

With 99,000 seriously ill children across the country, children's hospices work tirelessly to provide life-changing care to families with the aim of making unbelievably difficult situations that little bit easier. As Patron of East Anglia's Children's Hospices, I have been privileged to see first-hand the incredible way hospices help families and allow children to be children.

During Children's Hospice Week, all hospices will be doing what they do day in day out - delivering vital specialist care, and whether that is by helping to facilitate a day at the beach for children to feel the sand between their toes, engaging young people in therapeutic music activities, or having a fun painting session to create special moments and memories, the teams supporting these families regularly go above and beyond to make a difference to their lives, no matter how long or short they may be.

On behalf of parents and carers across the country, I would like to say a huge thank you to all those working in Children's Hospices. You are a shining light to so many families in their darkest times and your efforts do not go unnoticed.

This Children's Hospice Week, I hope you'll join me in celebrating the truly extraordinary teamwork that goes into providing this incredible care.