

Mount Martha School of Dance



From the Principal

Dear parents & students,

Welcome back to past families and a warm welcome to all of the new families beginning at the school.

I am hoping that you were able to enjoy some recreational time over the school holiday period.

It was wonderful to finally catch up with my three adult children. They are all young adults working and living very busy independent lives.

Elyssia 33, James 30 and Oliver 26.

Over the past four weeks, it has been busy in the office preparing all administration for Term 1.

Also sorting out the curriculum for all levels. The planning and choreography for our Mid Year Display and Whole School Concert has begun.

Emily and Chelsea have worked with me and we have made considerable progress in both areas.

Husband Ric, Chelsea, Emily and I will continue with all of the details related to these events ie: choreography, music selections, themes, costuming – the list goes on!

In 2025 we managed to stage a Mid Year Display for Junior, Inter – Senior students at George Jenkins Theatre in June. We then showcased our whole school Concert at Frankston Arts Centre in December. The feedback I received was extremely positive and many parents expressed how impressed they were with the overall school standard and of course their children. The students were AMAZING!! I was extremely proud of their technical progress, development in gaining confidence, commitment and overall performance.

Dance is not easy!!

Many classical students completed their International Royal Academy of Dance exams in August. Congratulations to all students for your dedication and commitment.

Well done to our VCE Dance students who completed Unit 1 and 2 and are completing Unit 3 and 4 this year - I look forward to working with them.

Staff:

Chelsea will be teaching Classical and Jazz Classes. She is not only finishing a Health Science degree but is starting her RAD Diploma Certificate in Dance (2 year course) .

Emily will be teaching Jazz classes and is also completing a Business and Design Degree.

Both Emily and Chelsea have been part of the teaching team for 8 years. I thank them both sincerely for their ongoing support. They are an absolute pleasure to work with.

VCE Dance - Elyssia Bugg – PHD Philosophy Graduate and teacher at Melbourne University Lissy will continue to assist me in teaching the VCE Dance coursework that is history based.

Assistants: Amelia Rix, Cate Fahey, Genevieve Pfister, Willow Adams, Amelia Murray, Amelie Van Wijngaarden, Lucia Maclean, Sophie Skov- Christensen

Guest Teachers:

John O'Kelly (Hip Hop) and Ellie Murtagh (Contemporary)

Looking forward to the year ahead and developing the dance skills of the MMSOD Students.

Please contact the office if you have any queries regarding your child's tuition.

Happy Dancing!

**Yours Sincerely
Vicki Bugg**

Term 1: Newsletter

The Term 1 Newsletter contains whole school information. It communicates all school activities and relates to all families so please record all dates in your family diaries.

Dates 2026

Term 1: Tuesday 27th Jan – Thursday 2nd Apr

Term 2: Monday 20th Apr – Saturday 27th Jun

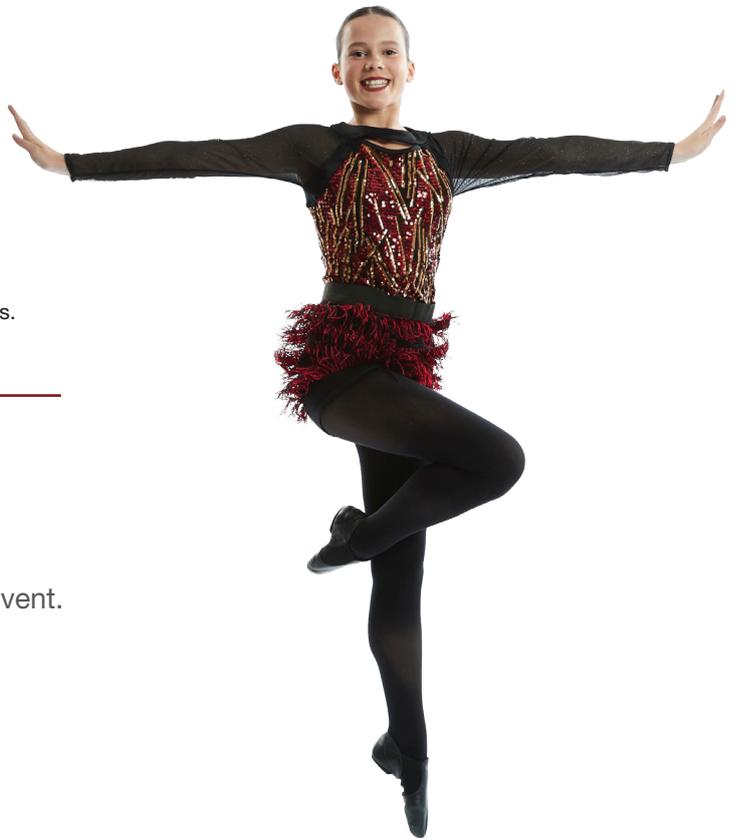
Term 3: Monday 13th Jul – Saturday 19th Sep

Term 4: Monday 5th Oct – Sunday 13th Dec

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Classes as normal at this stage.

If this schedule changes you will be notified via email closer to the dates.



Mid Year Display 2026

TERM 2 June Display

Junior 3, 4, 5 & Inter – Senior Levels perform in this event.

Please note that the Mid Year Display **does not** include Sub Junior Levels.

Date: Sunday 21st June

Venue: George Jenkins Theatre

Time: 10.30am

Concert 2026

We have produced whole school Concerts for 36 years - at Frankston Arts Centre.

TERM 4 : DECEMBER CONCERT

Please note these dates in your diary now to avoid any clashes with commitments.

You will receive **detailed Concert Documentation in Term 4.**

Saturday 14th & 21st November

Rehearsal: Mt Martha Primary

Monday 30th November

(Please note this is a Monday and was the only available date!)

Theatre rehearsal: Frankston Arts Centre

Time: After 2pm exact times for groups will be issued Term 2

Sunday 13th December

Theatre concert: Frankston Arts Centre

Time: 11.00am



Open Days

Open Days for Sub Junior will be towards the end of Term 2. RAD classical Classes will be prior to exams in August. You will be notified closer to the dates.

Emails

The dance software that I use enables me to send texts as a source of communication.

All texts will be titled MMSOD

I will also make sure that they state the class it is referring to or the whole school.

I use them to remind you of important dates/emails or information. These texts are Non reply. So if you need to reply please send an email or call.

Tip: Make a MMSOD 2026 file.

Communication & Office Hours

Please contact the office if you wish to discuss any matters regarding your child's tuition or have any questions relating to the school. I will always respond to your concerns or enquiries and openly discuss matters with all staff, so please inform me.

Office Details

Office hours can be 7 days a week as I always return emails daily, so if you do not receive a reply within two days please call the office.

Email: vicki@mountmarthaschoolofdance.com.au

Office: 03 5974 1498

Studios: Mount Martha Community House and Uniting Church Studios, Mount Martha

Term Fees

2026 fees will incur a \$2 per hour increase. All Term Fees and invoices are emailed and a text sent to inform you. **Check your Junk Mail.**

Term Fees are due the end of week 2 each Term.

Please communicate with me if you require an extension or alternative date for payment...

Fees can be paid by:

- Internet banking
- Cheque or cash and payable to Mt Martha School of Dance
- Credit Card facility now available at the studio

GST: Please note that all Fees incur the GST.

Internet Banking:

Please make sure you fill in description as:

Name/Surname of Student:

eg. Jane Smith or J Smith

Invoice Number: Invoice number **must be stated**

MMSOD Banking Details:

NAB Mornington

BSB: 083781

Account: 5468 8463 795

Important: I often receive description as "dance fees" or no name!!! or Andrea and I may have 3 Andreas in the school! So please state **students name and surname**. Not parents name please.

All fees paid will receive a PAID receipt.



Teaching Personal Development: Term 1

The wide choice of dance styles and the high standard we offer requires maintaining and updating qualifications.

In order to maintain our memberships and registration, teachers must attend a series of courses every year. MMSOD is a member of R.A.D Royal Academy of Dancing, A.T.O.D Australian Teachers

of Dance, CSTD (Comdance) Acrobatics Dance Association and the Melbourne Dance Network for VCE.

Chelsea and I will be attending R.A.D seminars this year which will focus on syllabus strategies for all Grades and Major Levels.

Uniform

The Uniform Shop is located at Mt Martha House.

Purchasing can occur during or after classes.

We stock all uniform items.

All students are required to be dressed in correct school uniform.

Payment: Internet transfer/cash/cheque or Tap Credit Card at studio

Uniform Changes:

Junior 3 Classical Students:

Require leotard/Skirt/Character Shoes.

Junior 3 Jazz Students:

Require Black leotard/Jazz Shorts/Jazz Shoes.

Junior 5 Classical Students:

Require purple leotard and Skirt

High Heel Character Shoes.

New Students: I suggest attending the first class in sports uniform or previous dance items before purchasing the MMSOD uniform.

Recycling:

All MMSOD Uniform:

I encourage families to recycle any uniform items including shoes. I then offer recycled items to families for free.

Please make sure the items are clean and not too worn out!

Social media

Please inform me:

If you do NOT wish your child to be photographed, and possibly displayed in social media posts

Follow the school on Instagram or Facebook
All important dates can be found on our website
www.mountmarthaschoolofdance.com.au

Website/Instagram/Facebook

Grooming

Correct grooming is a part of the dance experience. All students must attend in the correct uniform, no other clothing items will be allowed to be worn during class.

Please send children to class looking like they are ready to participate in a dance class. They will feel more prepared and this is reflected in their dancing. When students participate in Acrobatics or turning movements, hair needs to be tied back to avoid distraction and can be dangerous.

Classical Students

All classical students from Junoir 4/5 to higher grades must attend class with their hair pulled back neatly into a bun. All hair is to be kept off the face. Headbands are a great idea for fringes and short hair.

Staff are happy to show you how to style a correct bun if you are unsure. Please arrive early with the appropriate hair net and fork pins if you require assistance.

Jazz: Hair needs to be off the face and in a ponytail

