

October 17, 2015

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the Claddagh School of Irish Dance

My goal is to help each child learn and appreciate the music and dancing of Ireland. During the year, we will be listening and dancing to many different types of music. I will be teaching reels and jigs to each student. Some of the students will be learning solo dance steps and some will also learn figure dances. Many of the dances the students will learn are Traditional Irish Dances while others are Choreographed routines.

During the "St. Patrick's" season, the school will be performing at many area nursing homes, church functions and other "Irish parties". I would love to have every child perform, but I do understand that not all children may wish to do so. These performances are optional and you should not feel that your child must dance. As this time of the year draws closer, I will provide more information regarding these shows.

For the 10am and 11am students that wish to perform in the shows, a simple costume will be required. The costume for girls will be a white, short sleeve "school" blouse, a plaid kilt, poodle socks and Irish soft shoes.

For the 12pm girls, the costume will be changing this year. We will continue to have a green dress, but the material and the design will be different. The 1pm class may choose between the new Green dress or the Black Velvet costumes. The 2pm class can wear either the black velvet dresses or a presentation costume. If you are planning on having a presentation costume made or purchased, please see me before any work starts on this.

For the boys in class, the costume will be black dress pants, a white, short sleeve dress shirt and boys soft shoes – "boys Jazz shoes".

On Saturday, Nov 7, I will hold a shoe & costume sale between 10am and 2pm. Please plan on attending after your child's scheduled class time. Please try on all costumes before Nov 2. Each child will be measured for shoes and/or costumes if needed.

If your child has outgrown any kilt, dress or shoes (soft or hard), please get them to me no later than Monday November 2 to be included in the sale. Kilts and dresses must have your child's name securely attached; shoes must have their name on both shoes and be in a Ziploc bag with their name and shoe size on the bag.

NO GREEN COSTUMES WILL BE ACCEPTED THIS YEAR DUE TO THE CHANGE IN DESIGN AND MATERIAL

NO COSTUMES OR SHOES WILL BE ACCEPTED THE DAY OF THE SALE

At the end of the dancing year, in May 2016, a recital for the entire school will be held followed by a Ceili -- a party and dance for everyone. The date of the recital will be announced after the first of the year.

Please, if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to speak with me just before or after your child's class or call me at home. My number is: 567-6729.

Thank you and I am really excited about sharing a fun-filled year of dance and music with your child.

Sincerely,

Mary Quinn

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Weather cancellations will be posted on our web site and on WGGB's web site. The local TV stations WILL NOT show the cancellation.
- The first Saturday of each month will be "Watch Week". This is the only day that spectators will be allowed in the hall to observe the classes. I would ask that you please adhere to this. This will minimize the distractions for the children.
- The school has a web site with a calendar of shows, lessons, cancellations, many of the steps being taught and other information. The address is: www.claddaghschool.com
- All Dancers **must** wear shorts/skirts to class. This allows the dancers to be able to move about more freely.