Messi, my hero

by Rei

Lionel Messi is my hero, not only because I love football and he is such a good player, but because we have a few things in common.

We share the same birthday (24th June). I am the smallest boy in my class and Messi was the smallest boy in his neighbourhood football team. Like me, he was a shy boy and he loved chocolate biscuits, which he got from his coach as a reward every time he scored. He scored more than 500 goals for his childhood club, Newell's. That's a lot of biscuits!

Also, my father is from Barcelona and Barça is the football club that kind of adopted Messi as a teenager and paid for the injections he needed to grow properly.

Messi is also my hero because he is humble, loyal, he doesn't cheat, and never gives up. He had to beat lots of challenges to become a star. He was born with an illness that didn't allow him to grow properly. His family was too poor to buy the medicine he needed. He had to move countries when he was only 13 from his poor neighbourhood in Argentina to Barcelona in Spain.

There is a lot to learn from Messi.