

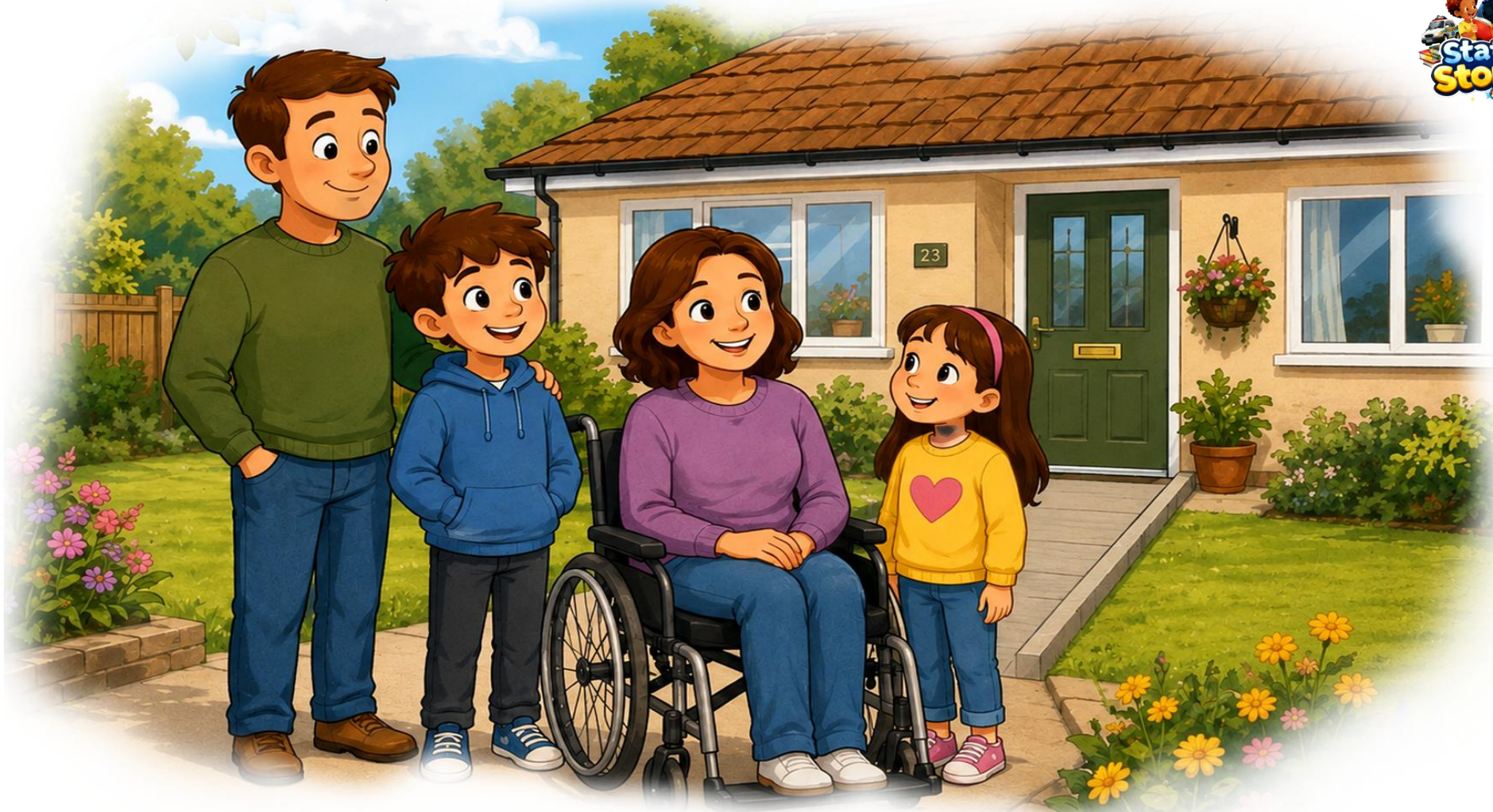




Kyle goes to a football match



Kyle likes playing football after school and at weekends.
He wants to be a footballer when he grows up.



Kyle lives with his mum, dad, and his sister Jasmine in a bungalow. They need to live in a house with no stairs, as Kyle's mum needs to be in a wheelchair.



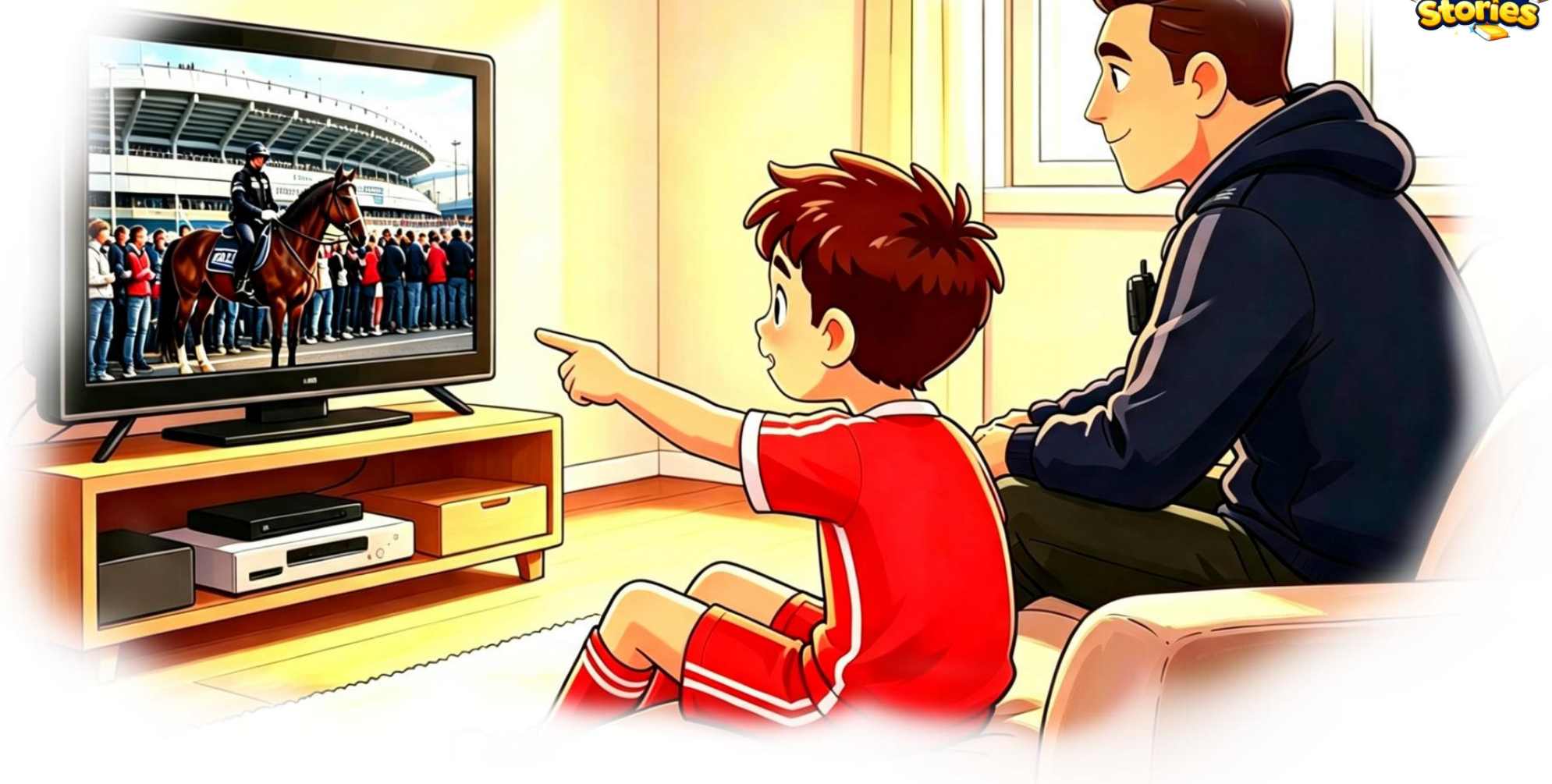
He is glad that they live near a park, so he can play football with his friends.
The team is coached by his dad, they play matches against other teams.



Kyle lives in Liverpool and he supports the Liverpool team. He watches football matches on the television with his family. He would love to go to see a match. His dad says they will go one day, but Kyle worries how his mum would manage.



Kyle had been on a police station tour with his class. They were shown around the station by PCSO Sam and PCSO Aisha. Kyle thought that meeting a police horse had been the best part of the tour for him. When he watched football matches on the television, he noticed that the police horses were there outside the ground.



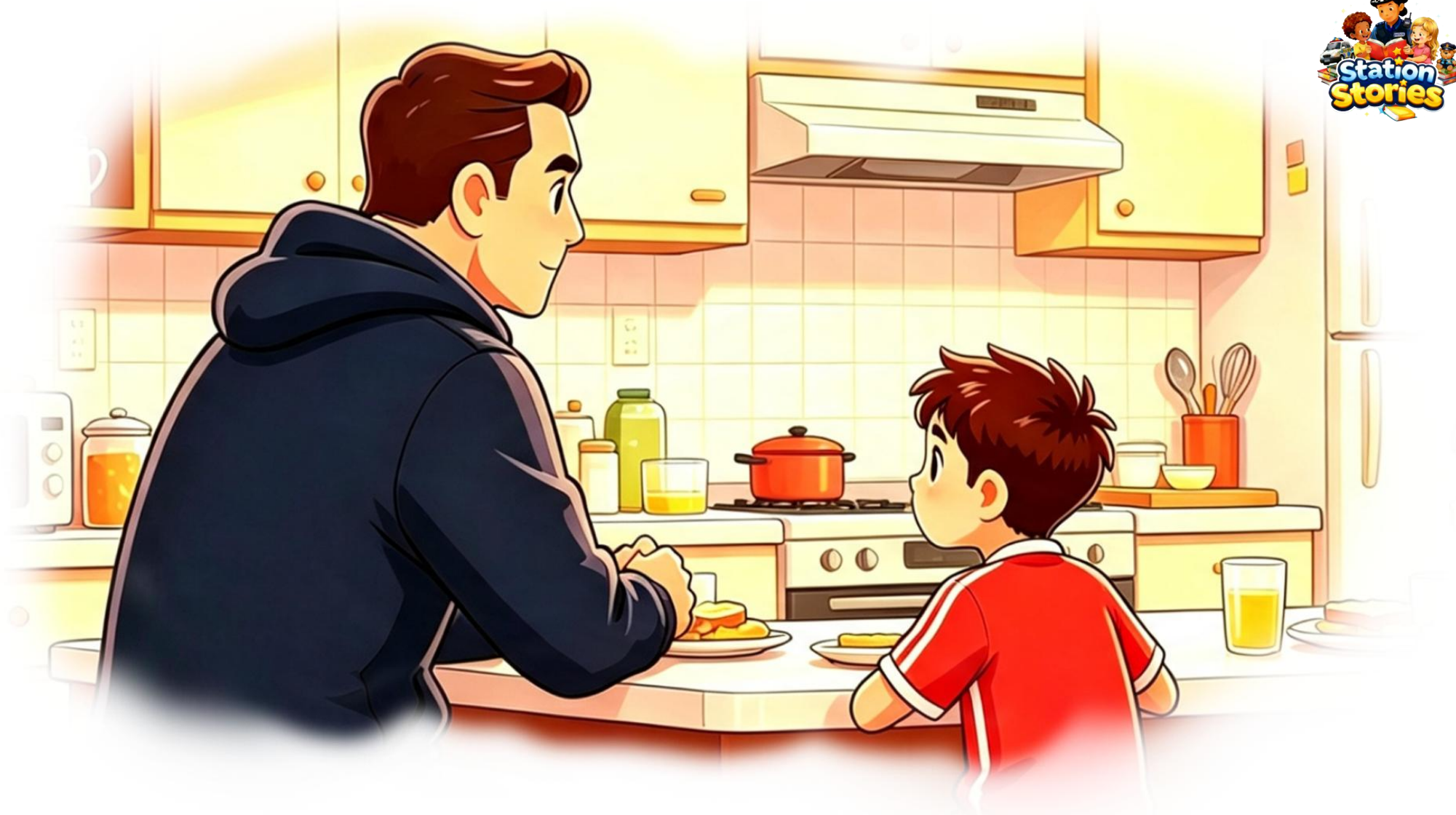
Kyle asked his dad "why are the police riding horses outside the football stadium?"



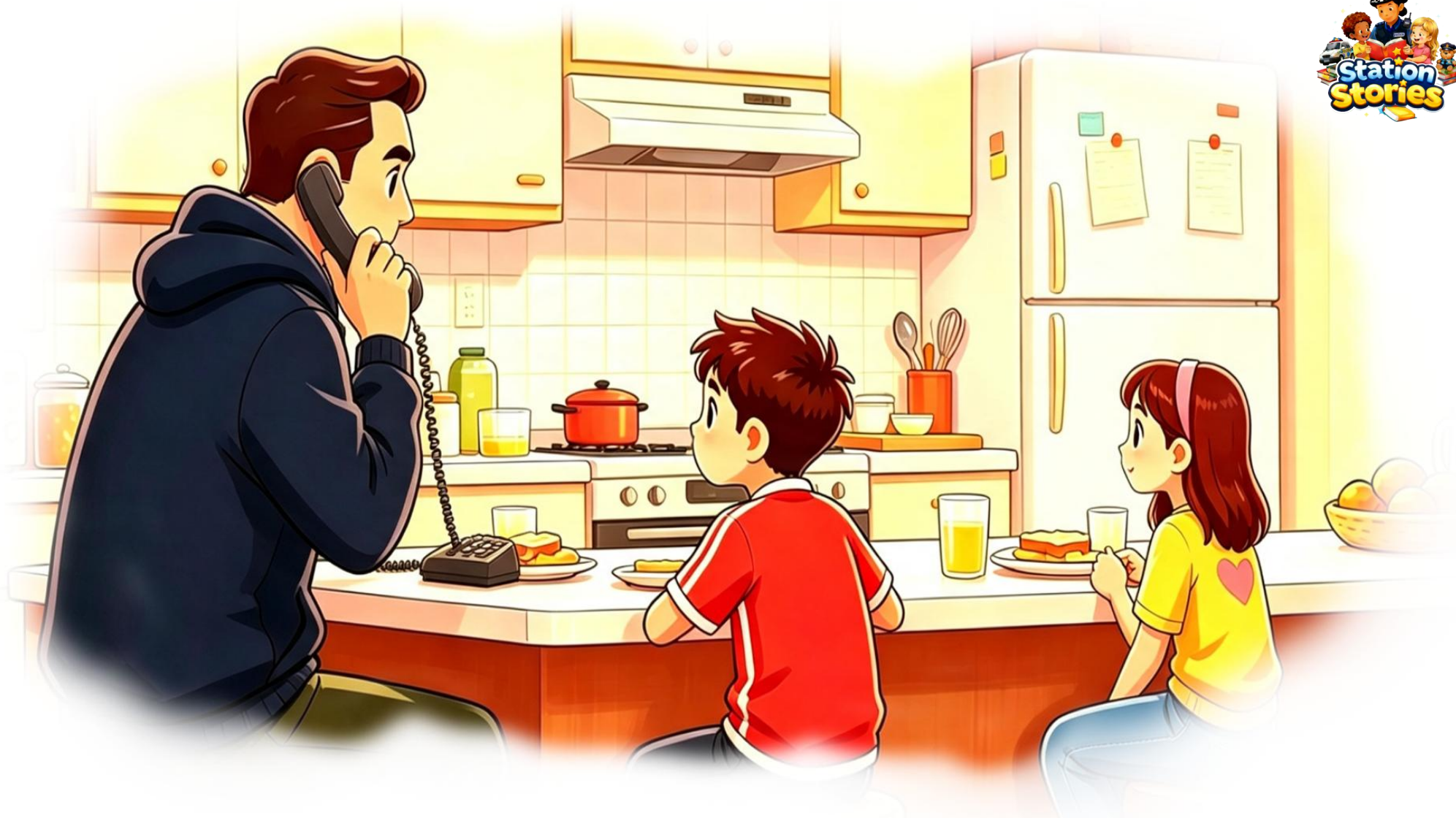
His dad explains " there are huge crowds of people at football matches. Being high up on the back of a horse means a police officer can see over the crowds, and the horse is a barrier to stop people moving forward. This keeps everyone safe."



Dad goes on to tell Kyle and Jasmine about the police on horses at other big events, such as a royal parade. "There may be police on horses making sure that the crowd is safe as they watch the parade, and that they don't move onto the road. Sometimes the horses are in the parade."



Kyle said "I would love to go to a match and see the police horses."
"We will go one day" promised his dad. Kyle frowned, "what about mum?" he asked.



Dad said he would ring the station and ask about wheelchair access to the stadium, I will leave a message for PCSO Sam or PCSO Aisha. I will ask them to call me."
Kyle nodded and smiled "it wouldn't be the same without mum."



The next day there was a knock at the door. It was PCSO Sam.
"I got your message and I thought I would come round to see you all. I am often on duty at football matches, so I can explain how you can go and be safe."



"He has a cup of tea and explains "wheelchair users are welcome. There are ramps and lifts to get into the stadium, accessible toilets, and places for wheelchair users with a good view of the pitch."



Kyle's mum looked pleased. I would like to go with you all to a match.
I was worrying about the crowds of people.



PCSO Sam said "Kyle has met one of the horses. They are always at the match. When you get tickets, give me a ring and I will meet you at the stadium. I will be able to help you find your way in. We might be able to meet one of the officers on horseback."



Kyle was really excited about going to the match, even Jasmine was a bit excited! Their parents ordered tickets for the next match and bought them Liverpool scarves.



There were crowds outside the stadium. Kyle and Jasmine stayed close by their parents. It was very noisy. Kyle saw PCSO Sam first, he was waving to them and saying "I am over here, we have a surprise for you." They made their way through the people.



Waiting nearby was a beautiful horse with a police officer on his back. Kyle got to stroke his soft nose. Sam whispered "he is called Jupiter. He has to go now as he is at work. His job is to help the police control the crowds."



Kyle said "this is the best day ever! I hope Liverpool win."