

Practice Makes Perfect

Rachel Groom, CLIC Sargent's National Events Coordinator, introduces an inventive fundraising project designed to encourage young people to improve their musical and dancing skills whilst raising money for children with cancer.

CLIC Sargent, the UK's largest children's cancer charity, run a scheme called Practice-a-thon Dance where children and young people get sponsored to practice their dancing steps, for a two week period in the academic year. The idea of the scheme is to raise valuable funds for CLIC Sargent's work with children and young people with cancer whilst improving children's dancing and having fun. All schools and groups taking part get to keep 25% of any money raised to put towards their own dancing projects, the other 75% goes to CLIC Sargent.

Practice-a-thon Dance

Dance teachers and students have been pledging their support to children with cancer by doing what they do best, dancing! Over 4,000 students have already signed up to take part in Practice-a-thon Dance but they still need your help to make a difference to the 10 children and teenagers who are diagnosed with cancer each and every day.

The concept is simple; students agree to practice their dancing for a set time over a two week period and ask friends and family to sponsor them. It is a great way to encourage dancers to prepare for impending exams and to ensure all your students start off the year with good intentions!

Linda Virgoe registered as soon as she heard about the event: "Holding our show at Christmas I felt it was a great way for all my students to prepare and they loved the idea of raising money for other children. As soon as it came through I knew this was something I wanted to be involved in and I have had such a positive response from all the parents."

This year CLIC Sargent hopes to top previous targets for Practice-a-thon and get 20,000 young dancers taking part raising a fantastic £60,000!

CLIC Sargent is the only children's cancer charity to offer all round help and support for children and their families. With nurses, social workers and family support, accommodation for families during treatment, research, financial support and advice, holidays and a child cancer helpline.

To find out more about the charity's work and Practice-a-thon Dance, please visit www.clicsargent.org.uk/dance or ring 0845 121 24 90 and make a difference to the 10 children diagnosed with cancer each day in the UK.