



Pep talk puts a smile on little Oran's face

Jasbir Authi

Staff Reporter
jasbir.authi@trinitymirror.com

IT was a crackling pick-me-up for patients at Birmingham Children's Hospital – without the need for oinkment.

Bubbly 12-year-old Harley Bird – better known as the voice of Peppa Pig – read stories to young fans of the cartoon character as part of NHS Change Day.

Harley has been the character's mouth-piece since she was six.

Yesterday she read books in her own voice and handed out Peppa Pig goodies to children.

Despite the Channel 5 show's huge popularity, Harley, from Wendover, Buckinghamshire, said she never gets fan mail. "It all goes to Peppa," she laughed.

Harley spent time with patients and even communicated in sign

language to four-year-old Oran Campbell, from Ireland, who was due to go into surgery later that day for a heart op.

Harley said: "It's been really exciting. This is my first time doing a hospital visit. I want everyone to smile. I read a lot to them and distributed all the toys."

"You get to meet so many people and you get to do things like this. It's life-changing."

"It was really nice to see them smile, it touches you inside. It made me realise how lucky I am."

Oran's father Uan Campbell, 31, said: "She's brilliant. He's smiling and she's good at sign language."

Harley made history in 2011 by becoming the youngest actor to receive a BAFTA Award for Best Performer.



She is now carving a successful career as an actress and has appeared as a regular panellist on CBBC show 'The Dog Ate My Homework'.

She also starred alongside Saoirse Ronan in the

film 'How I Live Now', released last year.

Harley said: "I like Catherine Tate as a comedian and I idolise Saoirse Ronan."

"I met Ewan McGregor at the British Independent Film Awards and he was really nice. He was very down to earth and kept making jokes."

Peppa Pig actress Harley Bird meets four-year-old Oran Campbell before his op as she read to children at the hospital

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