

# Bianca's Diary

(A typical day at Cornerstone for Roberto, Bianca and their three boys)



06.45	Woke up my four sleepy 'men' at the sound of the alarm clock.
07.15	We Italians usually like to take our time over food - but breakfast in our small apartment is always a speedy affair. Eat, drink and off we go into another day...
08.10	It's great to see Matteo's eagerness to cycle to the local village school. So amazing how the staff there welcome the Cornerstone kids and more amazing still how Matteo can now communicate in Dutch.
08.25	I grabbed Gabriel with one hand and Manuel with the other. We made our way through the corridors to the Child Care Centre. Such a blessing. I have peace that while I'm studying the children's needs are cared for. It's such a bright environment and the carers do a great job.
08.30 - 09.00	Worship in the chapel is always so varied. 'Hmm, Lord keep me listening to you - Life gets busy here, I need to keep you at the centre.'
09.00 - 10.40	Following all the lectures this week. Really interesting discussion on ethical issues today. Enjoyed the group work. It's been a hard job deciding which assignment to choose this week, they all look interesting topics.
10.40 - 11.00	What a buzz of excitement as students, staff and volunteers connect over coffee and tea. Gabriel and Matteo screamed with delight to see me - we hugged - but it was no problem to let go and go our separate ways again.
11.00 - 12.25	Felt a bit tired today in class because I visited the Refugee Centre yesterday. Still the interactive style of teaching helps keeps me alert.
12.30 - 13.00	Lunch time is often a challenge for us as we eat together in the general dining room. The children were tired, and Matteo's lunch time was limited as usual. I'm not complaining though - it's great for me not to have to cook the main meal of the day!
13.00 - 18.00	While Manuel rested today I reviewed my 15 minute sermon for Preaching Class. I've no experience in preaching but I appreciate the opportunity to practise at Cornerstone. Roberto and I are learning to balance family life and studies. Wondering what to do on Friday afternoon - I'm responsible for leading our Mentoring group.
18.00 till bedtime	Made some Italian pasta! Nice to eat as a small family unit in our own apartment. Now we have lighter evenings Roberto can supervise the children on the trampoline outside. Once we got the children into bed, Roberto made for the library. He studies better there. As for me, I got started on my reading assignment. It's a challenge in English but I'm making progress. Praise the Lord! It's a full programme throughout the week at Cornerstone. I can still hear the words of Monday evening missionary speaker, 'It's easy in the busyness to neglect your time with God.' So, at the end of another busy day Lord, help me to fit everything in - and not forget spending time with you.