

**BREAKING BARRIERS FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS**

# **TODAY'S DEDICATION**

**DAY 19: TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**



## **Chase**

Meet 7-year-old, Chase!

Chase was born in 2016 and was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis shortly after following his routine newborn heel prick genetic screening test.

We were advised of his diagnosis from a phone call with our family doctor and Chase was then requested to come into the Children's Hospital to discuss with the Brisbane CF team.

Prior to receiving the results, we honestly thought we had a normal and healthy little boy. There was nothing overly obvious to suggest he had CF, however we had noticed that he had a distinct "saltiness" when we would kiss him. However, we also didn't think too much, as it was also in the middle of summer and we'd had many heat waves to suggest extra sweating.

As parents, we knew very little about CF, and as most parents would appreciate, we couldn't imagine what life would be like and the worry and uncertainty set in as we navigated life now as a CF family.

We managed the diagnose quite well, considering and we adopted a very positive attitude around life in general, and would take any opportunity and experience to make sure our life was fulfilling & full of love and happiness.

We had incredible support from family and friends and Chase has grown in a beautiful and loving little boy who has a spark for life & incredible sense of adventure.

He has never let his disease hold him back, in fact, we believe that because of what he's been through, he has also adopted a very positive attitude and loves life to the fullest.

Chase has also developed CF related liver disease, yet he takes all his medications and treatments in his stride and rarely ever complains.

Chase is now an avid and keen football player, with hopes one day that he can play for his favourite team, the Brisbane Broncos, and he dreams of being able to meet his footy idols Payne Haas & Reece Walsh. He also loves riding his motorbike and fishing.

Having Chase in our life has taught us so much resilience and strength, and we find comfort in supporting others who are also experiencing what we have in our first few years with cystic fibrosis. We quite regularly fundraise and advocate for this disease and our hopes are that in the future, CF sufferers can continue to receive the best treatment and medication that helps them live a life as fulfilling and healthy as possible.

We are so grateful for the support and advocacy for everyone involved in the CF community, and in particular the incredible Layne who we've been watching doing amazing things raising awareness.

