

BALLET THEATER OF LANCASTER

**P.O. BOX 4511
LANCASTER, PA. 17601
717-672-0826**

To the Principal:

Please excuse _____ from school on Friday, December 4th, 2009, for student performances of Ballet Theater of Lancaster's production of *The Nutcracker* at Lancaster Mennonite Performing Arts Center.

This production is an important learning experience for our student dancers, who have rehearsed weekly since September. Participation in this production provides the opportunity to perform with the professional dancers of the Donetsk Ballet of Ukraine. They experience all aspects of staging a ballet: auditions, rehearsals, and performing, as well as learning important lessons about the discipline needed to prepare for a ballet performance and how to work with a group to achieve a goal.

Students from all areas of Lancaster County will be attending these performances on Thursday and Friday. We believe that this performance provides these students a unique experience of the performing arts in our area because of the collaboration of professional and student dancers. Not only do these students see professional dancers perform, but watching young dancers their own age helps them to imagine themselves as dancers one day.

Thank you for your understanding of the reason for the absence of the student named above.

Regards,

Angela M. Crook
Nutcracker Chairman

Parent signature of student named above _____ Date _____