

LITTLE LUCY'S COURAGEOUS CANCER COMEBACK



Four-year-old Lucy Laws and father Michael play at their Wanganui home last week, and, right, how the *Sunday Star-Times* covered Lucy's illness in February when doctors gave her a 10% chance of survival.

Photo: Gary Rodgers/Magnum Images



TEN MONTHS ago Lucy Laws was lying in a hospital bed in Auckland's Starship children's oncology ward being subjected to a succession of lumbar punctures, CT scans, platelet infusions, blood tests, chest X-rays and biopsies. Her chances of survival were estimated at 10%. A doctor told her parents divine intervention was about all that could save her.

Her father, Wanganui Mayor and

Sunday Star-Times columnist Michael Laws, wrote despairingly: "My golden girl is beset by one of the rarest malignant combinations on this earth."

But today Lucy, who has just turned four, is thriving.

She's back at pre-school three times a week, loves helping look after her new baby brother Theo and each day her parents gain confidence that

everything will turn out fine.

However, there is still the huge cocktail of drugs that Lucy needs to take for the next two years and the regular trips to hospital that remind the family just how precarious life can be.

Today Laws and partner Leonie Brookhammer speak about their turbulent year and what "normal" now means for their family.

LOVING LUCY
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