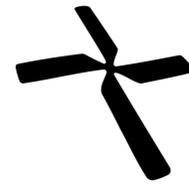


March



- ▶ Our alternative education programme, Step Up, will be running a residential trip to the Peak District, 23-25 March. Pray for safety, fun and the building of good relationships.
- ▶ Pray for the children as they settle into Playgroup this term (and next). It has not been easy; some parents have been particularly anxious in separating from their children.
- ▶ New mums starting baby groups for the first time and also for twelve young mums to settle well into the Romsey Mill English course.
- ▶ Pray for God's wisdom as we engage with other professionals to identify families to encourage into our next parenting course in April. Pray we reach the families who need to build stronger relationships and understanding with their children.
- ▶ Easter is a time for reflection, joy and the celebration of new life. Pray that families can be together at this time and feel the love and light of God's presence.
- ▶ We pray for wisdom and guidance as we look for new initiatives to connect with hard to reach families and engage with them to understand their child's learning and development.
- ▶ We currently have a young person who has had an episode of psychosis – we are working together with their clinicians and family to get them back into their weekly group.
- ▶ Playgroup staff as we adapt our record keeping systems to accommodate the Integrated Review process, now that Health and Education are working more closely in Early Years settings.

April



- ▶ Ask God to help Romsey Mill's Leadership & Management Team, and our Trustees, as they shape Romsey Mill's strategic direction.
- ▶ We pray for God's leading as we think about the future in light of budget cuts.
- ▶ Pray for midwifery and health visiting teams involved with our Children's Centres who are overwhelmed with work due to staff shortages.
- ▶ Please lift up our long and growing waiting list in Aspire. We trust you Lord to stand with these young people until we have capacity.
- ▶ Pray for Romsey Mill staff as we encourage the high proportion of Playgroup children with English as an additional language (EAL) in their communication and language development.
- ▶ Pray for young fathers struggling to negotiate contact to spend time with their children.
- ▶ Pray for our staff as we adjust of our staffing needs for the summer term (particularly in finding cover for Playgroup assistant for 1:1 support for a child with additional needs).
- ▶ The staff as we are still (patiently?) waiting for the next Ofsted inspection – we know it will be before July 2016 – sooner rather than later please!
- ▶ We pray for understanding and compassion for Syrian refugees who may be moving into our local area and wisdom in the support we offer.
- ▶ For more people to come forward to volunteer in our Aspire programme.

May



- ▶ Week beginning 9th May: Year 6 children will be taking their SATs this week. Pray for peace for pupils, teachers and parents!
- ▶ Pray that local businesses, individuals and community groups continue to see the value and impact of Romsey Mill's work, and support us financially.
- ▶ Pray for children who have chronic conditions or illnesses and who attend Playgroup and Children's Centre activities despite the physical and emotional challenges they and their parents face.
- ▶ Pray for all youngsters preparing and revising for upcoming exams.
- ▶ Pray that God would continue to bless the work of the Romsey Mill Charity Shop. That more volunteers would get involved and that the whole venture would continue to be a rich blessing to the local community.
- ▶ We are seeing an increase of LGBT* young people with autism – Pray for wisdom for how we can best support them. (*Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender).
- ▶ Pray for all those children who are in care and who have been removed from difficult situations. For God to bring about change and for His love to break in to these broken families.
- ▶ Pray for positive outcomes in all our fundraising endeavours so Romsey Mill can continue meeting need where it is greatest.

Praise God for...

- ▶ the allocations system for the Children's Centre is working at its smoothest ever as we coordinate the support for families.
- ▶ young fathers gaining volunteering and training placements that boost their confidence.
- ▶ 12 young mums who signed up to do an English course.
- ▶ the 8 young mums who had afternoon tea at Queens' College following a SHINE Self Esteem course.
- ▶ the successful launch of our new Fun for 2's group as we support families to understand what the two year funding means and support the parents as their young children transition into nursery settlings to extend their learning and development.
- ▶ the success of another parenting course, supporting families to understand their child's changing needs and related behaviours.
- ▶ the increasing numbers in both Playgroups.
- ▶ the two new volunteers for Playgroup following a request to local schools.
- ▶ March 5th Disco as a fundraiser for Playgroup – past & present families.
- ▶ close & developing partnership with St Philip's School for children entering Nursery and reception, especially with regard to those children with English as an additional language.
- ▶ the great progress the Playgroup children are making in their development and skills. It is such a joy to see and be part of this.

Praise God for...

- ▶ good relationships with lots of schools and their support staff.
- ▶ a young woman with autism who has experienced years of anxiety and school refusal and is now doing brilliantly on her post -16 course.
- ▶ the fact we have had some amazing feedback recently about how the Aspire groups are benefiting young people and their families.
- ▶ great friendships that we have seen develop in the youth clubs we deliver.
- ▶ Romsey Mill's good relationships with our main Aspire county council funders – the Disabled Children's Early Help team.
- ▶ the enthusiasm of the 12 parents who took part in the Fullspoon cooking course and their willingness to get involved.
- ▶ the relationship with the University of Cambridge and the opportunity to be a charity partner in the Open Cambridge Walk.
- ▶ 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.
- ▶ all those who have a heart for the work of Romsey Mill. Praise Him for all those who stand with us in prayer, support us financially or volunteer their time.

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March – May 2016

ROMSEY MILL



Prayer Diary



Gracious is the Lord, and righteous:
Yes, our God is compassionate

The Bible, Psalm 116:5