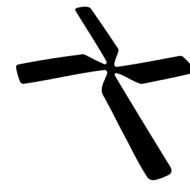


# January



- ▶ Playgroup staff are completing development records about all the children. Please pray for them as they write these important documents.
- ▶ Pray for the Transitions team as they consider ways to further engage young people in the development of the programme.
- ▶ Karen Hosking returns to work following a shoulder operation. Pray for her continued recovery.
- ▶ Pray for Jamie as he settles into his role in Sawston, builds relationships with the young people and develops links with Sawston Free Church, where he will have an office.
- ▶ Please pray for Charity and Neil as they meet with a number of local businesses to discuss potential partnerships.
- ▶ Recent changes in the benefit system are affecting some of the families who attend our Children's Centre and Young Parents Programme. Pray for these families as they try and manage their finances in a changing climate.
- ▶ Pray for Tizzy and Jackie as they attend training courses for Early Years, language and communication and First Aid, for Playgroup.
- ▶ The new Marketing and Communications Officer will be joining us this month. Pray that she settles in well.
- ▶ Our Transitions team continue to establish partnerships with other agencies as part of the work. Please pray that these partnerships provided effective working and that we are able to maintain our distinctive Christian identity within this.
- ▶ Please pray for Ben as he builds relationships with young fathers and encourages them to attend courses at Romsey Mill..

# February



- ▶ More new groups are starting in Aspire this term. Pray for staff as they develop the work and for the provision of volunteers to help run the groups.
- ▶ Please pray for the Transitions work in Cambourne as we seek to support all the year 6 children who will be transferring to the new secondary school, opening in September.
- ▶ Pray for the development of a strong partnership with the new school in Cambourne, so that the needs of the children can be met and that a positive culture is developed within the school.
- ▶ Some of the young mothers who engage with the Young Parents Programme are participating in college courses and are struggling with a number of issues. Pray for staff as they support these young mothers.
- ▶ Please pray for wisdom as we set budgets for 2013-14.
- ▶ 12 of the families in Playgroup are able to access 2 year old funding, for families who have a high need. Pray that this would lay good foundation stones in family life and education.
- ▶ We need to raise over £1 million for 2013-14 in order to maintain our support for Cambridgeshire's young people and families. Whilst the 12 days of Christmas appeal went amazingly well and some parts of our work are commissioned, we are experiencing funding cuts and projecting a £130k shortfall for next year. We pray for God's provision.
- ▶ Pray for Mike, James and Neil as they meet with schools to discuss Alternative Education support for the next academic year.
- ▶ It has been confirmed that there will be new development on the site of the charity shop later in the year. This presents a challenge to us, please pray for wisdom.

# March



- ▶ New groups are being established in primary schools to support vulnerable children in years 5 & 6 as part of the Transitions programme. Please pray that children will develop and flourish through these groups.
- ▶ Please pray for Charlie as she caters for children with Special Educational Needs in Playgroup and provides support for the families, liaising with relevant agencies.
- ▶ Ruth, Karen and Avril continue to carry out assessments on all the families who are part of the Aspire programme in order to unlock funding from the Short Breaks team. Please pray for them as they keep up to date with the workload that this brings.
- ▶ Our trustees meet on 27th March. We thank God for their commitment to the Mill and pray for wisdom as they discuss and make decisions about the work.
- ▶ We are starting a poetry project with young people from Manor Community College who will be working with a local writer. They will reflect and write about their own community. We pray that this will be an enriching experience for all involved.
- ▶ Please pray for Kate as she develops the work with young women. We are encouraged by the projects that develop leadership in young women. Please pray for those who are involved in training run by agencies such as Young Lives.
- ▶ We are thankful that we have a number of students working with us. Please pray for those who work with Lee in the Abbey area of Cambridge. This work has been challenging recently, but staff continue to support the young people and build good relationships.
- ▶ Please pray for a group of young women who will be completing an Equine course at the College of West Anglia this term.

## Praise God for ...

- ▶ The generosity of so many people who supported our '12 days of Christmas' Appeal. We are very thankful for the sacrificial and prayerful support that we have received. Praise God for the raised profile of the Mill through the appeal
- ▶ Ben Wilkes, new Young Fathers Worker, and Jamie Sawtell, new Youth Development Worker for Sawston.
- ▶ The 21 young people from the Transitions Programme who were able to go on a residential to Norfolk during November and the deeper relationships that were established.
- ▶ That the Mill Road Winter Fair was such a positive day, with a wonderful family atmosphere, lots of visitors and almost £500 raised.
- ▶ Give thanks that the children in Playgroup have all settled in well and we are seeing signs of good progress, especially in their personal and social development and their communication and language.
- ▶ Romsey Mill staff and a young parent delivered training to Homestart Cambridge on effective ways to support young parents.
- ▶ Justin has extended the work that he is doing in Comberton Village College. Praise God for the work and for the recognition from the school of the good work that we are doing.
- ▶ Praise God for the work in Cherry Hinton. Many young people participate in the football group, which provides a positive outlet for a number of young people who are struggling with school.

## Praise God for ...

- ▶ Two new groups within our Aspire programme, one taking place at Romsey Mill, the other in north Cambridge, which are being enjoyed by the young people who are attending.
- ▶ New volunteers and students who have joined the Transitions programme and are supporting the team in delivering groups.
- ▶ Christina Hatfield passing her minibus test.
- ▶ The involvement of parents in Playgroup. 12 parents attended a Playgroup coffee and cake morning, getting to know staff and each other and asking lots of questions.
- ▶ Avril and Karen continue to settle in well and continue to set up new work within Aspire, building on work already taking place.
- ▶ Good attendance at the Bumps and Babies post-natal group, with more mothers from South Cambs attending.
- ▶ Positive engagement of 8 young women in the Arts Award course over the Autumn term.
- ▶ We have recently received encouraging affirmation of our work from Cambridgeshire County Council, with particular mention of our Young Parents and Aspire programmes.
- ▶ We are so thankful for all the volunteers who help throughout the work at the Mill, in the different programmes, administration and the charity shop. Praise God for their commitment to the work. We currently have over 140 volunteers working within the organisation.

Jan-March 2013

ROMSEY MILL



# Prayer diary



**You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. 2 Corinthians 9:11**