



Starlight grants Fred's special wish!

Sixteen-year-old Frederick Robinson from Stebbing near Dunmow recently had his dearest wish to have an Apple MacBook Pro granted by Starlight Children's Foundation, the UK's leading wish granting charity for children and young people with serious and terminal illnesses.

In October 2013, Frederick, or Fred as he is known to his family and friends, was diagnosed with testicular cancer. This came as an enormous shock for Fred and his family. The brave teenager required a gruelling course of chemotherapy and surgery to battle the disease and, although it made him feel very poorly, he faced his illness and treatment with great courage.

Fred is a very diligent student and he found it extremely hard to miss out on lots of school, particularly as he hated not being with his friends. Fred is very sporty and his favourite sport is football. He also loves maths and IT, which are his two favourite subjects at school, which is Helena Romanes School and Sixth Form College, Great Dunmow. When he is older, Fred would like to be an accountant and he is determined to work very hard at school and then university to achieve this goal.

Referred to Starlight for a wish by his CLIC Sargent nurse, the charity asked Fred to choose what his wish would be. Fred thought long and hard about his wish and he considered asking to meet his favourite actor, Adam Sandler, or going on a special shopping spree, but eventually he decided that the best wish would be to have an Apple MacBook Pro. This super smart computer would be really useful, particularly for passing time during hospital visits, keeping in touch with his friends and for his school work. It would also help him to prepare for university, which is one of his biggest goals for the future.

Starlight arranged for Fred's computer to be sent to him at home and, after much anticipation and excitement, it arrived on 11 February. Fred was absolutely delighted and couldn't wait to start setting it up!

Afterwards, his mum Diane said, *"I just wanted to say a really big thank you to Starlight for Fred's MacBook Pro. He is absolutely over the moon, and so proud of it. He can't believe his luck! I am really thankful as well, because Starlight does so much to help make our children's lives happier. Thank you so very much!"*

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, 92p goes towards helping Starlight's very ill children.

For more information, please contact Henny Vere Nicoll 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.