In the words of Captain Starlight...
The first time we met this patient she was a toddler who spent a lot of time in hospital with a life threatening disease. She had been in remission for some time but very sadly for her and her family the disease returned and now she was a very sick little seven year old.

She was laughing uncontrollably when I tricked another Captain Starlight into opening a box that had mice puppets inside. Captain Starlight screamed and ran away.

Knowing she had been a patient some years before, one of the nurses asked her if she remembered Captain Starlight. To the nurse’s surprise she did remember us and wanted us to come into her room. The nurse told us this was quite a compliment as she didn’t remember any of the other staff from the hospital, being so young during her first course of treatment.

So Captain Starlight and I (also Captain Starlight!) approached her very gently and decorated her room with underwater balloon creatures, as she told us she had been snorkeling and loved it. She loved our puppets and magic tricks and we gave her a fun activity to do and a cool movie to watch. We had the loveliest time, and after being with her for about 20 minutes, we started to be very silly with her and encouraged her to help us play tricks on each other.

She was laughing uncontrollably when I tricked another Captain Starlight into opening a box that had mice puppets inside. Captain Starlight screamed and ran away, trying to hide everywhere in her room to get away from the mice. She laughed at this joke so much we kept it going for some time.

After we left her room her mum followed us out and said to us, with tears streaming down her face, that it was the first time she and her husband had seen their daughter laugh in almost two months. She told us that they were beginning to think they would never get to see her laugh again.

Later, one of the doctors who heard all the laughter approached us and said how wonderful it was to hear children laughing in this ward, and thanked us for the role we play in helping children when they are sick.