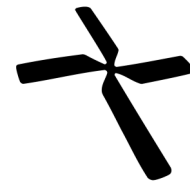


# June



- ▶ Pray that opening the Playgroup at Hemingford Road five mornings a week for a younger cohort of two year olds is successful and that the youngest ones find Playgroup a place where they feel supported and secure away from home.
- ▶ Pray that new staff members Neil Thompson (Fundraising & Communications Manager); Aida Ruiz, Marion Bellier and Lorraine Pearce (Playgroup Assistants); Rebecca Andrews (Children's Centre Worker) and Ollie Leonard (Youth Development Worker - Sawston, Shelford & Stapleford), all settle in quickly.
- ▶ Pray that the preparations for a double Playgroup OFSTED inspection are smooth and that staff do not find the process too stressful. Pray that children and their families remain our priority, not the burden of administration. Pray for Rachel Matthews (Early Years Coordinator) as she adapts to managing two Playgroups and overseeing the welfare of double the number of children and families.
- ▶ Year 11 students are taking GCSEs this month—pray that they stay strong and show their true abilities.
- ▶ Pray for James Bennett (Programme Manager) and Rachel Briant (YPP Programme Coordinator) as they cover Rachel Bennett (Children's Centre Manager) while she is on maternity leave. We are grateful that they have the skills and experience to extend their roles and ensure continuity of delivery across both Children's Centres.
- ▶ Pray that the Staff Team Day Away is a success and gives everyone an opportunity to build on their work and get to know each other better.

# July



- ▶ Ask God to help Romsey Mill's Leadership & Management Team, and our Trustees, as they shape Romsey Mill's strategic direction.
- ▶ Our Aspire programme has 80 young people with autistic spectrum conditions on its waiting list. Pray that reliable and capable volunteers come forward so we can meet this need.
- ▶ Preparations for Romsey Mill's summer youth and family activities, day trips and residentials are well underway—pray that they go to plan and everyone who takes part has a great time!
- ▶ A number of young people with autistic spectrum conditions are too anxious to leave the house and struggle to access education, so their families are facing legal action. Pray that they get the support they need.
- ▶ Young parents who will be sitting a maths exam on 15 July—please pray that their hard work pays off and they achieve good results.
- ▶ Pray that negotiations with secondary schools to plan partnerships for next term go well and that we can work together effectively for the benefit of young people.
- ▶ Pray that funding applications recently submitted for a variety of programmes are successful and that funding partners continue to see the value and impact of Romsey Mill's work.
- ▶ Pray for Family Workers within the Children's Centres as they strive to support families through difficult times—pray they have compassion, wisdom and understanding.

# August



- ▶ Young people will be preparing to move from primary school to secondary school soon. Pray that they feel confident about this transition and can look forward to the next phase in their lives.
- ▶ Some young people with autistic spectrum conditions struggle with the lack of routine over the summer holidays. Pray that they are able to relax, enjoy themselves and access Aspire's summer programme.
- ▶ More sports, activities and day trips for our groups will take place outdoors. Pray for good weather and good times!
- ▶ Strength and encouragement for Avril Timson (Aspire Youth Development Worker) and Ruth Watt (Aspire Programme Coordinator) who are managing a large number of high need cases that require one-to-one support.
- ▶ Some staff will be taking a hard-earned break in August—pray that they have a good rest, and return to work feeling replenished and recharged.
- ▶ Many of the families we work with can't afford holidays away from home and this can be a source of great sadness. Pray that they know that being together and having fun is enough to build happy memories for their children.
- ▶ Pray that preparations for fundraising events in September—Romsey Calling at the Earl of Beaconsfield, the Spartan Sprint Race and Sawston Cycle Ride—all go smoothly and that these events raise money that will further our work.

## Praise God for...

- ▶ Two great Step-Up residential trips in the Lake District for young people struggling with mainstream education. Everyone had a great time, building relationships, overcoming fears and spending time in beautiful surroundings.
- ▶ All of the people who cut out and sent in tokens in the Cambridge News for Cambridge Building Society's Cash for the Community scheme, helping us to raise £824 for Young Parents Programme resources—this is £200 more than last year!
- ▶ Young people starting in Aspire groups for the first time and are having the time of their lives, and for a successful Aspire family fundraising event on 10th April, which helped us raise over £300.
- ▶ For all the Youth Development and Family Workers at Romsey Mill who give support to young people and families where no other professionals are available or able to help.
- ▶ £1500 given by the Cambridge Female Welfare Fund for courses and staff time to develop 'Five to Thrive', an initiative that will support mother and child bonding in our Young Parents Programme.
- ▶ Teams of volunteers who do work for us that is dirty, physically demanding and takes a lot of time. Also for volunteers who turn up come rain or shine—their loyalty and commitment is very precious.
- ▶ The safe arrival of Oliver Bennett, new born son to Rachel Bennett (Children's Centre Manager) and James Bennett (Programme Manager).
- ▶ Jesus has called us his friends and showed us what love means. Ask God to help the Romsey Mill team to share that love in practical ways, especially with those who do not know that they are loved by Him.

## Praise God for...

- ▶ Romsey Mill's two Playgroups—one at Hemingford Road and the other at Ross Street—are now open! Staff and children at the Ross Street site have settled in well. Give thanks for new staff members who are adding valuable skills and experience to the team, and for the dedication and commitment of existing Playgroup staff.
- ▶ We are grateful for the knitting circle who hand knitted baby clothes for our Young Parents Programme—beautiful items that will be cherished by the families.
- ▶ The University of Cambridge's Botanic Gardens are kindly allowing Romsey Mill to visit for free with groups and individuals—we are blessed to have this beautiful place in our city.
- ▶ John Lewis donated some lovely items for sale in our charity shop—this generosity will raise lots of money and provide much needed stock for the shop.
- ▶ Since November, Becky Hall has been providing extremely helpful additional support for the Finance & Administration team. She will shortly be getting married to Ben Wilkes, who is our Young Fathers Worker—praise God for this lovely couple.
- ▶ The laughter, team spirit and support that the Romsey Mill Staff Team give each other—despite many challenges, we always find time to come together, pray and have a cup of tea. We feel God's love and care at work here every day.

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Registered Charity (No: 1069905)

June—Aug 2015

ROMSEY MILL



# Prayer Diary



Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction,  
faithful in prayer.

The Bible, Romans 12:12