



POWER PARTY: City schoolgirl Kate Mehigan outside No10 where she was invited to Cherie Blair's 50th birthday bash

BRAVE KATE PARTIES AT No10 BASH

BY DAVID EDBROOKE

A BRAVE city schoolgirl has told how she helped Cherie Blair celebrate her 50th birthday.

Cancer sufferer Kate Mehigan attended a private reception at No10 Downing Street after the Prime Minister's wife sent her an invitation to the event.

Mrs Blair is patron of Sargent Cancer Care for Children, and it was the charity that told her about Kate's story.

She was so moved by a book Kate wrote about her two-year battle with a brain tumour that she wanted to meet the plucky schoolgirl to talk about her experiences.

The 11-year-old said: "I decided to write the book because I was really scared before I started the treatment. I hope it helps other people realise it's not as scary as they think."

And Kate said she relished her No10 visit.

"It was really nice to meet Cherie Blair.

"And it was really lovely



DATE: The Echo report on Kate's invitation from Cherie

inside No10 — the building is a lot bigger than it looks from the outside.

"The rooms inside are very large, it's amazing. I had my photo taken with Cherie Blair and on my own outside the door of No10."

Kate said that as the Downing Street reception was held in the evening, she and her mum had time to go sight-seeing in London beforehand.

Returning to Magdalen

Court School, St Leonard's, the next day Kate was welcomed back at the morning assembly.

Kate lives with her mum Lesley, dad Michael and sister Claire, 12, in Quarry Lane at the home of her grandparents, Rita and Chris Costar.

Doctors discovered that Kate had a brain tumour two years ago and she endured 13 gruelling months of chemotherapy and radiotherapy to kill it off. The whole family went to London at the weekend to celebrate Kate's exciting meeting.

Her proud mum Lesley said: "At the reception Kate gave Cherie the book she had written. And she left a copy with Mrs Blair to be autographed."

Lesley said the event was very laid-back. "The reception was very relaxed and we were all treated to slices of Mrs Blair's birthday cake."

"It was a delicious Victoria sponge cake. Kate ate four slices — and we all sang happy birthday to Mrs Blair. Meeting her was a big lift for Kate."

CANCER SUFFERER MEETS MRS BLAIR