

Monkton Prayer Page

April/May 2010

Welcome to the Monkton prayer page.

This prayer page is an invitation to express your support of, and commitment to, the whole Monkton team. Month by month the page will be updated and the hope is to cover every part of the school in prayer over any given year. Indeed just by reading through the up-date you will probably get a fresh understanding of what's involved in running a school!

Thank you very much for your prayers last month. The Lent term finished on a real high with the visit of Simon Guillebaud. Simon and his family have spent the last 10 years in war torn Burundi building community and sharing the love of Christ with a desperately needy nation. 200 pupils filled the chapel to hear him speak and share his infectious passion for real world discipleship. At the end of the evening 20 young people indicated a desire to make a Christian commitment for the first time. We are hoping to start an Alpha course later this week to encourage the many pupils who have taken first steps of Christian faith over the past year.

Verse for the Summer term: “with God all things are possible” (Mark 10: 27b)

The verse for this term is taken from Mark's Gospel (again!). In the encounter with a rich young man (Mark 10: 17ff.) Jesus explains that inheriting eternal life can only happen when human beings are able to lay aside all other material or relational considerations. For the rich young man it's his great wealth that holds him back from taking up Jesus' invitation to sell his possessions, give the proceeds to the poor and follow him. Stunned by the failure of Jesus to simply commend the rich young man the disciples ask: who then can be saved? Jesus explains that with man it is impossible for the wealthy to enter the kingdom of God **BUT...with God all things are possible!**

With public exams on the horizon, the summer term is a term of opportunity and potentiality. I have encouraged the school to put their trust in the God Jesus introduces us to - who turns the impossible into the possible.

Pupils

The term has once again started with unforeseen delays and absences. Not snow but ash! As many as 70 pupils have been arriving several days late. Please pray for those pupils still travelling and for the effects this is having on families and the school community.

Please pray too for all the pupils taking exams this term. Years 11 and 13 are especially in view. However, year 10 and year 12 pupils are also taking public exams this term.

Pray for all those staff members responsible for administering the exams and for all teaching staff who have the responsibility of preparing the pupils.

This month please also pray for...

Assistant Heads of School: Ros Garrod and Linda Vaughan.

Ros would appreciate prayer for an injury preventing her from fully participating in sport – she is director of sport! She would also appreciate prayer for her role as the school welfare officer. This is an enormous responsibility and it demands considerable wisdom and administrative time.

Please pray for Linda as she juggles her position as head of modern languages with her commitments as part of the senior management team (SMT).

Director of studies Jonathan Morley.

Jonathan writes: ‘Summer term is a very busy term, so I think the main thing is prayer for my time management skills. Also for the running of the public exams to go smoothly and for clear and creative thinking as I try to get the various bits of the 2010 -11 academic year jigsaw (timetable, staffing, pupil subject choices) to fit together!’

Principal’s Office: Anne Crane (Principal’s assistant) and Sarah Ingles (PA to the Principal)

Please pray for Anne and Sarah . Together they have a considerable work load and they facilitate the smooth running of communications and administration from the principal. Please pray that they would continue to be encouraged in their work and enabled to accomplish all the tasks they routinely face.

House parents to be

Please pray for Tim and Ros Ling who are due to take over the running of Farm House when Joe and Debbie Smith step down at the end of the year.

Pray too for James and Penny Sertin who are due to take over from Stephen Harris when he too steps down at the end of the year.

Special Events – Exams!!

Please do pray for all the pupils taking exams this term that each of them may do justice to the work they put in. Pray too for Martyn Garrod. As well as being a member of the geography department and chair of the common room, Martyn is also the school's examinations officer. This is a huge responsibility – especially this term! Please pray for him as he oversees the logistics of all the public examinations this term.

Many thanks for your prayerful support.

William Olhausen
School Chaplain