis with important info, upcoming events, photos, videos etc.

Follow us on Twitter or "Like" our official Facebook page for updates & information. We also post photos, articles and fun stuff too

We are confident that you will have an enjoyable year with us here at EDCI. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have throughout the year. Happy Dancing!

Contact Information

For general inquiries
dance@expressionsdance.ca

For account inquiries
danceaccounts@expressionsdance.ca

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Parents Portal

The **Parents Portal** is also a great resource for current information. You will find your current account statement, class specific information and updates, make a payment, find all important studio dates are listed in the calendar and much more.

We encourage you to set up your Parents Portal as effective January 1st, 2018 newsletters and updates will be available through the Parents Portal with an email notification stating that it has been posted.

Please ensure that the information is complete, current and accurate as this information will be used to reach you and in case of an emergency.

If you require a temporary password or would like us to reset your password, please let us know.

Our 2017/18 Teaching Faculty:

Ms Laurel Ashbee (*Artistic Director / Studio Owner*)

Ms Laura Bianco (*Teacher/Choreographer*)

Ms Tara Forbes (*Teacher/Choreographer*)

Our 2017/18 Studio Staff will include:

Ms Denise Ashbee (*Executive Director/Accounts*)

Ms Tanya Smith (*Reception Coverage*)

Wendy Melnick (*Parents Portal & Website*)

Student Volunteer Teaching Assistants:

Ms Sienna Smith

Ms Alyssa Smart

Ms Kaitlin Ashbee (*Jr. student assistant*)

Dance Class Regulation Uniforms

At EDCI, we strongly believe that the dancer's body is the instrument for expression through movement, and this is why we have a regulated "Class Uniform" required for every class. We also believe the uniform is essential for your child's success and safety in his/her program of study. It is important that the lines of the body be visible to the teacher; not only does it allow the opportunity to provide helpful feedback to the dancer, but most importantly it minimizing the risk of potential injury. This is why we ask for certain bodysuits, tights and footwear to be worn for all classes. Footwear must fit the foot properly and not leave "room to grow" into. Teachers may notify you if they feel your shoes do not fit correctly. If you have questions regarding your specific class uniform, please refer to our website at expressionsdance.ca under **CLASSES -> UNIFORM** or contact the studio for further clarification.

Volunteer / Community Hours

At EDCI we offer our experienced dancers (13yrs + over) the opportunity to assist alongside a qualified teacher, in classes with the younger children. Students will learn to assist the teacher as needed, correct students, spot students (when appropriate) and demonstrate the skills being taught. This is a great opportunity for the mature, reliable dance enthusiast looking to gain valuable work experience and/or for community volunteer hours for high school.

Please note: when applying for teaching assistant opportunities, students must be available to assist at the same day/time/class every week for the duration of the season.

Upcoming Events & Important Dates to Remember:

- ❖ Year-End Showcase Costume Deposits (for all students) – Due on or before November 1, 2017
- ❖ WINTER BREAK – STUDIO CLOSED Saturday, December 16, 2017 to Sunday, January 7, 2018
 - *Classes resume Monday January 9, 2018
- ❖ March Break - STUDIO CLOSED - Saturday, March 10, 2018 to Sunday, March 18, 2018
 - *Classes resume Monday March 19, 2018
- ❖ Year-End Showcase Dress Rehearsal(s) – Wednesday, May 23, 2018
- ❖ Year-End Showcase Performances – Friday, May 25, 2018 and Saturday, May 26, 2018 at the Whitby Courthouse Theatre



SEPTEMBER

Sierra K.	6-Sep	Abigail A.	8-Sep
Pia G.	13-Sep	Jordine B.	13-Sep
Brielle T.	14-Sep	Siann B.	18-Sep
Jennifer G.	19-Sep	Maddy G.	26-Sep
Emily B.	28-Sep		

OCTOBER

Catie G.	5-Oct	Sienna S.	8-Oct
Lindsey L.	9-Oct	Zoe K.	19-Oct
Kate T.	20-Oct		



Friendly Reminders:

STUDENT DROP-OFF & PICK-UP: please ensure students are dropped off prior to class start times, and picked up promptly at class end times (***particularly at studio closing time at the end of the night***). For safety reasons, we ask that all students wait for their rides inside the studio doors.

NO STREET SHOES IN THE STUDIO. This includes shoes that are being worn from the car into the studio. ***If they are worn outside, they are not suitable for use in the studio.*** DO NOT WEAR YOUR DANCE SHOES OUTSIDE. Students will be asked to remove any shoes that have been worn outside, to preserve the floors, and to insure the safety of our classes wearing their bare feet.

ABSENTEEISM: PLEASE CALL THE STUDIO if you are going to be absent, or for any urgent matters, as the studio Email is not always monitored on a daily basis.

POOR ATTENDANCE: Students with poor attendance, along with those not keeping up with the class material week after week may be required to arrange for an additional private lesson (***not included in monthly tuition fees, additional charges apply***).

LATE POLICY: if you know in advance that you are going to be late arriving, please call ahead. If you are running a few minutes late (traffic etc.) students should knock and enter at the appropriate time (between exercises only) and apologize to your teacher upon arrival. For safety reasons, students arriving 10 minutes late (or more) will not be eligible to participate in class, however they are encouraged to observe the class in order to be prepared for the next class.

STUDENTS SHOULD ARRIVE DRESSED IN UNIFORM or arrive a few minutes early to use the Change room facilities to change into their dance uniform. The studio will open 5-10 minutes prior to the first class of the day.

STUDENTS SHOULD USE THE WASHROOM BEFORE CLASS to avoid missing valuable class time.

PLEASE DO NOT USE THE WASHROOM FOR CHANGING (*with the exception of the male students*). Please keep the washroom available for staff & students needing to use the washroom between classes.

NO PEANUT OR TREENUT PRODUCTS are allowed in the studio at any time due to many severe allergies; EDCI is a Nut-Free zone.

NO EATING IN THE CHANGE ROOM – please eat all snacks, lunches/dinner in the reception area only. This not only helps to keep the change room clean, but also helps us monitor what food is being brought into the studio (due to many severe allergies such as milk, soy, etc.)

NO GUM in the studio – please dispose of it properly.

WATER BOTTLES: students may bring a labeled water bottle with a secured lid (containing water only) into the studio to place at the side of the room. ***Students please note that any water bottles brought into the studio must be taken with you when you leave.*** For younger children, we ask that parents keep their drinks for when they are finished class to avoid class disruptions.

THERE ARE NO CELL PHONES ALLOWED IN CLASSES:

All phones must remain in your dance bag switched off during classes.

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR JEWELLERY & OTHER VALUABLES AT HOME as they will not be permitted in class. Please leave all ipods, ipads, cell phones, video games etc. at home or with your parents.

NOTE: **EDCI is not responsible for lost/misplaced items**

ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE A DANCE BAG

for shoes, hair brush/elastics/hair pins, water bottles, and other personal belongings. This not only helps to keep the change room tidy, but more importantly keeps students organized, prepared for classes and prevents lost or misplaced articles. Students should have all uniform items and all dance shoes labeled with their last name and first initial for easy identification.

PLEASE KEEP VOICES LOW when classes are in progress (observing at the window, in the change room and/or in the waiting area) as noise travels easily and this can be very distracting and disruptive for everyone.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation ☺