

# Little fighter Leo's book hits the road for CHAS



A book written by a St Andrews mum for her little boy has been published and read at schools across the area.

By Extra reporter

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A CHILDREN'S story written by St Andrews mother Gill White as a labour of love for her little boy was brought to life during a lively storytelling session this week.

Youngsters from Rosemount Nursery in Kinross took part in the first of a string of tour dates which will be held across Fife, Dundee and Perth in the coming months.

Inspired by her son Leo's fight

with a rare form of epilepsy, Gill made him the star of a story, which was titled Leo and the Lightning Dragons and illustrated by Ladybank artist Gilli B.

Encouragingly, critics, parents and libraries alike have taken the book to heart since it was published by Fledgling Press in January.

All royalties from sales of the special book are being donated to Children's Hospices Across Scotland - better known as CHAS.

Leo was born with Ohtahara Syndrome - an extremely rare

form of epilepsy which causes seizures and developmental delays.

Just three days after entering the world, doctors switched off his ventilator and told Gill and her husband Andrew to say goodbye.

Leo, now 3, fought back shortly after when he took his first unsupported breath and has been defying the odds ever since.

In conjunction with Rachel House in Kinross, Leo and his family receive assistance from the ground-breaking CHAS at

Home service. This outreach involves trained carers into the community to offer respite care to families either in their own homes or in cases where children need to be looked after in residential care for the comfort of their own families.

Gill said the response to the book had been incredible. "I am blown away by the views, as well as the support we have received," she said.

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