

## Monkton Pre-Prep continued:

### Extracurricular activities, sports, special events & safety

Praise for.....A successful inaugural Science week last term  
Our fundraising efforts for the charity Send A Cow - we raised enough money for a cow!  
The success of an innovative Christian Art workshop last term  
An exciting and inspiring Book Week  
Pupils who took the English Speaking Board Exam last term who all achieved Distinctions  
Pray for....Safety on trips as pupils go out and about this term  
Further successful fund raising events for Send a Cow as we seek to now raise enough money for a whole farmyard. A motivating Maths Week. Good weather for Sports day. A meaningful Leaver's service

### Academic work

Pray for....  
Success for those children who struggle academically  
Staff as they continue their learning with continual professional development

### From the Chaplain, William Olhausen:

Prayer and praise  
Firstly, there is much to give thanks for. Throughout this academic year there has been a growing sense of the Lord working amongst us. The visit of Simon Guillebaud in the last week of last term was, as I had hoped, an enormous encouragement. Approximately 200 pupils came to the chapel to hear Simon speak. They were not disappointed. Simon drew on his experience of 10 years in war-torn Burundi and laid down both an invitation and a challenge to step out for God. 20 young people made a first commitment at the end! Please pray that this renewal in the life of the school continues into the summer term. Pray too for the Alpha course that will be running. It would be wonderful to see more lives changed before the summer break!  
Pray too for the selection of the new CU committee. It is not going to be an easy task to decide as there are so many good people to choose from.  
This term's verse will be: 'All things are possible with God' (Mark 10: 27b). Many of the pupils will be taking exams and planning for their future. Please pray that they would grow in faith and boldness for what God might do through them.  
For our Sunday chapel services we will be looking at some prominent OT characters as models of leadership and faithfulness. Here is the rota:

25 April	Richard Backhouse Leadership 1 – Moses – Now Moses was a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth. (Num. 12: 3)
8 May	Rev Richard Fothergill Leadership 2 – Joshua – a man in whom is the spirit (Num. 27: 18)
9 May	Tim Ling Leadership 3 – Ruth – Your God will be my God (Ruth 1: 16b)
16 May	Dan Gower Leadership 4 – David – A heart for God (1 Samuel 16: 7)
23 May	CU
13 June	Old Monktonian Sunday
19 June	Rev George Kovoov Leadership 5 – Nehemiah and the big ask (Nehemiah 2: 1-9)
27 June	Family service (Upper 6th Bible Study)
3 July	Leavers' Service

### From Harry Farley Senior School CU President

Please pray for wisdom in selecting the CU committee for next year., for stamina to keep CU running whilst we have exams, and for the youth alpha we are running this term to be well received and for us to see many people touched and bought to Jesus through it.  
Praise God for being so graceful in using us this year - we have a far from perfect committee and yet God has had the grace and patience to use us in massive ways, last term we saw between 20 to 30 people become Christians which is incredible. Also praise God for allowing so much more acceptance in the school towards CU and as a result we have seen some massive numbers in CU. There has been no bigger privilege in my time as leading a CU meeting when over 100 people have been there ready and willing to learn about Jesus. Praise God!

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Dear Prayer Partners,

Thank you so much for praying for the Monkton Schools – we know that lots of you have prayed faithfully for many years.

Our youngest son is leaving Monkton this term at the end of his A levels, and so after 10 years we will no longer have a child at Monkton. Both of our sons have been very happy at Monkton, and we are very grateful to God and to the school for the opportunities that they have had. This then is the last prayer letter that we will be sending out. We are very grateful to all those who have prayed, shared stories with us, and given financially in the past to keep MPF running, and to the school for now funding this. We are also very grateful to the school for encouraging such open prayer, often over difficult issues, and to those who have contributed each term. The Chaplain, William Olhausen, will take over the running of MPF from next term, and we are confident that this will strengthen the place of prayer at the heart of all Monkton does. There will be regular prayer letters and bulletins posted on the chaplaincy website - please have a look at the prayer section of the chaplaincy website under Christian Life on the Senior School website: [www.monktoncombeschool.com](http://www.monktoncombeschool.com)

We have 3 opportunities to meet together to pray this term, do please come if you can – there is great strength in doing battle together!

### Opportunities to pray together this term:

**Do please try to attend the prayer times we have this term if you can**  
**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April 8pm at Braeside (Chaplaincy Centre at the Senior School)**  
**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 8.30 am at Braeside**  
**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July (Prizegiving Day) 8am in the Old Hall with breakfast (Communion in the chapel at 7.30 am)**

With best wishes, and many thanks for your prayers and support for Monkton,

Chris & Christine Absolon

## Monkton Combe Senior School – from the Principal, Richard Backhouse

### Worship

Praise God for the amazing network of people all over the world who pray for the school.  
Praise God for the provision of a teacher to cover Ben Ray's lessons, and for Ben and Katie as they start CMS' training for their missionary work in Tanzania! Praise God for those joining the staff in September: a new teacher of English, of Physics, and Librarian, and for the return of Victoria Armand Smith.  
Pupil registrations, deposits and numbers are good for September. Praise God for every pupil who comes to Monkton, chosen by him. Praise God for the growing ministry for music in the school, and pray that it might always be to God's glory.

### Leadership

Key decisions will be made about changes to the contract of all teaching staff. Pray for wisdom, for good communication and for grace, on all sides! Please pray for the selection process for new prefects which takes place over the whole of the summer term. Pray for rigour in our planning for September, when a lot of changes will take effect. Pray for inspection - now at 5 days notice: that a team, if or when they come, would catch a sense of Christ in all we do, and that the experience (and the write-up) would be to God's glory.

### **Senior School continued:**

#### **Staff**

Please pray for unity. Please pray for stamina – many of the staff were exhausted at the end of the Lent term.

For the staff who are leaving at the end of the year: Joe and Debbie Smith, Ian Bygraves, Ben and Katie Ray, Dan and Grace Gower, Charley Maidment, Chloe Orchin, Rhiannon Jones.

Pray for those preparing for new jobs - Jon and Jenny Perry (HM Lambrook), Joe and Debbie Smith (HM Oratory Prep), Tim and Ros Ling (houseparents of Farm), James and Penny Sertin (houseparents of Eddy), Victoria Armand Smith (Director of Learning), Sean Wilkinson (Head of PSHE).

Please pray for the recruitment of remaining GTAs. Pray for a member of staff, newly come to faith.

#### **Christian Life**

Please pray for the appointment of the new CU Committee. Please pray for William Olhausen, and Tanya, and their family. Please pray for the prayerfulness of staff – an ongoing desire to pray together.

Pray for our role models among the staff, especially those new staff preparing to join us in September, that we might be effective witnesses.

#### **Pupils & parents**

Please pray for Old Monktonians returning from their Gap years to more humdrum existence, for perspective, for an appetite for study, for (where appropriate) no debilitating sense of guilt if they feel that they have not been spiritually successful. Continue to pray for those still on gap years in dangerous places, for whole hearted selfless service. Please pray for those still finalizing Gap year plans for next year, that they might make godly and wholesome choices. Please pray for Y12 making decisions about university places particularly towards the end of this term: wisdom, communication with parents (and honesty in doing so), and good (godly) reasons for choosing universities. Pray for those leaving Monkton after this term: for a sense of closure and readiness to move on, a clear sense of God going with them; and for faithfulness.

#### **Academic work**

Pray for those inclined to put themselves under too much pressure, or potentially put under excessive pressure by others - for perspective. Pray for those who feel as if their hard work makes no difference, for encouragement. Pray for a (right) satisfaction in work done well.

#### **Extra-curricular activities, sports, special events, safety**

For safety in cricket, rounders, tennis and on the river. For successful times on CCF camp, Y12 and Y9 weeks. For Prizegiving – the glory to God, confidence to pupils, pleasure to parents.

### **Monkton Preparatory School – from the Headmaster Chris Stafford**

#### **Praise**

Overall numbers are good but numbers for Year 3 are low – especially girls. Scholarship successes to our Senior School and others (13 at the moment). For a great production of ‘The Laughing Stones of Red Loftra’ [written by Terry Baker and Directed by Phillip Sampey] (Year 5 & 6) – thanks for the skill and dedication of all the other staff involved A very good Ofsted Inspection Report (Boarding) Luke Gollings and Eliane Hodges did an amazing job. We had an amazing response to the Haiti appeal, raising £1250 in the chapel offering and another £1000 with a Bake Sale (that’s a lot of cakes!)

#### **Leadership**

Good relationships on the Senior Management Team (Chris Stafford Chairman, Martyn Creeth Deputy Head, Martin Bray Director of Studies, Mandi Archer, Amanda Cracknell, Alan Kerbey Director of Development) Pray for relations on the EMT and on the Board of Governors. Pray for Robert Lloyd Williams as he takes on the role of Senior Tutor. Pray for Kate and Richard Cullum as they take on the role of Child Protection Officers.

#### **Staff**

Pray for one member of staff whose wife has been made redundant. Please pray for our GAP students: Annabel Barton (Melbourne), Rebecca Goble (Cape Town), Tim West (OM); they’re working so well together as a team

### **Monkton prep School continued:**

Pray for Ali Cunliffe as she completes her GTP this summer

#### **Worship/Christian Life**

Pray for the weekday chapel services (CJS and William Olhausen) and for inspiration for the Summer term’s theme(s). Pray for the Saturday services when visitors come to speak

Pray for Vicky Mansell and Peter Watt as they lead Ichthus on Wednesday mornings

Pray for the witness to the children in the boarding house and the enormous responsibility of all the house staff. Pray for all the Year Group prayer meetings and for representatives of those Year Groups that are not meeting to come forward. Pray for the Friday morning parents’ prayer meeting

#### **Pupils and Parents**

Pray for one family where the father is like to receive a prison sentence for fraud

Pray for more pupils to come into the school in year 3 – especially girls. Pray that the recruiting initiatives would bear fruit during the summer term.

#### **Academic Work**

Pray for those taking CE and Scholarship exams this term. Thank God for the 13 scholarships awarded thus far! Pray for the Year 7 French/History visit to Normandy this Summer Term (Laura Hern and Robert Lloyd Williams and others).

#### **Ex Curric**

Pray for those taking CE and Scholarship exams this term. Thank God for the 13 scholarships awarded thus far!

Pray for the Leavers of Year 8 as they move on to their new schools later in the year; also pray for their Leavers’ trip to Cefn Coch; the service; the post-CE project

Pray for safety in sport – especially cricket and athletics and rounders.

Pray for safety for the Boarders’ activities each Sunday

Pray for the WELLS WALK 25 April – we are still short of walkers and helpers; pray for David Sibley as he organises this massive undertaking

Pray for safety as staff ferry pupils around in the minibuses.

### **Monkton Combe Pre-Prep – from Kathryn Morrell**

#### **Praise**

A moving Easter service with parents at the end of last term

Chris Stafford who leads inspiring weekly assemblies at the Pre Prep

Pray for....Reflective assemblies on our theme of ‘Courage’ this term

New and fresh ideas for worship

#### **Pupils and Parents**

Pray for ....Two new pupils joining the Pre Prep this term

Pray for....The new pupils and their families as they join the school this term

More pupils for September, particular Reception

#### **Staff**

Praise for .....

Kathryn Willder( Nursery) who achieved Early Years Professional Status at the end of last term

Pray for....

A member of staff as she goes on maternity leave at the end of the Summer term

A member of staff who is leaving to further her career

Excellent replacements for the above members of staff

Staff with health issues