

Monday.

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LS LIFE

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Goodies

Kids festival coming to town

DOES this brown creature look familiar? Some of you may have seen it in picture books, on TV or on the stage. And some of you may have even met the character in person on special occasions! This year, Kidsfest brings Gruffalo's creator Julia Donaldson to Hong Kong. There are also other famous shows. Turn to G06-07 to learn about the festival!

Editor's Note

Hi! My mum told me that when she was young, her mother used to give all her children sweets before bedtime as a treat. What she did not do was tell them to clean their teeth afterwards. Now, my mum and all her brothers and sisters wear false teeth. When you see false teeth in a cup of water it can be quite scary! Some people are too lazy to brush teeth and now they spend a lot of money visiting the dentist. We should all be grateful we can buy toothbrushes and toothpaste; back in the old days, people did not have them so they would clean their teeth with salty water and a cloth. Turn to G08 to read some news on how to brush your teeth.



Simon



• Photos: ABA Productions

► Gruffalo and Julia Donaldson

Meet Gruffalo and friends

KIDSFEST is a stage-play festival for children; every year, it brings about 10 quality shows to Hong Kong for children and families. Many of these plays are **adapted** from **acclaimed** children's books.

Julia Donaldson — creator of Gruffalo

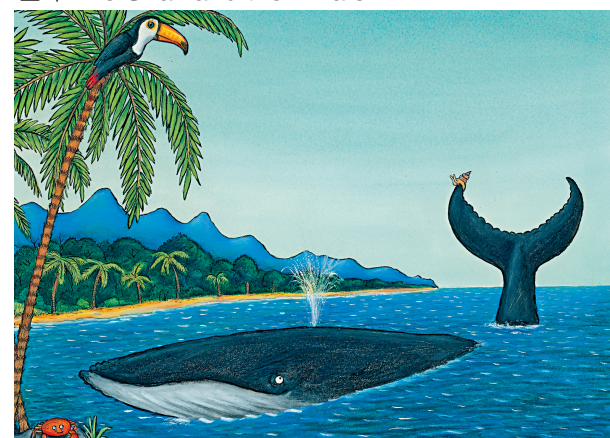
JULIA Donaldson wrote the popular book, *The Gruffalo*. The 68-year-old English author has also written many other wonderful children's books — 184 in total!

Three shows in this year's Kidsfest are adapted from her stories — *Gruffalos*, *Ladybirds and Other Beasts*; *The Snail and the Whale* and *Stick Man*.

1. Gruffalos, Ladybirds and Other Beasts: Julia Donaldson will act out her stories including *What the Ladybird Heard*, *A Squash and a Squeeze*, *Zog*, and of course, *The Gruffalo*. She will be accompanied by her guitar-playing husband Malcolm.



▲▼ The Snail and the Whale



▲▼ Stick Man



2. The Snail and the Whale: a tiny snail longs to see the world so it **hitches** on the tail of a humpback whale. Together they have an amazing adventure!

3. Stick Man: Stick Man lives in the family tree with his lovely wife and three adorable children; however, he leaves home and goes out into the world where a dog wants to play **fetch** with him, a swan builds a nest with him and he even ends up in a fire!



Horrible Histories series

This is a popular series. The British author Terry Deary has written more than 200 books, selling over 25 million copies in over 40 languages. This year, Kidsfest brings two titles: *Horrible Histories – Awful Egyptians* and *Horrible Histories – The Best of Barmy Britain*. The shows are brilliant but can be quite challenging for children who speak English as a second language. Nevertheless, if you want to challenge yourself and love history, you should give them a go for sure!



David Walliams — the funniest children's writer

DAVID Walliams is one of the best-selling children's authors in the UK. Children like him because he is funny! He wrote many novels, and recently, he published some picture books for younger kids. These include *The First Hippo on the Moon*. The story is about two big hippos with one **enormous** dream — to make it to the moon! The shows will be featured in **puppetry** form with lots of music. The **creative** team has worked on other hit shows such as *Dr Seuss' The Lorax* and Raymond Briggs' *The Bear*.



Other shows

THERE are also shows adapted from popular books by other authors as well.

1. The Way Back Home by Oliver Jeffers



2. Shark in the Park by Nick Sharratt



3. Why the Whales Came by Michael Morpurgo



About Kidsfest

Kidsfest is held at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts from 5 January to 12 February, 2017. For details, go to the KidsFest website : www.kidsfest.com.hk

