



**Greetings and welcome to Dance Express & Tumbling 2019-2020!** I am so excited to see everyone and for a wonderful year. I have lots of great ideas and are ready to help our young people achieve their dreams! Thanks for signing up! Your student's class schedule can be found in your parent portal! This email is lengthy, yet full of lots of important info.

**Monday classes will start on Mon, Aug 26th...we start Mondays one week early since on Labor Day we will be closed. Tuesday/Wednesday classes will start after Labor Day on Tues, Sept 4th & Wed, Sept 5th.**

Please be patient during this first month, I will try to have exact classes and placement nailed down by October, but until I get to work with everyone it is impossible to have classes exactly set until I see ability levels.

### **Class Dress Code**

We believe in providing the best instruction possible! The dress code will be enforced to enable us to give proper instruction and check the body alignment of our students. Please no baggy pants, shorts or tshirts. Please have all hair in a ponytail or buns in every class and no jewelry.

Girls Dance Dress Code: Solid Colored Leotard, Black biker shorts optional, and Lt Suntan Tights,

Dancers: Ages 11 and up, please have bike shorts/capris on vs baggy shorts, Leos/tight tights/bra tops

Boys: Shorts and T-Shirt

Tumbling: Solid colored Leotard, sports bras or tight tank top, tight biker workout shorts

Here is a link for more info on appropriate dance attire and shoe specifics:

<http://www.danceexpressstudio.com/what-do-we-wear.html>

Please put your names in ALL your shoes. The students will bring their shoes in the classroom with them. We will help them change their shoes and put them in their bags. Ballet shoes TIP!!! The strings....tie them in a knot and cut off the excess string.

If you were not able to make it to our Open House and need apparel, I recommend On Pointe Dancewear.- (636) 305-2090. As of Aug 1 they will be off Telegraph Road in South County. They are wonderful to work with. They do have a facebook page as well! Those that ordered shoes at Open House, I will have them for you before your first class!

### **Tuition & Additional Fees**

**Your monthly tuition rates** can be found in your parent portal. Tuition is due the first class of every month. If tuition is not paid by the 7th of each month then a *\$15 late fee* will be applied. You are responsible to pay late charges and the month's tuition. If tuition falls a month behind, *your child may not participate in class until the fees are paid in full*. We do not prorate. Some months may only have 3 classes in them, but will be balanced out as other months may have 5 classes.

We accept Cash, Checks, Venmo. You can now also use a credit card (visa or m/c), however there is a 3% charge for those services. For Visa and Mastercard payments made online, please know that a 3% convenience credit card fee will be added. If you make an online portal payment this fee will be added after your initial payment is made and can then be paid the next time.

If you need a payment arrangement due to your payday, please talk to our office staff and we will try to work with you. There is a \$30 fee added to returned checks. If a class meets less than three times in one month, your tuition will be adjusted. We do not prorate if you miss a class, however makeup classes are available.

No refunds will be issued on any costume, other fees, or tuition or where classes have or haven't been attended.

If you have not paid your registration fees yet (\$35 per family), please do so. You can pay this by cash, check or venmo. I will be at the studio this week (July 29th week) in the evenings after 5PM if you need to drop it off. Once this is paid, your class position is reserved for you!

Additional Fees: I thought you might want to know in advance costs you will incur other than tuition throughout the year. I am a planner, so I like to have it all mapped out if possible. All fees are non-refundable:

Costume for recital due in November: Dance costumes-\$75 each Acro Costumes allow \$60

Recital fee due with March tuition: \$60 per family. This fee includes 2 tickets to the show, one recital T-shirt and programs.

### **Lobby/Waiting Area**

If you have arrived early, please wait with your child until it is time to start class. Before class begins, please have the dancer's tap shoes on them. If you are late arriving to class, please stand outside of the dance room and put your dancer's shoes on before sending them in to class. Please take the younger dancers to the restroom *before* class starts. We do not allow parents in the classrooms with the students during classes. It often interrupts the children's focus. I want the kiddos to be able to relax, focus and have FUN!

### **Floors**

Our flooring is all new in the training facility. Please no street shoes in the classrooms. Students may take them off upon entering classrooms and we have designated areas for shoe changing. We want to continue to provide a nice, clean, well kept facility for the kids. Our equipment will last if we work together.

### **Drop Off and Pick Up**

Please make sure a teacher is present before dropping off your child. Please be on time to pick up your child. Once your child's class ends I cannot be responsible for them as I am beginning another class. For safety reasons, I don't recommend having your young child wait by the outside door alone

### **Attendance**

Attendance is important to the success of your child and to the whole class. Your child can fall behind if he/she misses frequently. *Practices in April and May are mandatory for the recital.* You must be at the two practices prior to a general performance in the community (i.e. ballgames, Nursing Home appearances and such) in order to participate. Students not able to abide by this regulation will be taken out of that number for that particular event. Dance/Acro is a team event and everyone matters.

### **Studio Closed Dates**

September 3-Labor Day, Oct 31-Halloween, November 27-Dec 1—Thanksgiving Break, December 22- Jan 5- Christmas Break, April 10-13—Spring Break. SPRING SHOW: The date for the *Spring recital is* Friday, May 15th..we will have classes, rehearsal and recital that week.-times TBA. We will take Studio pictures (individual and group) in March.

### **Apparel-tanks, tshirts, bags, etc**

We will have our first parade opportunity on Sept 20th. For the parades and many community performances, we often wear black shorts/Capris and our Dance Express & Tumbling Tanks. If you have one from last year, that is wonderful. If you do not have one and would like to purchase one, here is a link: <https://danceexpress2019.itemorder.com/sale>

This year, I am having an online store for those that want tanks, tshirts, parent shirts, sweatshirts. It will be open a few times a year. This first round, it will be open until Sept 5th. This seems weird to have it open so early and being the beginning of our season and with all the back to school stuff...however, for those that plan to do the parade it is what I have to do so you can get your tank or t-shirt on time. Hope that makes sense!

Some have inquired if I will do the Personalized Car Decals, the Glittery Team Jackets and the big backpacks...I will have those available for order in late September. All these things are optional..but great gift ideas too! Please if you have our original logo from last year, do not feel the need to get one just because our logo has evolved!!!! Our current logo will be US for years to come!

### **HEY TUMBLERS...**

We have 2 Open Gyms for our Tumblers coming up! July 30th and Aug 12th 5-6PM! You can sign up through our website or in your parent portal look for "events"...that is. where our Open Gyms can be found!

Tumblers..For those interested in COMPETING!!! We have Comp team evaluations on Aug 12th 6:15-7PM! I will have a brief parent chat about what we do with our Comp Students at 6:15 that evening while the tumblers are stretching!

We will regularly offer 2 Open Gyms a month for our Tumblers as well! As I know some like to get some extra gym mat time in! Watch the website, parent portal, Facebook and our Studio bulletin board for dates!

We have some additional class offerings you may see on our schedule now! Boys Bros Tumbling, Boys Hip Hop, Adult Jazz & Funk, Stretch and Strength, Leaps & Turns! Excited for these new offerings.

Updates, copies of class notes, and more info can be found in your parent portal and on our website: [www.danceexpressstudio.com](http://www.danceexpressstudio.com) and our Facebook page-<https://www.facebook.com/danceexpressstudio>. Please check it out! Your login to your parent portal is your email address. If you forget your password, there is a "forgot password"

recovery. We will send out a few newsletters throughout the year via email. If you have further questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact Lisa 314-401-2070, email: [lisa.danceexpress@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.danceexpress@gmail.com)

WHEW that was a lot of info! 🙌😎 IF you are reading this part..way to go and make it to the end!!! 😊 Thank you!!!!

I know this is info overload, but I'd rather share it all with you so you have it in one spot! I'm looking forward to seeing all of you and an amazing year!!!

Thanks again for joining us!

Miss Lisa