



Rory Gardiner: Battling serious illness.

Photo: FILE

Rory battles new tumour

By **GLENN McLEAN**

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SEVEN-YEAR-OLD Rory Gardiner faces several more months of radiotherapy and chemotherapy as he battles serious illness.

His mother, former New Plymouth woman Leigh Honnor, said her son continued to make progress following a second operation to remove a second brain tumour that was detected last month.

Rory was diagnosed with tumours earlier this year after he suffered ongoing headaches.

He is the grandson of prominent Surf Life Saving Taranaki life member John Honnor and the great-grandson of former New Plymouth mayor Alf Honnor.

Rory yesterday completed his seventh out of 33 scheduled radiotherapy and chemotherapy treatments not expected to finish until the end of the year.

Mrs Honnor said her son had been allowed to go home from Auckland's Starship Hospital between treatments.

"He seems to be coping pretty well. They tell us it varies with kids, some feel the effects fairly quickly and some take time, but so far he seems to be going there with a smile on his face and he has started to walk around by himself now."

The family continued to receive a large amount of support from people in Taranaki, she said from her Northland home.

"We're just taking it one day at a time and trying to stay positive."

People can track Rory's progress on his website, www.rorygardiner.co.nz, which is regularly updated.