

Fort McMurray Celtic Dance Studio



Fall 2022
Registration Package

Class Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
4:00 – 4:30 Intro to Celtic Wee Celts AGE 2		
4:30 – 5:00 Celtic Step Tiny Tots AGES 3, 4	4:30 – 5:00 Highland Tiny Tots AGES 3, 4	4:30 – 5:00 Irish Tiny Tots AGES 3, 4
5:00 – 5:45 Celtic Step Primary Ages 5, 6	5:00 – 5:45 Highland Primary Ages 5, 6	5:00 – 5:45 Irish Primary Ages 5, 6
5:45 – 6:45 Celtic Step Beginner AGES 7+	5:45 – 6:45 Celtic Step Beginner AGES 7+	5:45 – 6:45 Irish Beginner AGES 7+
6:45 – 8:15 Celtic Step Advanced AGES 11+	6:45 – 8:15 Highland Advanced AGES 11+	6:45 – 8:15 Irish Advanced AGES 11+
8:15 – 9:15 Celtic Step Adult	8:15 – 9:15 Highland Adult	8:15 – 9:15 Irish Adult

- ⌘ Class times are subject to change due to class size or Covid restrictions. Classes of 6 students or fewer will be combined with another class.
- ⌘ The age of the dancer is as of the start of the dance term, **September 6, 2022**. But we are flexible: if your dancer will be moving up into an older class during the dance year, and has danced with us in previous years, please feel free to speak to us and we can look at what makes the most sense.
- ⌘ Dancers will remain in their assigned class for the full term and any changes will occur the next term.

Dance Terms: Fall, Winter and Spring

At the Fort McMurray Celtic Dance Studio, the dance year is divided into 3 terms:

- Fall (September – December)
- Winter (January – March)
- Spring (April – June)

Because of the nature of the dances we do, we can welcome dancers into the school at any time and not just in September. This format allows dancers and families some flexibility in terms of participating in other activities and also helps to manage payments over the year.

Returning dancers are automatically enrolled into the next term/ dance year. No need to reserve a spot each term as most of our dancers stay on with us. However, if you know you will be stepping away, simply let us know so we can open a spot for a new dancer.

Please note:

- We can't guarantee a spot for dancers who are not enrolled. There is therefore a chance that the class might fill up in a dancer's absence.
- Only dancers enrolled in classes can participate in studio performances, activities and competitions.

Free Trial Classes

The Fort McMurray Celtic Dance Studio has a great program, offering Free Trial Classes to all new dancers! We open up the first lesson of each term to allow new participants to try out a class - free of charge and with no commitment to enroll!

Dancers can try all 3 styles of dance or just one class. All levels and styles of dance are eligible for a Free Trial Class from our Wee Celts to our Adults.

Returning dancers are also welcome to try out a different style of dance!

To register for the Free Trial Class, please complete and submit the Registration and Waiver Form and keep an eye out for a confirmation email / invoice (no fees are due unless the dancer registers for the term following the Free Trial Class). This will secure your spot in the class.

For the Free Trial Class, no investment is needed for attire and practice gear. Dancers can simply dance in socked-feet or running shoes and should wear clothes that are suitable for exercise. Please bring a spill-proof water bottle.

We ask that a parent/guardian attend the Free Trial Class with their dancer (dancers under 18) so that we can get to know you and you can discover what we do in class.

Following the Free Trial Class, dancers who decide to join us for the term can then purchase the class attire and shoes as required. No rush to get it all done within a week: we ask that new dancers be fully equipped for class within a month of starting their lessons. And no worries, we'll help you if you have questions!

✦ *Free Trial classes do not guarantee a spot in a class; registration must be paid in full to secure a spot in a class.*

✦ *Adult classes are open to Free Trial Classes anytime throughout the dance year.*

✦ *3 Free Trial Classes total, one per dance style over the course of the dancer's history with the school.*

2022/2023 Calendar

September							February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3				1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30		26	27	28				
September 6-12: Start of Fall Term / Free Trial Classes							February 20: No Classes (Family Day)						
September 25: Wood Buffalo Dance Showcase							February 27-Mar 1: No Classes (Teacher Convention)						
October							March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1				1	2	3	4
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	26	27	28	29	30	31	
30	31												
Oct 10: No Classes (Thanksgiving)							March 1: No Classes (Thanksgiving)						
Oct 24-16: Costume Day!							March 5-16: No Classes (Easter Break)						
Oct 31: No Classes (Halloween)							March 19-31: No Classes (Easter Break)						
November							April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5							1
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
27	28	29	30				23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30						
Nov 19-21: Pyjama Day!							April 3-5: Start of Spring Term / Free Trial Classes						
Dec 25-7: No Classes / End of Fall Term							April 10: No Classes (Easter Break)						
December							May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5	6
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	28	29	30	31			
Dec 19-21: Pyjama Day!							May 22: No Classes (Victoria Day)						
Dec 25-7: No Classes / End of Fall Term							May 28-31: No Classes (Victoria Day)						
January							June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	2	3
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
29	30	31					25	26	27	28	29	30	
Jan 2: No Classes							June 10: Year-End Recital						
Jan 9-11: Start of Winter Term / Free Trial Classes							June 11-24: No Classes (Summer Break)						

Other Activities TBA

- Community performances (Throughout the year)
- Festival of Trees (November)
- St-Patrick's Day Shows (March)
- Medal Tests and Grade Exams (April/May)

Fall 2022 Term Fees

The prices listed below are **full price**. Please refer to the following pages for information about our **discounts** and our **Referral Program**.

Level	Age	Intro to Celtic	Celtic Step	Highland	Irish	Admin Fee	
Wee Celts	2 yrs	\$ 195.00	-	-	-		
Tiny Tots	3, 4	-	\$ 195.00	\$ 240.00	\$ 240.00		
Primary	5, 6	-	\$ 253.50	\$ 312.00	\$ 312.00		
Beginner	7+	-	\$ 286.00	\$ 352.00	\$ 352.00		
Advanced	11+	-	-\$ 390.00	\$ 480.00	\$ 480.00		
Adult	18+	-	\$ 286.00	\$ 352.00	\$ 352.00		
						Dancer	\$25.00
						Family	\$40.00

- ⌘ There is currently no tax (GST) but it may come into effect in the future
- ⌘ A \$25 dancer or \$40 family Administration fee will be added once per dance year
- ⌘ A \$25 late fee will be applied to late payment

Adult Drop-In Passes

Class	Length	10 drop-ins: any class	Expires
Adult	60 minutes	\$275.00	6 months

The Fort McMurray Celtic Dance Studio offers drop-in lessons for adults:

- Drop-ins can be used for any of the Adult classes
- No Admin Fee is charged on the drop-in passes
- The Drop-In Passes can be purchased and started at any time
- The Drop-in Passes are valid for 6 months, or 26 “dancing weeks” from the time the first drop-in pass is used. A “dance week” is a week in which lessons are offered. For example, Spring break and summer will not count towards the expiry date.

Discounts and Referral Program

1. **Classes Discount:** Discounts are applied to dancers taking more than one class: see below
2. **Family Discount:** Siblings and parents/ guardians are eligible for discounts: see below
 - Discounts will be applied in order of most expensive to least expensive:
 - 1 class: full price
 - 2 classes/dancers: will receive 15% off on the 2nd class
 - 3 or more classes/dancers: will earn 25% off for the 3rd, 4th etc.
3. **Referral Program:** You can earn a \$50 discount for each new dancer - referred by you - who completes a full term (Fall, Winter, Spring). Your discount will be applied to your registration fees the term following the new dancers' completion of 1 full term. Any unused referral discounts will be saved and applied to your next term
 - 1 Discount only per term per family (up to \$150/year).
4. **New!! Full-Year Discount:** Register for the full dance year (September – June) and receive a 5% discount.

Full Year Fees including 5% discount					
Level	Age	Intro to Celtic	Celtic Step	Highland	Irish
Wee Celts	2 yrs	\$ 441.75			
Tiny Tots	3, 4		\$ 441.75	\$ 513.00	\$ 513.00
Primary	5, 6		\$ 574.28	\$ 666.90	\$ 666.90
Beginner	7+		\$ 647.90	\$ 752.40	\$ 752.40
Advanced	11+		-\$ 883.50	\$ 1,026.00	\$ 1,026.00
Adult	18+		\$ 647.90	\$ 752.40	\$ 752.40

Registration and Payment

Returning Dancers:

- A spot will be held for dancers from the previous dance year until August 1.
- We will send you an invoice and an EMT request for payment about a week before payment is due.
- If you know your dancer is not returning, kindly let us know so we can open a spot for a new dancer.

New Dancers:

- Please fill in the Registration Form and submit it to us.
- We will send you an invoice and an EMT request for payment. Your payment will secure your dancer's spot in a class

Methods of Payment: Currently, we accept only cash/EMT payments.

Class Attire and Practice Gear



In the following pages you will find a full description of the class attire and practice gear required for each dance style. The requirements for class attire are mostly the same, but there are some little differences specific to each style so **please make sure to refer to the correct style of dance for your child:** [Intro to Celtic Dance \(Wee Celts\)](#), [Celtic Step Dance](#), [Highland and Irish](#), and [Adult](#).

We've made this guide to be as informative as possible but please reach out to us or to other "veteran" parents in the school if you have any questions.

Class Attire FAQs

Do I need the Class Attire for the 1st class?

No. We ask that families aim to have the proper Class Attire and Practice Gear within a month of starting dance classes. Our goal is to have dancers feeling confident and wearing attire to help them succeed but we don't want it to be a stressful experience for parents. Sometimes it's not possible to have everything right away. Simply let us know if you are experiencing difficulties or delays in procuring the necessary items.

Where can I purchase the Class Attire and practice gear?

Our go-to supplier is Northern Dance Apparel, a local retailer in

Fort McMurray. They carry, or can order, all items for our dance school and are a one-stop-shop. They have a tab on their website that is just for our studio and they are knowledgeable about our studio's requirements.

You can find them online [Fort McMurray Celtic Dance Studio – Northern Dance Apparel](#) or visit their store 1-193 O'Coffey Crescent. Please call 780-881-9453 to book.

If you prefer to hunt further for a bargain, there are other retailers that may offer less expensive options such as Walmart, Joe Fresh, and Amazon. In addition, there are Facebook pages dedicated to used dance apparel. And don't miss the consignment page at Northern Dance Apparel.

Does it have to be so specific?

Yes... and no.

In general, having the correct attire and practice gear is important. However, there are instances when it can impede the comfort and enjoyment of the dancer. In that case, we will make an exception. Our smallest dancers for example are not always ready to don the full Class Attire, so for our Wee Celts, the Class Attire is suggestive only. Or maybe this week, is not a good one for doing the hair – a meltdown is not worth it! Just keep us in the loop and we will work with you to find the right answer on a case-by-case basis. And when in doubt, don't force the issue. We would rather see a dancer having fun, than have a dancer miss class.

Why is Class Attire important?

The attire is carefully chosen with several factors in mind:

- fosters a sense of unity and pride
- eliminates distractions
- enables the instructor to see the dancer's posture and form – thus helping dancers as they progress and keeping them safe from injury
- mimics what dancers wear for performances so that the dancer can feel more comfortable under pressure
- limits distractions and stops bad habits from forming. Dancers will develop nervous tics such as playing with their loose hair, or fiddling with their long sleeves. These behaviours are unconscious and will come out on stage.

What happens when my dancer becomes more advanced?

The Class Attire listed in the following pages is for our new and beginner level dancers. Like in any activity or sport, as participants progress and gain more skill, they will need more apparel and they will develop their own sense of what they want. Dancers may want a certain brand of dance shoe for example. In Irish, they will need Hard Shoes. In Highland, they will need Jig shoes. When the time comes for your dancer to move into the Advanced class, we will inform you of any new requirements and give you plenty of notice.

If you have any questions now about what the level of investment required should your child decide to advance, please reach out to us and we can discuss further. We will always work with families to try to find the right solution for your dancer.

Is this what dancers wear for shows?

No but many of the pieces may be used for shows such as the shoes, shorts, and socks.

In addition to the Class Attire, there will also be Dance Costume requirements for all dance styles. We begin with a simple, relatively inexpensive costume for beginners. Our Dance Costumes are used year after year and, as dancers grow out of them, can be sold to younger dancers.



You will be given more information about the Dance Costume within the first few weeks of dance. If you want further information on the price or details right away, please reach out to us and we will be happy to provide more information.

My dancer just started. Do I have to get the music and Practice Gear right away?

Yes. All dancers need to practice at home and be exposed to their music. Please make sure to see further information about practicing at home.

Class Attire and Practice Gear

Adults

- Clothing and hair suitable for exercise and a range of movement
- Shoes, music and gear as listed for each style of dance

Class Attire and Practice Gear

Intro to Celtic: Wee Celts

*Suggested

Intro to Celtic Dance: (Wee Celts)	
Tops	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Fitted</u> top or leotard • Sleeve Length: camisole, tank, or short sleeve • Colour: plain, any colour Any leotard/top is suitable at: FMM Celtic Dance Studio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No loose t-shirts • No long sleeves • No patterns/ prints
Bottoms	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Fitted</u> dance shorts • Colour: black or navy Any of the shorts is suitable at: FMM Celtic Dance Studio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No long pants • No baggy shorts • No patterns/ prints • No pockets, no drawstrings
Socks / Tights	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Girls</u>: white knee socks or white tights • <u>Boys</u>: dark knee socks • Please use elastics or sock glue if needed so that socks stay up. Available at: FMM Celtic Dance Studio 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socks should not fall down
Shoes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black ballet slippers contact Norther Dance Apparel directly for the smaller, specialty sizes • Or similar gymnastic slippers • May also wear Irish or Highland dance shoes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shoes must stay on
Hair / Other Adornment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hair tied back and out of the face • Bangs preferably pulled back off the face 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No distracting hair style or accessories • No jewelry • Preferably no fake tattoos
Notes	
<p>*Class Attire is suggested only for Wee Celts: For Wee Celts in particular, it's important that the dancer is comfortable. Therefore, any attire is acceptable as long as it is suitable for exercise and a free range of motion.</p>	



Class Attire and Practice Gear

Celtic Step Dance

Tops	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Fitted</u> top or leotard • Sleeve Length: camisole, tank, or short sleeve • Colour: plain, any colour <p>Any leotard/top is suitable at: FMM Dance Studio</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No loose t-shirts • No long sleeves • No patterns/ prints
Bottoms	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Fitted</u> dance shorts • Colour: black or navy • (Optional: tartan skirt over the shorts) <p>Any of the shorts is suitable at: FMM Celtic Dance Studio</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No long pants • No baggy shorts • No patterns/ prints • No pockets, no drawstrings
Socks / Tights	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Girls</u>: white knee socks • Tiny Tots can also wear white tights • <u>Boys</u>: dark knee socks • Please use elastics or sock glue if needed so that socks stay up. Available at: FMM Celtic Dance Studio 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socks should not fall down
Shoes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black leather tap shoes • Any style with laces or straps • Laces double knotted <p>Any of the tap shoes are suitable at: FMM Celtic Dance Studio</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No pull-on shoe style • Laces must not come undone
Hair / Other Adornment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hair tied back and out of the face • Preferably in a bun or French braid • Bangs preferably pulled back pinned off the face 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No distracting hair style or accessories • No jewelry • Preferably no fake tattoos
Music / Practice Gear for home	
<p>Practice Music:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance</i> • McIsaac & McIsaac, <i>Fiddle music 101</i> or any fiddle music with clogs, jigs and reels <p>Dance Mat Approx. 3'x4' is sufficient</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A Dance Mat for tap dancing ○ Alternatively, vinyl flooring remnants are available at <i>End of the Roll</i> for \$20 or less <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full-length mirror 	



Class Attire and Practice Gear Highland Dance

Ops	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Fitted</u> top or leotard • Sleeve Length: camisole, tank, or short sleeve • Colour: plain, any colour Any leotard/top is suitable at: FMM Celtic Dance Studio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No loose t-shirts • No long sleeves • No patterns/ prints
Bottoms	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Fitted</u> dance shorts • Colour: black or navy Any of the shorts is suitable at: FMM Celtic Dance Studio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No long pants • No baggy shorts • No patterns/ prints • No pockets, no drawstrings
Socks / Tights	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Girls</u>: white knee socks • Tiny Tots can also wear white tights • <u>Boys</u>: dark knee socks • May also wear tartan hose • Please use elastics or sock glue if needed so that socks stay up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socks should not fall down
Shoes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black highland ghillies, any brand • Double knotted laces We can size your dancer's foot for shoes at the first class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laces must not come undone
Hair / Other Adornment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hair tied back and out of the face • Preferably in a bun • Bangs preferably pulled back off the face 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No distracting hair style accessories • No jewelry • Preferably no fake tattoos
Music / Gear	
<u>Practice Music:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashley McIsaac, <i>Sleepy Maggie</i> (song) • Simon Fraser University Pipe Band, "A High Cut Above" (album) or any Highland Dancing album • Full-length mirror 	



Class Attire and Practice Gear

Irish Dance

Tops	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Fitted</u> top or leotard • Sleeve Length: camisole, tank, or short sleeve • Colour: plain, any colour Any leotard/top is suitable at: FMM Celtic Dance Studio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No loose t-shirts • No long sleeves • No patterns/ prints
Bottoms	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Fitted</u> dance shorts • Colour: black or navy • Any of the shorts is suitable at: FMM Celtic Dance Studio 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No long pants • No baggy shorts • No patterns/ prints • No pockets, no drawstrings
Socks / Tights	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Girls</u>: white knee socks • Tiny Tots can also wear white tights • <u>Boys</u>: dark knee socks • Please use elastics or sock glue if needed so that socks stay up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socks should not fall down
Shoes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irish soft shoes, any brand • Double knotted laces • We can size your dancer's foot for shoes at the first class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laces must not come undone
Hair / Other Adornment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hair tied back and out of the face • Preferably in a bun • Bangs preferably pulled back off the face 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No distracting hair style accessories • No jewelry • Preferably no fake tattoos
Music / Gear	
Practice Music <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Flatley's <i>Lord of the Dance</i> (album) • Michael O'Donoghue, <i>Feis 1</i> (album) or any Irish Dancing album • Full-length mirror 	

Practicing at Home

All dancers should practice at home, around 3 times per week - yes, even the youngest dancers. But what is 'practicing'? The answer might be very different from what you imagine.

Imagine trying to learn an instrument without practicing at home. There would be almost no progress, right? It is the same with dance. Learning new movements, being able to execute them in a series, and improving technique all require focus, attention, repetition and the development of an ear for music. There will be minimal progress if your child doesn't practice outside of class.

With the youngest dancers, that means 5 – 10 minutes of dancing per practice session. As your dancer progresses, the length of time your dancer practices will increase.

At first, 'practicing' might just mean having fun, listening to dance music, and playing dance games. What's important is that your dancer is being exposed to the *idea* of practicing. Your dancer should learn that dancing doesn't end at the Studio door.

At first, your dancer will need your help and encouragement to develop a practicing routine. **The best way to help your dancer is to provide support and resources:**

- Play dance music in the house and in the car
- Play YouTube videos of dancing (Any videos will do but we also have some from the school)
- As soon as you get home from dance class, ask your dancer to demonstrate what they learned
- Ask them to demonstrate what their favorite dance move is
- Make sure there is a space to practice without it being in the way of family routines
- Encourage them to put their music on and have some fun!
- Play "dance class" with your child
- Allow them to strap on their shoes and dance around

Being able to practice at home doesn't mean your dancer needs an at-home studio. But it should be something that feels welcome in the household. Your dancer wants to dance *for you!* Allowing them to dance around the kitchen while you're cooking for example IS practicing. If a dancer feels that they must go away to practice, this may in fact discourage them, especially when they first begin classes. Very young dancers are dancing as a gift to parents. The best thing you can do, is be interested and amazed!

Dancers don't need a lot of space to practice at home, but they need the proper flooring, music, and a full-length mirror. For Celtic Step Dance, you can purchase a vinyl floor remnant for under \$20 at End-of-the-Roll (you may have to go back a few times as their stock varies.) Flooring is very important – steer clear of concrete basements or buy the appropriate flooring to provide the right cushioning. Improper flooring will lead to injuries over time. If you have questions about flooring, please reach out to us!

You don't have to know if what your child is doing is correct. It is best if parents be cheerleaders and allow the "corrections" to remain the domain of the teacher. Your job is simply to allow your dancer to do what they love and celebrate their hard work and personal achievements.

If you have any questions about practicing, music or flooring, feel free to reach out to us.

Dance Events

Dance Costume

In order to perform outside of class, a dance costume will be required. Each dance style has its own costume. At first, the requirement is very simple and as cost-effective as possible. As dancers progress and get more committed, their costume can also become more involved. Dance Costumes are used year after year and, as dancers grow out of them, can be sold to younger dancers.

You will be given more information about the Dance Costume within the first few weeks of dance. If you want further information on the price or details right away, please reach out to us and we will be happy to provide more information.

Performances

Celtic Dance is very popular in the community and is in demand at many events. There will be opportunities throughout the year for the dancers to showcase their skill. We believe that dancing is for everybody and, as such, all dancers in the school are welcome to participate in many of our local performances. (On occasion, only dancers in a certain class or over 18 will be selected.) As opportunities arise, you will be informed of details and requirements for each performance.

It is a privilege to be invited to perform at local events and dancers are expected to present themselves with professionalism and maturity (reflective of their age of course). Dancers and their accompanying guardians will be held to a high standard of behaviour as they are representing the school and are responsible to be a part of an enjoyable experience for attendees and fellow dancers at the event.

Medal Tests / Grade Exams

The Highland and Celtic Step Dance Medal Tests or Irish Grade Exams are programs that enable dancers to be assessed according to a standard that is appropriate for their age and experience. The dancers are evaluated by a highly qualified Examiner and each dancer is given written feedback and a "grade" along with a medal or another award (depending on the level being tested). Medal Tests are usually conducted once a year and all dancers are invited to participate.

Recitals

Our year-end recital is tentatively booked for June 10, 2023, at SEPCA Holy Trinity School. This is the best opportunity for dancers to demonstrate everything they have learned and for family and friends to show their support and encouragement. Whereas at community performances, we are often restricted to short performances, the recital is all about our dancers.

Competitions

Competition can be a positive experience for some dancers and can be a great motivator. But it is not for everybody and it must be approached with maturity and the right attitude. Dancers who choose to compete are representing the school and will be held to a high standard of behaviour in class, and on and off stage. Before being considered as candidates for competition, dancers must complete *at least* a full dance year with the FMMCDS. The dancer and family must also meet with Miss Catherine in-person for a discussion of expectations. Dancers who demonstrate a good work ethic and good sportsmanship will be permitted to represent the school in competition.

Competition is only available to Highland and Irish dancers.