

LDA Newsletter

July 2025 LET'S DANCE
ACADEMY

WELCOME TO YOUR TERMLY LDA NEWSLETTER

TERM DATES: 25/26 Academic year

AUTUMN TERM:

Saturday 13th September – Friday 5th December

HALF TERM:

Monday 27th October – Sunday 2nd November

Pencilled workshop dates:

Sunday 7th September: The London Ballet Company
Workshop 10 – 1:30pm (Wheatfields)

Saturday 4th October: LDA Dance Company Audition (4-7:30pm)
(Wheatfields)

Sunday 9th November: 4-6pm (Hopefully a very special guest
workshop!)

Xmas Workshop: Saturday 13th December (Wheatfields)

Pencilled exam date:

Exam Coaching TBC: Sunday 16th November & Sunday 30th
November

Exams TBC: 6th & 7th December

SPRING TERM:

Saturday 3rd January – Friday 27th March

HALF TERM: Monday 16th February – Sunday 22nd February

Pencilled workshop dates:

Sunday 8th March: Workshop TBC (Wheatfields)

Pencilled Exam date:

Exam coaching TBC: Sunday 25th January & Sunday 8th February

Exams TBC: 14th & 15th February

**AFTER FEBRUARY 2026 THERE WILL BE NO MORE EXAMS UNTIL
DECEMBER 2026 DUE TO OUR CLASSES SHIFTING FOCUS TO OUR
JULY SCHOOL SHOW 2026.**

SUMMER TERM:

Saturday 18th April – Friday 10th July

(Monday classes will have a bank holiday replacement class on
Monday 13th April)

HALF TERM: Monday 25th May – Sunday 31st May

BANK HOLIDAY: Monday 4th May (Replacement Mon 13th April)

Pencilled Workshop date: Sunday 7th June (Wheatfields)



**In this newsletter
you can expect:**

25/26 Academic
year dates

Workshop news

New classes!

Show dates

Teacher news

LDA Customer
Portal and App

Final Thank you
from Miss Alison

NEW TEACHER!

MISS HANNAH

Miss Hannah will be joining us in September teaching our younger students and giving us the opportunity to now hold Tap classes on a Saturday! Miss Hannah is an experienced ISTD and acro teacher and we are very lucky to have her join our wonderful team.



New classes for 2025/26

PRESCHOOL – YEAR 3:

BALLET:

Thursdays: 4:00 – 4:30pm – *NEW* Pre-Primary Ballet (30m) Reception- (Marshalswick Baptist Church- Upstairs)
Saturdays: 9:00 - 9:30am: *NEW* Ballet Prep (30m) Pre School - Age 3yrs- (Marshalswick Baptist Church- Upstairs)

TAP:

Mondays: 3:55 – 4:25pm – *NEW* Primary Tap (30m) Year 1&2- (Marshalswick Baptist Church- Upstairs)
Saturdays:
10:10 – 10:40am: *NEW* Primary Tap (30m) – Reception – (Marshalswick Baptist Church- Upstairs)
11:20 – 11:50am: *NEW* Primary Tap (30m)– Year 1 – (Marshalswick Baptist Church- Upstairs)
11:55- 12:25pm: *NEW* Grd 1 Tap Beginners (30m) – Year 2&3 – (Marshalswick Baptist Church- Upstairs)

STREET:

Fridays: 4:30 – 5:00pm: *NEW* Year 2&3 Street 30m) - (Wheatfields Junior School- Main Hall)

JAZZ:

Thursdays: 5:00 - 5:30pm: *NEW* Beginner Jazz Prep (30m) - Years 2&3- (Skyswood School- Main Hall)

ACRO:

Wednesdays: 5:40 – 6:20pm – Stage 1 All Level (40m) Year 1-3 - (Sandringham School- Old Sports Hall)

MUSICAL THEATRE:

Thursdays: 5:35 – 6:15pm: *NEW* Musical theatre (40m) – Year 2&3 – (Skyswood School- Main Hall)

MODERN:

Saturdays:
9:35 - 10:05am: *NEW* Primary Modern (30m) - Reception – (Marshalswick Baptist Church- Upstairs)
10:45- 11:15am: *NEW* Grade 1 Modern (30m) – Year 1 – (Marshalswick Baptist Church- Upstairs)

CONTEMPORARY:

Saturdays: 9:05 - 9:45am: *NEW* Year 2&3 Contemporary (40m) - (Skyswood School- Upstairs)

YEAR 3-6:

BALLET/PBT:

Wednesdays: 4:30 - 5:10pm: *NEW* Beginner PBT (40m) Year 6&7- (Wheatfields Junior School- Main Hall)

ACRO:

Wednesdays: 6:25 – 7:05pm – Stage 2 All Level (40m): Year 3-6- (Sandringham School- Old Sports Hall)

CONTEMPORARY:

Thursdays: 6:15 – 6:55pm: *NEW* Beginner contemporary (40m)– Year 6&7- (Skyswood School- Main Hall)

JAZZ:

Thursdays: 7:00 – 7:30pm: *NEW* Bronze jazz (30m)– Year 6&7- (Skyswood School- Main Hall)

TAP:

Saturdays: 12:30- 1:00pm: *NEW* Grd 1 Tap Beginners (30m) – Year 4&5 – (Marshalswick Baptist Church-Upstairs)

YEAR 7-13:

BALLET:

Mondays: 7:15 - 8:00pm (45m) Teen Ballet - Beginners (Wheatfields Infants' School)

POINTE:

Tuesdays: 4:30 – 5:00pm: *NEW* Pointe Work (30m) – Year 8 Invite only- (Wheatfields Junior School- Sports Hall)

JAZZ:

Mondays: 6:30-7:00pm: *NEW* Junior Adv Jazz (30m) - Year 8&9- (Wheatfields Junior School- Main Hall)

Thursdays: 8:10 – 8:40pm: *NEW* Bronze Jazz (30m) – year 8+ - (Skyswood School- Main Hall)

TAP:

Wednesdays:

5:55 – 6:25pm: Teen Tap (30m) NEW- (Marshalswick Baptist Church- Downstairs)

7:45-8:15: *NEW* New Teen Tap (30m) Teens- (Marshalswick Baptist Church- Downstairs)

ACRO:

Wednesdays:

7:10 – 7:55pm – Stage 2/3 Beginner: (45m) Ages 11-15yrs, Year 7-13- (Sandringham School- Old Sports Hall)

8:00 – 8:45pm – Stage 3 Experienced (45m): Ages 11-15yrs, Year 7-13- (Sandringham School- Old Sports Hall)

CONTEMPORARY:

Thursdays: 7:30 - 8:10pm: *NEW* New teen contemporary (40m) – Year 8+ - (Skyswood School- Main Hall)

ADULTS:

BALLET:

Mondays: 9:00 - 9:00pm (60m) Adult Ballet - Beginners (Wheatfields Infants' School)

**NEW SEPTEMBER CLASSES:
FREE TRIAL FOR CURRENT LDA STUDENTS!**

VENUE CHANGES: Miss Lori's Saturday classes will move to Skyswood School in Sept. This is because we are now offering Tap on Saturdays and the church is the only venue we are able to Tap in.

Scholarship: A huge well done to Olivia Gaines who won the 25/26 Scholarship due to her incredible work effort and huge improvement over the last year. Well done Olivia.

LDA Hairspray Workshop

HAIRSPRAY WORKSHOP!

We had an amazing Hairspray workshop w Genevieve, where our students learnt some choreography from the show!

We are going to keep these West end workshops going as they have been invaluable for our students!

ACRO CLASSES: Thank you to everyone who has been spreading the word about our Acro classes. The tricks are starting to fly and so are the classes! If you'd like to trial Acro, I'd really recommend booking a trial space straight away as we have had huge interest for September.



The London Ballet Company:

We've had another affiliation year with The London Ballet Company, and a number of our students successfully auditioned for the associate programme. We also enjoyed a workshop based on "Maria" their adaptation of a Ballet based on The Sound of Music.

Choreography Competition & My First Show:

Choreography Competition and My first show! A huge well done to all of our students who took part in both shows. It was a lovely evening of creativity for all involved!



ISTD Exam news:

Exams: We have had 3 large exam sessions this term and brilliant results all round. Our students work so hard in the run up to exams so I'd like to congratulate everyone.



LDA Leavers:

We want to wish our gorgeous leavers all the luck in the world for their future endeavours. They become a huge part of the LDA family and inspire the next generation to grow. We have leavers drinks planned on 6th Sept (students and parents!) so leavers, please pencil in your diaries if you haven't already!



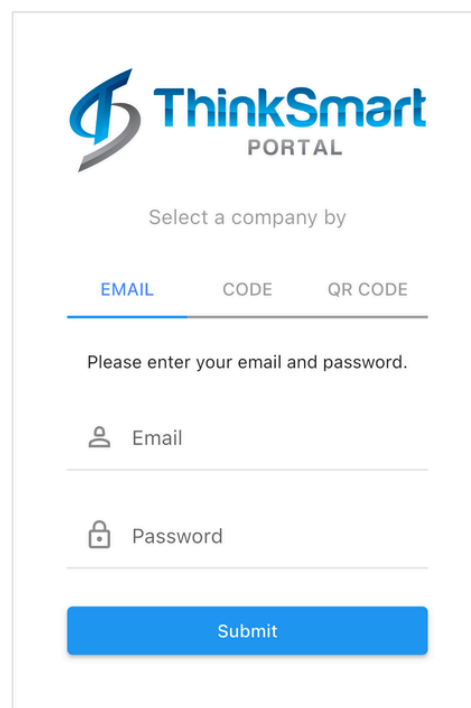
Dance company news:

Our dance company had an incredible year of performances, they performed at Shafesbury Avenue in the West End, The Alban Arena and enjoyed a Mean Girls West end day taking a workshop at Pineapple dance studios and going to see the show. Our **audition** for next year is currently planned for **Saturday 4th October**: LDA Dance Company Audition (4-7:30pm) (Wheatfields) although this will be confirmed. Juniors = Year 5-7
Spectrum = Year 8+



LDA CUSTOMER PORTAL AND APP:

At LDA we have a portal which can also be downloaded as an app. If you download "Thinksmart" on the App Store. The email will be your email registered to LDA, and the password you will have set up when you first joined LDA. If you need me to reset it please just drop me an email. If you need the company code LDA is: R9GMFXZ5



SHOW DATES!

Aside from our youngest classes and some beginner classes TBC depending on class numbers. All other classes will be in the main show in 2026! Pencil these dates and more info will be sent at the end of the Autumn Term:

Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th July: Costume Weekend at Wheatfields Junior School

Monday 13th - Wednesday 15th July 2026: After-school rehearsals at Marshalswick Baptist Church, St Albans (students/classes will be given set times/days to attend),

Thursday 16th & Friday 17th July 2026: After-school rehearsals at The Radlett Centre, Radlett,

Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th July 2026: Show performances (AM & PM shows at The Radlett Centre - full day/evening availability required)

MISS ALISON'S RETIREMENT

**A HUGE thank you to everyone who contributed to Miss Alison's gift, card or attended the "picnic". Your efforts made Miss Alison feel extremely special. We're sure she'll be around at some of our events but we want to wish her a very well deserved retirement and thank her for all of the years of incredible memories at LDA.
Here's a final goodbye from the wonderful Miss Alison...**

Thank you and 'Au Revoir'

I have been a member of the Lets Dance family for almost as long as I have had a family of my own. My daughter Sophie joined when she was 5, doing Ballet, Modern & Tap. She continued to dance into her early teens, she is now 32. Matthew came to ballet with Miss Theresa, making his stage debut as a mole at 3 years! He didn't stick with dance but continued with gymnastics for a number of years.

Over the years I have watched LDA transform from Lets Dance under the wing of Siobhan Chown to Lets Dance Academy now steered by Becky Sherman.

After a great deal of thought I decided the time had come to consider hanging up my dance shoes. Personal circumstances meant I needed to concentrate on my family and spend more time with my husband. The gradual staging of my leaving helped me to adjust and also Becky & myself hoped it would support the students. Although I am retiring from LDA it would be impossible for me to stop teaching dance. I am planning to still teach a few Adult Ballet classes with some existing dancers who have been with me since I moved to St Albans.

I cannot thank you enough for all your kind well wishes, gifts, flowers, cards and the generous collection. Your kind words and memories written in cards brought me to tears many times. I really have left feeling loved and appreciated. I will keep all the cards, re-reading them will always remind me how special LDA has been to me and others, and how inspiring and important dance can be to everyone.

Thank you to everyone that came to my retirement picnic (indoors!). it was very special to be able to speak so many parents and students to say goodbye personally. Thanks also to people who sent or posted messages, as well as parents and students that came to see me after class in my last weeks. These final terms of teaching have really been an overwhelming time and experience.

Lets Dance has been a huge part of my life and the students have become part of my dance family, I have been so lucky to watch them grow up and mature. I feel so privileged to have been a part of their lives through both the good times and the more challenging times everyone faces.

**LDA has given me so many happy memories. Shows, exams, workshop trips, classes that went well, classes that didn't go so well! But overall I have loved every second of teaching and working with everybody. Being part of the LDA Teaching Team has been wonderful and I have had the pleasure of teaching several of the current teaching team, Becky, Tania, Lauren, Gabby, Becca & Steph, who are all now hugely talented Teachers. I can't wait to see how all the students continue to develop under the wings of all of the wonderful resident teachers including Lewis & Sophia and our newer LDA Teachers Lori, Molly & Caroline. Not forgetting Helen (my coffee partner in crime!), I know LDA will go from strength to strength with all of their guidance and expertise, I look forward to watching/helping at many future shows.
Once again thank you, I will miss you all desperately and will never forget you.**

Keep Dancing!

With much love

Miss Alison x



Thank you!

Last but not least a huge thank you to the LDA teaching team for an amazing year. They truly are the most incredible teachers who care deeply about your children. We are very lucky at LDA!



*Thank you
for reading!*
