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FESTIVAL 2020

Hi Everybody

We hope you all had a good summer and are all back into dance mode.

It doesn't seem like a year since we were composing the 2019 festival letter.

Any way here we go.

Firstly, thank you all for the great support and consideration with the continuing building works that was going on throughout the last two years. We are hoping that most of this is now completed. Last year we made great changes to the stage area with the help of the Guildford county school's caretaker Adam and his team. We also made some changes to the general running of the festival with great results, thank you all for that. It is early days, but we will be able to keep you all up to date with the school's progress early next year.

Our web site is being updated as we speak and you will be able to download all your documents from the 21st of October 2019, when we go live. The closing date for you to get your entries to us is the 14th December 2019. We recommend early entries to avoid disappointment.

DATES OF OUR FESTIVAL:

25th and 26th April 2020

2nd May 3rd MAY 2020

There is a week off due to venue commitments

16th and 17th May 2020

We expect to get a large entry again this year, being an All England Qualifier.

To that end, we have been looking at ways to make the process easier without having to cut entries.

We will not take any new schools until our regular schools have had their entries entered into the programme and timed. **This means those schools must get their entries in as early as possible to enable us to give everybody a chance to enter.**

We would like to take as many entries as possible .so hopefully early entries and early timing will help to get it all done. Please think very carefully when entering Novice children. To give true novices a real chance.

As you all know child protection is now a big part of organising a festival. We are all working to make it as easy as possible for everybody. Thank you to all the teachers for the big effort you made getting those postcodes to us. So firstly ,if you need to go back stage to be there for your pupils ,**YOU WILL NEED TO EMAIL ME WITH A COPY OF YOUR DBS to gen1e1@outlook.com** This will be listed and your badge made. When you arrive at the festival you will need to show your DBS to Peter or Heidi on the front desk. They will then issue you with your badge that you will need to sign for and return at the end of the day. **PLEASE NOTE YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED BACK STAGE WITHOUT YOUR BADGE.**

The parking is on the green next to the school. If you are coming from Guildford the parking is before the school on your left. If you are coming from the opposite direction , then the parking entrance is just past the school. There is no parking in the actual school grounds. Having said all that, the school has a big building programme going on in the car park. We will keep you informed about parking as soon as we have had a meeting with the school caretaker. There was around 50 spaces available last year. If that is the same for this festival, unless you are in the first few sections on each day, you will need to park in the nearby multi' storey car park. Farnham road. (near the railway station) It is all well signposted. It may well be much better for 2020 and again we will let you know in very good time.

There will be a photographer at the festival this year and it is of GREAT IMPORTANCE that each teacher gives me the names of any pupils that their parents do not want to be included. This will then be on the photographer's programme to tell him not to take their pictures.

Again this for child protection. Any updates on this will follow. No doubt there will be some and I have a meeting with surrey child protection/ safe guarding in the new year.

We have a good café again this year with Lynda in charge. I am sure you will agree, it was brilliant last year. Lynda did an amazing job.

For the groups , although you don't get a medal if the group is placed, each child can buy a medal and a ribbon for £4.50 if they would like one.

Please make sure any trophies won last year are returned by the first day of our festival.

The general rules should answer any other things you might like to know. But please email me if you have any other questions.

It just leaves me to say welcome again to the 2020 Guildford festival of Dance All England Qualifying Year and hope you all have a great time.

Very best wishes

Jeannie and her team

GUILDFORD FESTIVAL OF DANCE



Guildford
FESTIVAL OF DANCE