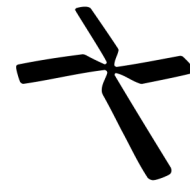


April



- ▶ A new post-16 education group will be starting this month. Please pray for the young people studying Functional Skills in maths and English, as well as STEM activities and workshops.
- ▶ We are holding an Easter Party for our young parents. Pray that this is well attended.
- ▶ Please pray for young people with autistic spectrum conditions for whom school is extremely difficult.
- ▶ Pray that we would make wise decisions about which Children's Centre services to prioritise as we consider increasing the targeted work with the most vulnerable.
- ▶ There has been increased opportunity for Neil Perry and other staff members to speak to local media about a range of issues around work with vulnerable young people and families. Please pray that we can make the most of opportunities to raise awareness of the needs and responses.
- ▶ We currently have some high-need children in our Playgroup who require support with challenging behaviour and speech & language development. Please pray for them.
- ▶ Thank God for a new 'Shine' course starting for Year 7 & 8 girls. Please pray that they would learn more about their worth and identity, and about how to treat themselves and others.
- ▶ Please pray for wisdom as we consider new ways to effectively support young people, during a time of significant change in statutory services.
- ▶ Think about all those taking part in the Romsey Mill 24 Peak Challenge Trek 25th - 27th April. Please pray for safety, lots of funds raised and that new friendships would be made.

May



- ▶ We will be compiling reports for the funders of our Young Parents programme. Pray for wisdom on how we can accurately reflect the positive work we do.
- ▶ Please pray that our new girls sports project goes well in North Cambridge, encouraging healthy lifestyles for young women.
- ▶ Pray for Year 6 pupils getting involved with our transitions work. We hope to build good relationships with them and that they would have a successful move to secondary school.
- ▶ We are looking to start a weekly group for fathers under the age of 25 and their children. Please pray for wisdom for Ben, our Young Fathers Worker, as he launches this.
- ▶ Thanks for Jon and the work he has managed to do so far in East Cambridge. Please pray for the new networks and partnerships he is developing.
- ▶ Please pray for wisdom to use the Children's Centre budget well in supporting families with high needs.
- ▶ Pray for more volunteers to work in our Aspire groups so that we can sustain and grow the work. We need around 25 a week and we are about to lose a number to exams and university.
- ▶ We are pleased to be developing partnership work with Shelford and Stapleford Youth Initiative (a local, volunteer-led Christian charity). Please pray as we explore longer-term opportunities.
- ▶ We are very grateful for our group of Trustees who oversee the work of Romsey Mill. Please pray for Nigel Taylor, our newest Trustee, as he gets to grips with the work.

June



- ▶ Please pray for the young people moving on from Romsey Mill and that they make wise decisions about their future.
- ▶ Pray for creative ideas for the Young Parents team as they plan summer activities.
- ▶ Pray for all Aspire young people in Year 6, who are becoming increasingly anxious about the move to secondary school.
- ▶ Please pray for more volunteers who can effectively support children and staff in our Playgroup.
- ▶ Pray for our negotiations with schools for courses and support that we could provide from September.
- ▶ Romsey Mill is working with Cambourne Youth Partnership in the development of youth work opportunities in the villages of Cambourne. Please pray as plans for provision over the next year are being worked out.
- ▶ Please pray for Playgroup staff as they maintain the required paperwork to track children's progress, planning and evidence for inspections.
- ▶ Partnership with local churches is an important part of our approach to work with young people and families. Pray as we explore further opportunities to connect with local churches in responding to local needs.
- ▶ We believe that every person is important, created by a God who loves them unconditionally. Please pray that in all our work we can show this.

Praise God for ...

- ▶ The opportunity for 1:1 work with students in our Transitions programme, and to see real progress taking place. Pray that God would continue to bless these relationships.
- ▶ Five young dads have taken part in a 4-week boxing course; learning new physical skills as well as how to manage emotions and make good life choices.
- ▶ For young people who are new to Aspire and settling into their groups well.
- ▶ A fun trip on the train to Planet Zoom for Playgroup families, which helped parents, staff and children to get to know each other better.
- ▶ The Opportunities Fair at Romsey Mill, attended by lots of young people seeking advice and information about opportunities in employment, education and training.
- ▶ Rebekah Maguire, who recently ran the Cambridge half-marathon to raise funds for Aspire Plus.
- ▶ A very successful Year 6 after-school project that has been based at North Cambridge Academy. We have brought together children from five different primary schools and run activities with them that has enabled them to build friendships and confidence.
- ▶ There has been a rise in the numbers of young parents (and parents-to-be) attending Bumps and Babies. Mums have been learning about what it means to interact with their baby and prioritising their child's development.
- ▶ The Aspire girls groups, which have grown from 3 girls in one group, to 14 girls in two groups within a year – with more on our waiting list!
- ▶ Jane (volunteer/student) who has successfully completed her Level 2 childcare qualification.

Praise God for...

- ▶ Karen Hosking, our Family Support worker, who finished her role with us in February. She established the Aspire programme with a group of other parents 10 years ago and has supported the work tirelessly since, including being employed in the role for the last 18 months. Karen's work has been invaluable to the families of young people who attend Aspire groups.
- ▶ All the young mums and dads who are willing and keen to access our Young Parents service so quickly.
- ▶ The Aspire Plus group (17-19 year olds with autism or aspergers) who recently undertook a bus challenge to help increase in confidence in using public transport.
- ▶ Jackie, our Playgroup Worker, who has completed her Level 3 childcare qualification.
- ▶ The Children's Centre team who have responded well during an unsettled time of budget reductions and local authority restructuring of Children's Centres.
- ▶ All the Children's Centre families who have enjoyed a creative cooking course.
- ▶ A growing Romsey Parents Group and their contribution to the Centre through their fundraising and enthusiasm.
- ▶ The many dedicated and passionate volunteers who give their time to the work of the Mill.
- ▶ The overwhelming support for our 'Women of Influence' project (helping young women in their development through positive role models).

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April—June 2014

ROMSEY MILL



Prayer Diary



**My heart is steadfast, O God; I will sing
and make music with all my soul.
For great is your love, higher than the
heavens; your faithfulness reaches to
the skies.**

Psalm 108 v1&4