

MY STORY by Harmony, age 7



I just love them. They make me laugh and act silly. I now like going to the hospital if it means I can see the Clown Doctors.

One day I didn't wake up.

My Mum and Dad took me straight to the hospital and they found a brain tumour and it haemorrhaged. Lots of tests and scans were done. I had to have machines breathe for me. I didn't wake up for about a week. I was in a coma. The special scans called MRI and CT showed a big growth on my brain and bleeding. My family were scared about the surgery. The operation took about 4 hours.



They had to cut open my head twice to get my brain tumour out and I've had lots of other operations and tests.



It really hurts.

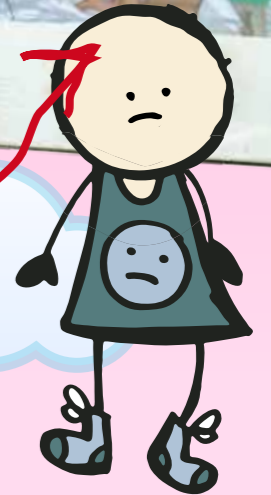


It was a bit scary to be in the hospital.

They had to cut off my plait (it is in the plastic bag in the picture). It took me a few days to wake up. I was very sore after my operations and after getting my 'hickman-lines' put in. I had to have 3 of them!

When chemo started I hated it.

Radiotherapy and chemotherapy made me very sick everyday and it made me vomit everyday. I could not play or talk or sleep. **THEN THE TUMOUR CAME BACK.** It is called a PNET. The doctors had to collect my blood and bone marrow and stem cells to give to me when I needed them. This is called apheresis and it made my tummy puff up. Radiotherapy made all my hair fall out. I was always very tired.



I have been in the hospital for 2 years, since I was 4.

When mum wasn't there I was alone and scared.

BUT THEN I MET THE CLOWN DOCTORS! They made everything better... They made me happy!

They were singing 'Hippety-hop, I'm a bullfrog' and my brother Tommy and I laughed so hard. Mum cried. They were so funny. They could always get me to sit up. They made me happy. I wish I could have seen them more.



We had so much fun.



SOMETIMES THEY EVEN MADE ME FEEL LIKE I WAS OUT OF THE HOSPITAL

When they couldn't come I would get upset. I would always ask if they could come. But they needed to see other kids as well. **And there just isn't enough of them to go around.** One day they came to visit during chemo when I couldn't sit up for 5 days because I was so sick. Dr Doctor and Dr Nose visited my room and we had so much fun I even sat up! and smacked Dr Nose on the bottom with his fly-swat!

