The first biomedical research into ME in children and young people, co-funded by The Young ME Sufferers Trust, will be published this year. It proves the organic nature of ME in children. The findings are an important milestone; you will want to inform your family, GP and school, so to receive details as soon as they are released, make sure you are registered for our email Alerts.

An associated study confirms that most children with ME need education in their homes, something our Executive Director Jane Colby, a former headteacher, has campaigned on for years.

On ME Awareness Day, May 12th, in the House of Lords, we celebrate the remarkable educational commitment and achievements of young people with ME through our partnership with the Nisai Virtual Academy. Together, we have been working to meet the educational needs of students with ME, and to develop new services. A joint campaign for much needed examination centres is also being launched at the special occasion hosted by Lord Clement-Jones CBE, our Founder Patron. The Queen’s Cousin, Lady Elizabeth Anson, who is also a Patron of the Trust, is again presenting the Learning Commitment Awards.

In this issue of Vision, we revisit the children’s chapter of the 2002 Dept of Health Report on CFS/ME. The All Party Parliamentary Group on ME has accepted our suggestion that key recommendations of that Report which were not acted upon should be implemented. The APPG’s Legacy Paper for future work includes the Trust’s recommendations for reducing mistaken neglect or abuse allegations against parents of children with ME. Altogether, it’s a busy time!

Kindest regards,
Keith Harley
Chair of Trustees
Lyin’. Lion. Get it? I’m so good at puns. I’m good at most things really. What are you specially good at? Poetry? Writing stories? Taking photos on your mobile? Talking to your local paper? I’m looking for more Tymes Trust Young Officers. It’d be great to have a Young Photographer, or Poet, or PR Officer... do as little or as much as you like, whenever you like. Email me, or phone and talk to Jane. Don’t be shy! You all have some special talent, I just know it...

YEAR OF THE TIGER!
Join the name game to win Katie Durben’s latest superb creation. See him in colour at www.tymestrust.org.

Send as many names as you like: use the website contact form, or write to Name the Tiger PO Box 4347, Stock, Essex, CM4 9TE.

ROOOAAAAAR!
I’m a penguin. Not really. I’m lyin’.
Hi Jane and all at Vision.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you so much for my Young Artist card. It’s fantastic and has pride of place in my zebra purse!

It’s absolutely brilliant and I love it so much!

I’ve been feeling loads better recently - after having such an appalling bug for several months. I’m actually back to training for my English A level. Eek!

I hope you like the picture of the lion I drew. I’ve been drawing loads recently and have set up a small business which involves doing pencil sketches for people.

Thanks again. Every one of you are my friends.

Chloe Halstead
Young Artist

Thank you so much for the Tymes Trust Young Officer card! I was so thrilled and honored to receive it - it made my day :-) I’m going to have the card laminated so that I can keep it on my beside table all the time. How lovely that there’s space for a photo! That makes it even more special :-)

Kathryn
Young Artist
Overseas

Parents Alert! We know it gives young people a boost to get a surprise through the post. You can help with competitions if your child’s too ill to do it by themselves. We select prizes so no-one’s too young or too old to join in.

Here is the meerkat I drew for Vision. I hope you like it and that other Tymes members will enjoy it too.

Young Arrrghists!

The meerkat stood up straight and tall
He saw our Kathryn sketching.
He said: ‘I am the best of axx
Because I am so fxxxxxxxxx.’

The lion answered in a huff,
He dropped what he was gnawing.
‘I’m big and strong and really txxxx
Just look at Chloe’s drxxxxx.’

Shannen laughed: ‘You both look good!
Your pictures do you proud.’
The lion roared from where he stxxx
The meerkat merely bxxxx.

Now Katie’s tiger left his lair:
‘I’m looking for a name.
You haven’t seen one going spxxx?’
‘No. Let’s play a gxxxx!’

Find the missing rhymes, one letter for each x. Line 1 rhymes with line 3, line 2 rhymes with line 4. Great prizes.
The red dress hangs in the wardrobe; it hangs in the cool dark recesses glowing softly, its red silkiness inviting a look of admiration or a caress of its folds, a touch of longing. Bought on an optimistic day as a beacon of hope, it hints at a future that might be, where all things are possible, where life is lived in a different world to the one allotted. Where people do simple things without a thought, walking, talking, thinking, doing and have happy times of fun and laughter, a place where red dresses are worn...

**what you think**

One of the most valuable things I’ve learned is to listen to myself. I used to hear this when I was young and not really understand. ME made me understand. The effects of the ME were so huge that I had no choice but to listen to my body. My muscles and head were shouting so loudly. I soon learnt to trust my own judgement.

**Shannen Dabson**
**Young Advocate**

Shannen explains ME to adults for us. She gave a speech at the Royal Society of Medicine. You can read it at www.tymestrust.org.

Eilidh Hewitt, for Sheena House of Lords display, May 12