

**Huttoft Nursery Learning Through Play
February 2018**

<p>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</p> 	<p>During our small group time we will be discussing what it means to be kind and gentle. We will be sending gentle sounds and actions around our circle. The children will learn that if we are gentle with each other then we don't get hurt. If we are gentle with our toys then they don't get broken. We will be sharing Jenny Mosley's story book 'We are gentle: we don't hurt others'. A delightful story of Alfred the Alligator who has hurt his tail and can't return to nursery unless all the children can be trusted to be gentle with one another! With the help of our puppets the children will also learn that words as well as actions can hurt our friends. During choosing time play we will be encouraging the children to think about their own words and actions.</p>
<p>Communication and Language (Listening and Attention, Understanding and Speaking)</p>	<p>'Tell and show'. When the children return after the half term break, in our small groups we will be talking about something that we did during our holiday. It will be very helpful if you could send in a photograph or a memento of something you did together or just a favourite toy 😊</p>
<p>Physical Development</p> 	<p>During our daily visits to the hall the children will continue to experiment with moving in lots of different ways as we transform into dinosaurs! Watch out for stomping feet and paddling flippers! Flapping wings and swinging tails!</p>
<p>Literacy – early reading and writing skills</p> 	<p>At story time we will be encouraging the children to take a close look at the front cover of the story book and to share their ideas as to what they think the story might be about. As we look at the back page together the children will learn that the writing on the back cover is called the blurb and that it tells you a little bit about the story is about. The children will be learning that we read and write from left to right across the page 😊</p>
<p>Mathematical Development</p> 	<p>We are learning that a number tells us 'how many'. Tara Tyrannosaurus is helping us too! She has laid some eggs! We have to find out how many by counting and then we have to find the correct number from our number washing line! We will be practising using our fingers to show how many too.</p>
<p>Understanding the World</p> 	<p>Oh no! What's happened to our favourite baby dinosaurs!? They are frozen! Inside the iceberg! What can we do to rescue them!? We need to get them out! As the children explore the ice balloons we will be encouraging them to talk about what the ice feels like.....what is happening as it melts.....what could we do to get the baby dinosaurs out ...</p>
<p>Expressive Arts and Design</p>	<p>The children will be learning the names of musical instruments and how to play them; when they hear the sound of a familiar instrument played from behind the screen – can they say which one it is!? Can the children use the different instruments to tap out the big sounds in their names? They will also be learning: Stop and go! Loud and quiet! Fast and slow! In our workshop we will be working together to paint and collage a giant stegosaurus! Look out!!</p>

Fun things to do at home to support your child's learning:

- When you share a story book together take a couple of minutes to look at the picture on the front cover – ask your child what do you think this story is going to be about? Or if it is a familiar book – ask what s/he can remember about the story.
- As part of your daily routine encourage the children to notice print in the environment – they may surprise you by pointing out some of the letters they recognise from their own name! At lunchtime the children are always asking me: "What does that say?" on their packets of crisps etc. and as we look at it together they are always excited to spot a letter or number they recognise 😊
- We have been playing a little game called 'Show me!' and you can easily play this at home too! Ask your child to put their hands behind their back...call out a number..eg 'Show me 4!' and s/he has to hold up just 4 fingers. You can make it easier or trickier.

Outdoor Clothing and Lunch Bags

- Please would you ensure that each item is clearly marked with your child's name. A special key ring/tag on your child's lunch bag and/or reading packet helps your child easily identify their own.