



Future Steps Ballroom Program

Taking the right steps for the future.

September 14, 2017

Dear Parents / Guardians,

We are pleased to announce that Future Steps has been invited to Holy Spirit Catholic Elementary School to teach ballroom dancing to our Junior & Intermediate students. This will be the fifth year the Intermediates have had the programme and the second year our junior classes are participating. The program consists of 8 sessions (once a week) taught by Future Steps' quality instructors. At the end of the sessions, the students will perform in a friendly ballroom competition or showcase.

The eight sessions will take place in on the following dates:

Tuesday September 26

Tuesday October 3

Tuesday October 10

Tuesday October 17

Tuesday October 24

Tuesday October 31

Tuesday November 7

Tuesday November 14

The final performance will be held on Tuesday November 21 in our gym in the afternoon. Tuesday classes will be held in our classrooms in the morning and afternoon. The following provides some additional information on the studio and the program.

Who Is Future Steps

Future Steps has taught more than 35,000 children in Southern Ontario to ballroom dance in the school systems. It is a subsidiary of Burlington Dance which also owns The Studio @ The Burlington Social Club, a premier Ballroom Dancing Studio located in Burlington, Ontario. The company cares about every student taught and emphasizes teaching the highest quality ballroom dancing to students of all ages and levels. Find out more at their website: www.FutureStepsDance.com

Ballroom Dancing for Children in the Schools

The Ontario Curriculum for the Arts encourages dance in schools as a way to "*develop practical artistic skills, critical analysis skills, and a variety of communication skills*". It also recommends that children perform the newly learned craft to show an understanding of what they have learned. Dancing is a unique form of exercise combining social, physical and mental disciplines. Children connect to the excitement of the music, the rhythm and the sense of movement that is felt in the dances.



But ***it is much more than just dancing***.....the Future Steps program focuses on self-discipline, teamwork, partnership and respect for others by building a positive cooperative spirit amongst peers.

A Lifelong Investment

An investment in Ballroom dance instruction for any child is a lifelong investment of an invaluable social skill. Not only are the dance steps taught, but an appreciation of music, dance etiquette, physical activity and basic posture are all benefits of formal ballroom dance training.



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What Is Taught?

- Children are taught classic Ballroom and Latin dances either through simple games for the younger children or in a simple step-by-step manner for older children
- Dance etiquette is discussed and practiced
- Dance culture, geography and history are taught
- Music recognition is introduced
- Creativity is encouraged amongst teams in order to attract positive attention from the judge during the competition
- Children are professionally prepared for a successful formal performance

How Do We Teach the Course?

The course is taught in a series of 8 lessons over several weeks. The lessons are followed by a friendly "competition" or performance to create a goal for the students to work towards. The competition is focused on being friendly and fun.

Fees

The cost per child is only **\$22.50** for the full 8 lessons and the competition. We ask that students please bring in their money (cheque made payable to Carole Simmons) by Thursday September 21, 2017. Carole Simmons is the Director of Future Steps.

Sincerely,

Mr. Bonavota (Gr. 8), Mrs. Pineda (Gr. 8), Mr. Caruso (Gr. 7), Mrs. Agnew (Gr. 6), Ms. Domenichini (Gr. 5/6), Ms. Di Mateo (Gr. 4/5), Mrs. Stinson (Gr. 4)

