

Benjamin



Benjamin was 12 months old when he was diagnosed with Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis.

Three days shy of his first birthday, Benjamin started developing symptoms including fevers, rash over growing part of his body and soon joint pain. Almost immediately he started using his joints less, and after two weeks in the hospital and a diagnosis by elimination, we were told that he had systemic onset JRA.

Benjamin was put on high doses of prednisone and cyclosporine that continued until we were able to find a more targeted medicine to address his specific symptoms. After about nine months, we were able to get him onto anakinra after exhausting other potential measures. Since that day – about 18 months ago – he has been symptom free and as active as any other three year old.

Benjamin loves music and playing his guitar (as many from last year's KAT-FISH Camp can attest to!) and has growing interests in other activities including skiing, riding his bike, flying kites and going to the zoo.

After all he's been through, and continues to deal with on a daily basis; he is a very happy little boy who makes us enormously proud to be his parents.