

MARCH 2024

ECOLE BALLET & DANCE THEATRE

TERM 1 AT ECOLE



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WELCOME BACK



Welcome to Ecole for 2024, to our students and families new and returning. It is great to see everyone enjoying being back at dance. Everyone has settled into their classes. It is wonderful to see our teachers back in action. We welcome Kate Barber to the Ecole teaching team. You can read about our amazing teaching staff on our website, www.ecole.com.au/our-team.

This newsletter has lots of information on what is coming up this term and also later in the year, so please take a moment to read through it. We cannot wait to share our Ecole events with you.

I look forward to seeing you around the studio during Family Watching Weeks.

Bonnie Sartori

Principal
Ecole Ballet & Dance Theatre

So great to see you again

TERM ONE HAS STARTED!

There are so many happy faces around the studios as the students get back to dance. Pictured here are students from 3 years to 13 years old in our Tiny Ballet class with Miss Kate, Disco Kids Jazz with Miss Chloe and our Classical Group (SL6 Ballet level) with Miss Bonnie, Miss Elise and Miss Michelle.



Pictured are our Saturday Tiny Ballet students with Miss Kate



Pictured are our Saturday 9.45 am Disco Kids Jazz students with Miss Chloe (assistants Miss Anika and Miss Lulu)



Classical Group 2024 with Miss Bonnie, Miss Elise and Miss Michelle

What's in store for the year ahead

DIARY DATES & INFORMATION

Diary Dates

A summary of important dates can be found below. All dates are on the Ecole website, www.ecole.com.au/ecole-dates

Term 1

Finishes on Saturday 13 April
(no classes over Easter, Friday 29 and Saturday 30 March, Monday 1 April)

Term 2

Monday 29 April to Saturday 29 June
(classes on Saturday 22 June are replaced with Open Day)

Term 3

Monday 22 July to Saturday 28 September

Term 4

Monday 14 October to TBC

Family Watching Week at Ecole

Tuesday 2 April to Saturday 13 April

Open Day Weekend at Ecole

Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 June

Junior & Middle School Photo Day

Sunday 22 September

Senior School Photo Day

Sunday 27 October

Junior & Middle School Rehearsals at Ecole

Friday 25 (Mdl) and Saturday 26 October (Jnr)

Junior & Middle School Concerts at Glen

Street Theatre, Belrose

Saturday 2 November

Senior School Rehearsals

Saturday 9, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17
November at Ecole

Tuesday 19 November at Glen Street

Senior School Concert at Glen Street Theatre, Belrose

Friday 22 November

Ecole School Holiday Camps

Our Holiday Dance Camps return in April. See further details to register on the next page.

Active Kids & Creative Kids vouchers

Invoices are sent out prior to the start of each term. If you would like your Active and/or Creative Kids voucher included on your invoice, please submit your voucher via our website, www.ecole.com.au/submit-vouchers. Due dates for the vouchers are strictly observed.

Contacting us

To stay up to date with information, please continue to check our website, www.ecole.com.au. You can follow us as well on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

For all queries, please contact Cassie at info@ecole.com.au or 0433 832 653.

Please remember to read all emails from us. We don't send marketing emails. Our primary communication to you is via email and will only include important information.

Absent from Class

Please remember to email info@ecole.com.au or text 0433 832 653 or use the message function on the App if your child will be absent from class.

Ecole Office

Our office and uniform shop is attended by Cassie or Cathy Monday to Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings.

Holiday Dance Camp



Ecole Camp for
4 to 7 year olds!

Join us for Camp on **any** of
the following dates in April,
from 9am to 3pm:

Monday 15 April
Monday 22 April
Tuesday 23 April
Monday 29 April

Term 2 starts on the
afternoon of Monday
29 April

For further information and to
register, visit
www.ecole.com.au/april-camp

What's on at Ecole in Term One

TERM ONE EVENTS & INFORMATION

Family Watching

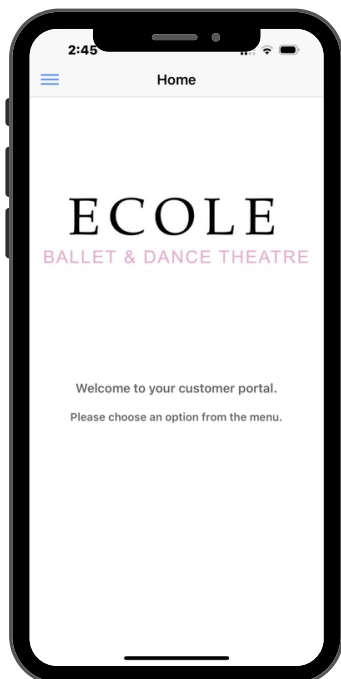
Every year in Term One we hold Family Watching.

This annual event will be held from Tuesday 2 April to Saturday 13 April. You will be able to watch one instance of your child's class during this two week period. An email will be sent with the timetable and all information can be found on our website www.ecole.com.au/family-watching.

Some classes are not open for Family Watching. Please see the website for further information.



Pictured are parents watching their children at 2023's Family Watching Week



The Ecole App for your iPhone or Android device

Ecole App

This week an email will be sent to all Ecole families with details on how to download and set up the Ecole app.

You can use the app to update your contact details, check your child's class times, message us and more.

The application is also available as a web browser.

If you have any questions about using the app, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Exams in 2023

EXAMS 2023

At the end of September our SL6 students completed their in-house assessment of the Classical Dance Australia, John Byrne syllabus. In October, we had over 50 Ecole students complete their RAD Exams. We had students from Pre-Primary Ballet doing their very first exam, through to our SL9 students completing their Advanced One Exam. All of our Senior Students completing the Advanced Foundation and Advanced 1 Exam achieved Distinctions. An amazing achievement.



Pictured are our SL6 students who completed their Classical Dance Australia assessment



Pictured are our SL8 and SL9 students with Miss Bonnie and Mr Lethby preparing for the Advanced Foundation and Advanced 1 Exams



Pictured are our Grade 5 Ballet students with Mr Kennedy our Pianist



Pictured are our Pre-Primary Ballet students

Try something new!

ENROLMENTS & NEW CLASSES

New Classes

We have introduced a new class for 2-3 year olds (and their parent/carer) with Miss Kate on a Saturday morning. We have Hip Hop for all ages now from our Kindy students through to our Senior students.

We have limited availability remaining in some of our classes and waitlists for others. If there are classes your child would like to try, please email info@ecole.com.au. If your child is on a waitlist for a class, we will be in touch if a place becomes available.

A full description of our classes can be found at www.ecole.com.au/classes and the timetable can be found at www.ecole.com.au/enrol.

We will send an email at the end of each term checking if you have any changes to make to your current enrolments. Please be reminded you don't have to re-enrol each term for your classes. The enrolment to the class is for the whole year. If you don't wish to continue with a class for the following term, we ask that you let us know via email.

Adult Jazz Class

Our **Adult Jazz** class has moved to Saturday afternoon from 2.45 pm to 3.45 pm. You are welcome to register for a complimentary trial. Please email info@ecole.com.au for further details.

Adult Ballet Classes

Our **Beginners Adult Ballet** continues to run on a Tuesday evening, from 6.45 pm to 7.45 pm with Miss Rhiannon. We have also introduced an Elementary Adult Ballet class for those that have mastered the skills of the Beginners class. Your first trial lesson is complimentary and you then purchase a 10 class pass valid for six months. Please register via our Adult Dance page, www.ecole.com.au/adultdance.

If you are a more advanced Ballet dancer and looking to take classes, Miss Elise runs **Intermediate Adult Ballet** classes on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7.30 pm. Please email info@ecole.com.au for additional information.

Looking your best

UNIFORMS & SHOES

Tiny & Beginners Ballet uniform

A reminder that the uniform for Tiny and Beginners Ballet and Disco Kids Jazz is compulsory and is purchased from Ecole. Shoes can be purchased from Bloch or More to the Pointe.

Jazz, Acro, Hip Hop, Musical Theatre, Tap & Year 7-9 Lyrical Students

Students in these classes are required to wear an Ecole uniform. This can be any combination of our Ecole tops and bottoms of your choice. If you have plain (no logos/branding, stripes etc) black leggings, black shorts or black hot pants, you may wear those with an Ecole top. Students in Years 7+ Lyrical can wear an Ecole uniform. Students in Year 2 to Year 6 Lyrical should wear their Ballet uniform.

Ballet Uniforms & Footwear

Ballet uniforms for students in Pre-Primary to SL10 (Advanced 2) can be purchased from Bloch. All canvas ballet shoes, jazz, tap and character shoes can be purchased from Bloch. We also have a MDM Ballet shoe fitting day once a term at Ecole, run by More to the Pointe.

Character Shoes & Skirts

All Ballet Students in Primary to Grade 4 Ballet require Character Shoes from Monday 4 March in all of their Ballet classes. Students in twice a week Ballet classes Grades 1, 2 and 4, require a Character Skirt as well as Character shoes. We have stock of pre-loved skirts and shoes if you are interested.

We hope you all found the MDM Ballet and Jazz shoe fitting day beneficial as well as making the most of the 20% off at Bloch promotion last weekend. All students should now be in the correct uniform for each class. If you are unsure of what they should wear, please contact us.

We will send your child home with a uniform sheet and will be in touch via email if they are not in the correct uniform.

Assistants

All of our Junior class teachers are ably assisted by some of our senior students. These students take a variety of dance classes at Ecole.

We love the energy and care each assistant brings to their class. Look out for your child's assistant during Family Watching.



Pictured are some of our Assistants for 2024, with Miss Bonnie, Miss Rhiannon and Miss Chloe (not all assistants were present)

The year that was

2023 - IT'S A WRAP

End of Year Performances

We finished 2023 with our amazing End of Year Performances held at Glen Street Theatre, Belrose.

Our Junior Students adored “The Magic of Disney” theme and our Middle School students glimpsed the future with their “When I Grow Up” theme. Our Senior Students outdid themselves with their energy and performances in their “Things that make you go Mmm” performance.

Students, parents and teachers all enjoyed them very much! We were so very proud of every student!

End of Year Awards

Some very deserving senior students were presented with Ecole Awards at our End of Year Performances.

The Jane Allyn and Ashley Killar Performance Award

Anika Zubrinich, Senior Level 10

Outstanding Performance in Classical Ballet

Jocelyn Paterson, Senior Level 9

Outstanding Performance in Contemporary & Lyrical

Diana Lyashenko, Senior Level 8

Outstanding Performance in Jazz & Hip Hop

Daisy Weng, Year 10

Outstanding Performance in Tap & Musical Theatre

Arabella Collett, Year 7

Graduate Awards

Erin Rothemund and Jack Woog

Encouragement Awards

Abigail Lee, Amelia Don, Anastasia Berenger, Ashleigh Henderson, Heidi Wenck, Isabella Mobley, Mia Michael-Morado, Nikita Orena Barlin, Olivia Hasib (not pictured), Vanessa Wu, Zara Froebel



Sharing the Christmas Spirit

CHRISTMAS AT WESTFIELD

We were invited to perform at Westfield Chatswood in their Christmas Grotto once again. We had small class groups from our 3 year olds to our oldest students performing a variety of dance genres. It was a great performance enjoyed by all. A big thank you to Miss Gracie, Miss Chloe, Miss Miya!



What else is happening

PERFORMANCES IN SYDNEY

As much as we love seeing our students perform, we also encourage our students and their families to see some of the wonderful productions that are held in Sydney each year.

The Australian Ballet

The Australian Ballet are performing the following ballets this year: Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Carmen, Etudes / Circle Electric, Oscar and The Nutcracker. Further information on their ballets and ticket bookings are available at www.australianballet.com.au/whats-on

Consider joining The Ballet Society. Check their website for the benefits of this membership www.theballetsociety.org.au

Shen Yun Performance

Another spectacular Shen Yun performance is being held in Sydney from 8 to 17 March.

Shen Yun invites you to travel back to the magical world of ancient China. Experience a lost culture through the incredible art of classical Chinese dance, and see legends come to life. Shen Yun makes this possible by pushing the boundaries of the performing arts, with a unique blend of stunning costuming, high-tech backdrops, and an orchestra like no other. Be prepared for a theatrical experience that will take your breath away! For further information, please view their [website](#).

Musical Theatre

If you love singing and dancing, there are lots of Musical Theatre productions playing in Sydney in 2024. There is a show for everyone! & Juliet, Grease, West Side Story on Sydney Harbour, The Rocky Horror Show, Chicago the Musical, Sister Act and SIX the Musical.