

Hello everyone!

As we are nearing the end of our first half term I thought it was time for a newsletter to fill you all in on what has been going on and what is coming up.



Storytelling Courses and The Apple Tree Cafe

Happily Ever After launched on 10th January at Kelsey Hall in Ifold and since then we have welcomed over 30 different families to our classes!

Our 6 weekly courses have been full of props, puppets, songs, dancing, ribbons, scarves, wands, instruments, and lots of crafts, not to mention the all-time favourite... BUBBLES! It has been a joy to get to know your children and share some of my favourite stories with you all. I hope you have enjoyed the sessions as much as I have and are looking forward to the next half term too. See later in our newsletter about booking for next term as well as details about sibling discounts and friend referral bonuses.

It has been brilliant to see how popular our pay as you go **Paint a Picture** sessions have been at The Apple Tree Café, with several sessions selling out! The children have enjoyed our stories and created some brilliant craft work, making Hungry Caterpillars, Rainbow Fish and Ugly Ducklings to name just a few. It has also been nice to see familiar faces appearing at these sessions each week and I thank you very much for your support.

If you have enjoyed the stories we have looked at this term and would like to add some of them to your home 'library' please see the book list below for details.



FREE Taster Sessions!

We are following the Sussex schools and have our half term the week commencing **Monday 21st February**.

During this week we will NOT be having our normal classes, this also includes our Apple Tree Café sessions. However, if you have not yet managed to attend our Storytelling Sessions and would like to see what we get up to, we are running a **FREE** taster session in Cranleigh and Broadbridge Heath. We will be covering a story we have already visited this term, so if you have friends who you think would enjoy the session, please let them know. If they quote your name on the booking form you will then be entitled to one free session when booking up for next half term, paying only £40 for 6 sessions instead of the full £48!

Please see details below for each session. To book hurry over to our website www.happily-ever-after.co.uk as places are very limited.

Tuesday 22nd – 10am – 10:45am

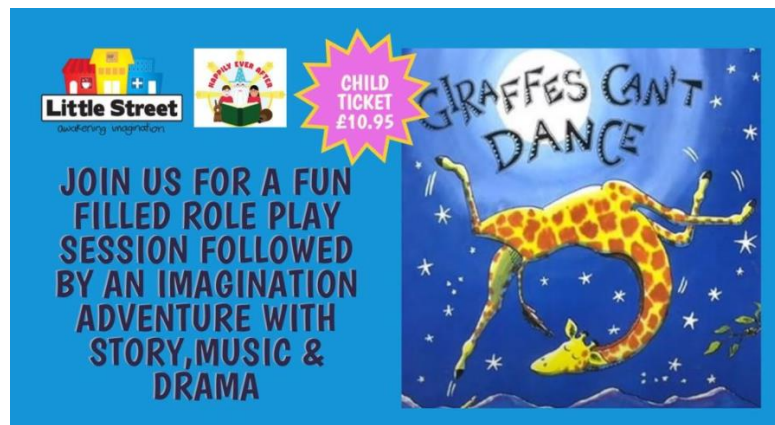
Broadbridge Heath Scout Hut, 53 Billingshurst Road, Broadbridge Heath, RH12 3LJ

Wednesday 23rd – 10am – 10:45am

Cranleigh Guide Hall, Village Way, Cranleigh, Surrey, GU6 8AF

Happily Ever After At Little Street!

We are excited to have been asked to deliver a workshop at Little Street as part of a fun, interactive play session at their role play centre in Rudgwick! This will take place on **Wednesday 23rd February at 3:45pm.**



'The session includes 55 minutes of Little Street Role Play followed by 45 minutes Interactive Story Telling, Singing and Games with Happily Ever After - based around the story "Giraffes Can't Dance".

£10.95 per child, adults are £5.95 including a drink of their choice and babies in arms are free. Places are limited - please call the centre on 01403 451677 to book your space.'

Please note tickets are selling quickly and we are already at 50% capacity. Book NOW to avoid missing out on this exciting opportunity!

Broadbridge Heath and Next Half Term

We are very pleased to announce that we are opening a new class on Tuesday mornings in Broadbridge Heath! Please help us get the word out by sharing our Facebook page and website with anyone who may be interested.

We have unfortunately decided to close our Loxwood classes and Sing a Story sessions due to lack of numbers. We hope to revisit these classes in the future.

Please see below our timetable for next half term:

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
10am – 10:45am	Ifold, Kelsey Hall	Broadbridge Heath Scout Hut	Cranleigh Guide Hall	
1:30pm – 2:15pm		Slinfold Village Hall		Paint a Story Apple Tree Café (1:45pm start)

Booking is now open for all sessions. Please see below for details on our offers and discounts before booking your space. Any further enquiries please contact me at sam@happily-ever-after.co.uk

Offers and discounts

At Happily Ever After we are introducing a **Refer a Friend** offer for our 6 week Storytelling Courses. Any existing members who refer a friend who then books up for the full 6 week course will be entitled to a discounted price of £40 instead of £48 for the full half term.

We are continuing to offer a discount at 25% for any siblings signing up to our Storytelling courses. Please email me at sam@happily-ever-after.co.uk if you are eligible for any of these discounts.

Photos and Social Media

Please feel free to take pictures of your own child during our sessions. If you are happy for these to be shared on our website and through social media please send them to me via Happily Ever After's Facebook Messenger or to sam@happily-ever-after.co.uk

Please ensure you do not have images of any other children on your device. Many thanks.

Happily Ever After in Nurseries and Schools

We paid a visit to the children of Rudgwick Pre-School this term to share the story *What The Ladybird Heard* by Julia Donaldson. We sang songs, moved to music, pretended to be crooks and made our own little ladybirds to take home! The children joined in brilliantly and it has been lovely to see some of them at our Paint a Story sessions recently. If you know of a school or nursery who may be interested in one of our sessions please let us know.

World Book Week

Thursday 3rd March is World Book Day this year and as a former teacher this was always my favourite day of the year. I never missed an opportunity to don a costume as you can see in the pictures! So the week commencing 28th Feb will be dress up week at Happily Ever After. Feel free to wear costumes depicting your favourite book characters at all our sessions during this week – this offer goes out to parents as well (!) – and we can all celebrate the love of stories in style!



Book List and things we've been reading at home

Some of you will have met my three-and-a-half-year-old, Isla, who attends Rudgwick pre-school and has attended a couple of the Paint a Picture sessions at the Apple Tree Café – she is distinguishable by consistently being the one singing and dancing on the mats while everyone else is doing their crafts!!

Isla loves a good story, and the books she has been enjoying lately include:

- Hospital Dog by Julia Donaldson
- Odd Dog Out by Rob Biddulph
- The Sea Mice and the Stars by Kenneth Steven

Books we have covered in class this term are:

- One Snowy Night by Nick Butterworth
- Blown Away by Rob Biddulph
- Night Monkey, Day Monkey by Julia Donaldson
- The Worrysaurus by Rachel Bright
- What the Ladybird Heard by Julia Donaldson



- Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister
- Rain Before Rainbows by Smriti Prasad-Halls
- The Ugly Duckling by Hans Christian Andersen
- Conker the Chameleon by Hannah Peckham

Books that we plan to bring to life this week are:

- Love You Hoo by Rachel Bright
- Love Monster by Rachel Bright

If you or your child have a favourite book that you think would be suitable for one of our sessions please feel free to suggest it and I'll do my best to make it happen.

Finally, thank you to everyone who has attended a class or shown an interest in Happily Ever After. It has been wonderful to put into practise ideas that have been swirling round my head for many years, and your input and feedback has been invaluable!

Many thanks, and I look forward to seeing or meeting you next half term!

Sam