



Tegan's dream of owning a pug comes true

Poorly youngster has her dearest wish granted by Starlight Children's Foundation

Thirteen year old Tegan McEvoy from Blackpool has had her wish to have her very own fawn pug puppy granted by Starlight Children's Foundation, the UK's leading wish granting charity for children with serious and terminal illnesses.

In January 2010 Tegan was diagnosed with a brain tumour. This was a terrible shock for Tegan and her family and it was particularly upsetting as Tegan's aunt, her mother's sister, passed away from a brain tumour in 2007 at the age of 34.

As a result of her condition, Tegan has had to endure lengthy hospital stays and lots of medication. She has also become partially sighted because of the growth on her pituitary gland, which has been very difficult for her.

Despite these challenges, Tegan has been incredibly brave. Her mother Jane said, "Tegan still has to go to hospital lots of times a year for various treatments and examinations, but she never complains and takes everything in her stride."

Jane heard about the work that Starlight does and she decided to put her daughter forward for a wish. Although Tegan has lots of hobbies, it didn't take her long to choose her dearest wish and it wasn't long before the charity was contacting local breeders to find a fawn pug puppy that would suit her and her family.

Tegan is a very talented artist (so much so that she even helped to decorate the ward at Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, where she is treated) and she loves to draw pugs and horses, which are her favourite animals.

When she first contacted Starlight, Jane told the charity, "Tegan has wanted a pug puppy for such a long time now and to get one would mean everything to her. To have a companion for her when she's feeling ill or down in the dumps would be wonderful. Me, her dad Chris and her younger brother Ethan, who is 10, know that a pug would make Tegan happy and as a family that would make us all happy too."

Starlight located a breeder in Aintree and Tegan and her family were able to visit to see the puppies. Tegan fell in love with them instantly and on 5th July Tegan was able to take home her very own puppy, who she named Pugsley! The breeders, Marie and Jim Ryan, even gave Tegan a huge box of puppy goodies, including puppy food, a collar and lead, water and food bowls and even a photo of her and Pugsley together!

Pugsley has already settled in very happily to life with Tegan and her family and already Tegan and her little pug are completely inseparable!

Information

To refer a child for a wish or to make a donation, please go online at www.starlight.org.uk. For every £1 you donate, over 93p goes towards helping Starlight's very ill children.

For more information, please contact Henny Breakwell at henny@starlight.org.uk / 020 7262 2881 # 231.

Starlight grants once-in-a-lifetime wishes for seriously and terminally ill children, restoring the magic and fun of childhood and giving the whole family happy memories to share, whatever the future holds.

Starlight also creates entertainment in every hospital and hospice throughout the UK. Sick children go to Starlight parties, laugh their way through pantomimes, go out on Starlight Escapes, play games and watch films on the Starlight Fun Centre, and enjoy the toys and puzzles of the Starlight Distraction Box. Happy children respond better to treatment and Starlight helps children to forget about their illness and simply have a bit of fun.

Patron: HRH Princess Alexandra

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