

## Stella Adele Bartlett

Stella welcomed a younger brother, Oliver in 2012. She loves being a big sister! They have great fun playing together watching movies, having dance parties, and going for walks.

Stella got her power wheelchair in 2013. She chose hot pink! She is an expert driver and loves the freedom it gives her to race her brother. She had a G-tube placed the same year. She has done very well since having the surgery, putting on more weight and still enjoying lots of her favourite foods orally. She loves chocolate, salt & vinegar chips and super sour warheads!

2014 was full of excitement. Stella started JK at our local public school. This year she has progressed to SK and is thriving under a great teacher and education assistance. She is learning to read and loves art and playing with her classmates. Stella wants to be a pop star when she grows up. She loves music and singing. Her favourites are Taylor Swift, Justin Bieber and Andy Grammar.

Last year she also got her Make-A-Wish! She asked for a hot tub and the kids love swimming together. It's great therapy for Stella's muscles as she is weightless in water and gives her a great deal of freedom to move. As if having the wish granted wasn't enough, the granting of the wish was filmed for a special episode of the Marilyn Denis show.



In the spring, Stella will be having spinal surgery to help correct her scoliosis. This will require periodic lengthening surgeries as she continues to grow. In anticipation of the surgery we have been working to further adapt our home to make it more accessible. We will be putting in an elevator and an accessible bathroom.

We love being active in the Families of SMA community. We attend the annual Rebecca Run, Angel Gala, and even started an Ontario family camp that runs every summer. We have a great time having camp fires, swimming, playing games, doing drama, and most of all, spending time together with our SMA family.

To follow Stella's adventures, please follow her blog at [www.thisisstella.com](http://www.thisisstella.com)