



Dog attack boy smiles again

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By James Cartledge, Evening Mail

BRAVE Tyrone Salmon is bouncing back to recovery after being mauled by a dog near his Birmingham home.

The plucky 10-year-old has been left scarred for life after being savaged as he played with friends in Newtown.

His mum, Janet, said he was "lucky to be alive" and demanded the dog, thought to be a Japanese fighting breed, be destroyed to protect other children.

Tyrone has been left with shocking arm and leg injuries, which will leave him permanently disfigured.

"Tyrone is improving and is able to walk around but he could have been killed if he had not tried to fight the dog off," Ms Salmon said. "It was a big dog and it went for his throat. Nobody around here can believe what has happened and the dog must be put down."

The Evening Mail exclusively revealed on Saturday how Tyrone, of Attenborough Close, Newtown, was hurt as he tried to fight off the dog in nearby Alma Street on August 10.

Witnesses who rushed to help the lad said the animal ripped a three-inch chunk of flesh from his left arm and also attacked his legs and buttocks.

Police are considering whether to prosecute its owner, who has not been named, for failing to control the animal in a public place.

Tyrone, a pupil at William Cowper Primary School, has already undergone two bouts of surgery.

He is set to stay at Birmingham Children's Hospital until next week because of an infection in his leg wound.

But his 49-year-old mother, who has been at his bedside since the attack, said his spirits were rising and thanked friends and relatives for rallying round to support her.

"Tyrone is more cheerful than he was and I have been going to the hospital every day," she said. "Everybody has been really supportive."



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