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Ednebridge  
Kent  
TN8 6FP  
19<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Mrs Money  
Ide Hill Pre-School  
Ide Hill Village Hall  
Ide Hill  
Kent  
TN14 6JG

**Thanking all of the teachers for help in saving my sons life!**

Dear Mrs Money,

I would like to commend all of the teachers at Ide Hill Pre-School on their ways of teaching and the love and care they have for each child. Liam joined in April 2019 when I was pregnant. He was having the best time and he would enjoy telling me all about his day. It was so lovely to have a schedule of what was being taught, and also pictures and videos sent throughout the day. Besides being content knowing that Liam was having a great time, it enabled me to have better conversations with him in facilitating learning at home. I loved that the children went into the forest and learnt about nature.

It was two weeks until I was due to give birth and I was asked by the Consultant to rest as much as I could. I didn't have family to help and my mum was about to arrive from South Africa to help us. You were all incredible in helping me rest – Liam spent more days at school and I then got the rest I needed.

Out of the blue Liam started having night terrors, his appetite decreased, and his behavior was a little off. Mrs. Marro told me about an ulcer in Liam's mouth which I had just noticed that morning and that explained why he wasn't eating very much. The Doctor said it was a viral infection and it could take two weeks to work out of his system. Liam started being very tired at school - even falling asleep. I thought that it must have been the night terrors that were causing him to be so tired during the day. But something didn't feel right. I took Liam back to the Doctor who recommended a blood test. It was then when I was told to take him to the hospital.

We went to the hospital and Liam was bouncing around. He was so active, and I thought surely we would be home very soon. We waited and waited. Doctors were coming and going and then one Doctor said, "please call your husband now." I froze!

We were told that Liam had what appeared to be a mass and that it could be cancer. Right then, I thought that didn't sound right. It can't be. Not Liam! It didn't make sense. We were in complete shock and stayed at the hospital for days. The teachers at Ide Hill Pre-School were amazing. They kept on checking in on us, asking if they could help in any way

and sending us gifts and supplies. The day after I gave birth to Kylie, Liam was diagnosed with High Risk Neuroblastoma Cancer with a 40-50% chance of survival. He had to start chemotherapy that night. Our world shattered!

This is a rare cancer and only affects around 95 people a year in the UK. It is very hard to detect and extremely aggressive. I can't thank all of the teachers at Ide Hill Pre-School enough as without their feedback and concern, the cancer may not have been detected as early as it was. It is so difficult to write this letter without being teary as you all have a special place in our hearts.

Whilst Liam was undergoing treatment for the year, you would check in on us and offer to help in any way you could. You put together a box of toys for Liam which I swapped out every couple of weeks. We heard about a vaccine in America that could prevent the cancer from returning. It cost a quarter of a million Pounds and I knew that Liam had to have that. We started fundraising during lockdown. Again, you and all of the teachers were incredible. You arranged fundraising events to help. The whole school came together to support Liam. We were so thankful and appreciative. We kept in touch throughout. We are so blessed to have you in our lives.

Thank you for all of your love and support during the toughest time of our lives. Kylie is looking forward to seeing you all in January.

Warm regards,  
Claire

Claire Scott

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