

Ben's Wish To Walk

www.benswishtowalk.co.uk

November 2010

As we inch ever closer to our target (which is still mind blowing to know we are nearly there) we thought we would let everyone know how grateful we are for everything everyone has done for us.

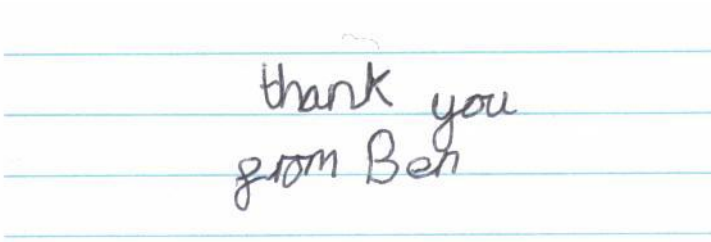
We have been so *overwhelmed* by the support and offers from everyone, it is truly AMAZING.

As it is looking like we will exceed our original target we would like to layout our plans for the extra money raised.

- ❖ We were offered another surgery for Ben, heal cord and hamstring lengthening costing an extra £12,000. If it is done after SDR the results are a lot better and will help Ben recover quicker. ***We are now able to go ahead with this surgery.***
- ❖ The success of the surgery is enhanced by physiotherapy; we have been told that Ben will not receive any further physio from the NHS (he will still see his NHS physio once every 3-4 weeks) so we have to arrange for a private physiotherapist which is vital to the long term success of the operation. This will be done up until the operation and for as long as is needed after the operation.
- ❖ When you agree to the surgery you also agree to follow up appointments, these are 1 & 2 years post op which means two further trips to America.
- ❖ We would like to set up a Trust Fund for Ben – as he grows he will always need extra help with different areas of his life. After the operation we may need new equipment, we feel that this will help him achieve an independent life.
- ❖ There is also a hope that other families who have already been to America are planning to set up a charity to help other families all over the world; we would make a donation in Ben's name so that other children similar to Ben can be helped.

These are now becoming a reality for us and it's **thanks** to the wonderfully kind hearted, family, friends and the wider community we're so lucky to live in.

THANK YOU



thank you
from Ben

Charlotte, Damian, Ben & Jacob Smithson.

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