



TERM DATES

Last day of Summer term: Saturday 22nd July
First day of Autumn term: Monday 4th September
Half term: Monday 23rd October-Saturday 28th October
Last day of term: Saturday 16 December

14 WEEK TERM (excluding half term).

Timetable

The timetable for September has been sent out and can now be viewed on our website. Most days and times will remain the same with a few slight adjustments. A new 'Inter' level commercial class has been added on Thursday evenings which means our beginner commercial class can now take children from age 6.

If you would like to sign up to any new classes or trial any extra lessons please contact Jo.

Junior Musical Theatre will be working on 'Moana' with a performance to be held to parents at the end of term in December. Show work will commence in this class from January. Senior Musical Theatre will continue to work on singing technique and dance movement incorporating various different musical styles in preparation for show rehearsals after half term.

Invoices

All invoices have been emailed, these will need to be paid by 1st September online please.

If you are paying by cash in the first week back of term, please let Jo know.

A polite reminder that if you decide to give up a class or leave, we do require half a terms notice or fees as per our terms and conditions stated on our registration form.

Summer Workshops

Our Summer School is now fully booked however we do have a few spaces left on the Little Mermaid workshop on Wednesday 26th July and the 3 day Acro Intensive, Wednesday 9th – Friday 11th August.

Exams

We've had 3 exam sessions this term and are still awaiting results from the last two sessions. Once we have these, an email and Facebook message will be sent to contact Miss Jane for your results.

We have 2 more sessions planned for Autumn term before we head into show rehearsals. Provisional dates for these are Sunday 15th (Modern and Tap) and Sunday 22nd October (Ballet). Invitations and confirmation on subjects and dates will be sent on the first week back.

Exam Awards Afternoon

Every other year we hold a school presentation to acknowledge those students who have taken and successfully passed examinations. Students get the opportunity to perform pieces from their exams culminating in the presentation of certificates, school trophies and the coveted Scholarship Cup.

The event this year will be held on Saturday 2nd December in the Atrium at Stanway School. There will be a small charge of £ 3 for spectators to cover the cost of the hall. Further information will be sent out after half term.

Please could we ask that current trophy holders please return your 'engraved' cup by October half term please.

Uniform

We are still awaiting news from the suppliers regarding the Acro uniform, in the meantime please can we ask that all Acro students please wear tight fitted clothing for class, preferably black.

Show!

If you haven't already saved the date then please do so for Friday 28th (dress rehearsal) and Saturday 29th June 2024. The show will be held at the Charter Hall in Colchester and is open to every student in the school, from the tiny tots right up to our advanced and adult classes. A fabulous opportunity for everyone to perform on a professional stage in front of a 500 plus capacity audience!

All senior classes will go into show rehearsals after half term and all junior classes in January. Show letters will start to go out at the beginning of term and it is vitally important that these are sent back as soon as possible so we can start preparing the huge task that is staging and costuming a large production with over 250 performers.

If for any reason you cannot take part in the show then please inform Miss Jane or Jo as soon as possible. Lower school students who are unable to take part can continue lessons up to Easter but will be unable to do so during summer term (with the exception of Tots and Primary classes). Senior students (grade 4 and above) if you cannot take part in the show then please speak with Miss Jane or Jo to discuss when is best to stop and re start lessons.

Message from the Principal

Another academic year has just flown by yet again! And this time a very busy one full of training and examinations. We've had 8 exam sessions so far and I would like to say a huge well done to all students who have taken part in these exams this past year. Passing I.S.T.D. examinations is a huge achievement and I'm proud to say that we have achieved yet again 100% pass rate with many merits and distinctions. I am very much looking forward to presenting students with their certificates and trophies on our awards afternoon.

It has also been wonderful to see so many students making great progress across our non syllabus subjects, with many levels being passed in Acrobatics and not forgetting 3 hugely successful Junior musical theatre performances.

We have 2 more exam sessions to go before we can all take a deep breath and relax....for a few weeks....before we hit the ground running for show time! I am extremely excited about our 2024 show, we will be celebrating 35 years of CSOD in 2024 and I can think of no better way to mark this special occasion than a school production!

Finally, I would like to take a moment to mention 2 senior students who are leaving us this year. Leah Levett who has been with the school for many years will be heading to university in September. Grace, who has been with us since she was 2 and a very popular teaching assistant in many of our younger classes is leaving for professional dance college. I know I can say on behalf of all the teachers and staff we will miss you both very much and wish you all the best in your chosen paths.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to the amazing team of staff, teachers and assistants for your endless hard work, enthusiasm and dedication over the last year.

Wishing our big CSOD family a wonderful summer break and I look forward to seeing you in September!

Miss Jane