

Tweenies' End of Year News²⁰¹⁹

Our learning goals for all the children are underpinned in our 12 Months Planner displayed in the Entrance Foyer and on our website, under the 'Newsletters' tab <http://www.elephantandcastledaynursery.co.uk/newsletters/>

It describes the skills and experiences we plan for the children to achieve by the end of the summer.

Please speak to us if you want to know more, and please try to buy the Focus Books ahead, so you can be part of the nursery learning journey *with your child*.

We have welcomed new children to Tweenies' Room, and we are very proud of how well they have settled. It was a bit bumpy for some at the start, but the children have started making friends with the previous Tweenies, and are now familiar with the Classroom Routines.

Through careful planning and observations, our aims for the children are to:

- **Be challenged and have fun**
- Develop new skills
- Build verbal and non-verbal communication through exciting activities
- Focus-Book method to enrich book/reading experiences
- Child-Planned & Adult Lead
- Cross-Class/Age learning (play-dates)
- To develop self-care skills as well as care skills (for one another)
- Understand and participate in Promoting British Values
- Build Cultural Capital (tidy-up, wiping spills, caring for a peer etc...)
- Become self-resilient (less dependency on adults)

Below, are some examples of the learning and activities, which have taken place throughout this last term.

All About Me!

Our term began with welcoming new peers to the Tweenies Class. Our theme was 'All About Me', which is about myself, my family and my home. This topic is a good introductory theme with opportunities for the toddlers to begin to know one another and learn the routines and layouts of the class.



The toddlers enjoyed going to *Our Family Board* throughout the day, pointing to themselves and their families. They communicated to one another, as well as at Circle-Time.

The theme was further developed into opportunities for the children to make representations of themselves, such as their face, arms and legs, their families as well as collage and junk modelling of their homes. They used play-do, arts & crafts, they did salt-drawing, face masks and role-play. This was tied in with the **Focus Books**: "*Starting Nursery*" and "*Whoever You Are*".

We then moved on to learning self-care skills and to look after each other.



Making friendships, learning maths concepts and enjoying physical, outdoor play.



Learning life-skills through play. Tweenies butter their own toast at breakfast!



Making animal sounds is fun; it increases the voice-range, vowels & consonants, pitch and volume which contribute to oral communication.



The children can tell us what they are drawing or writing. Parents and carers, it's usually you 😊



Lemonade Fountain: a multi-sensory activity which wows the children. Visually it changes, it smells lovely, it feels foamy & bubbly and it sounds fizzy and sizzles... This helps the children be together, take turns, understand and predict, and learn new sounds and words.



Promoting British Values: Rules (tidy-up), cooperate and look after our things.



Introducing books and how to handle them.

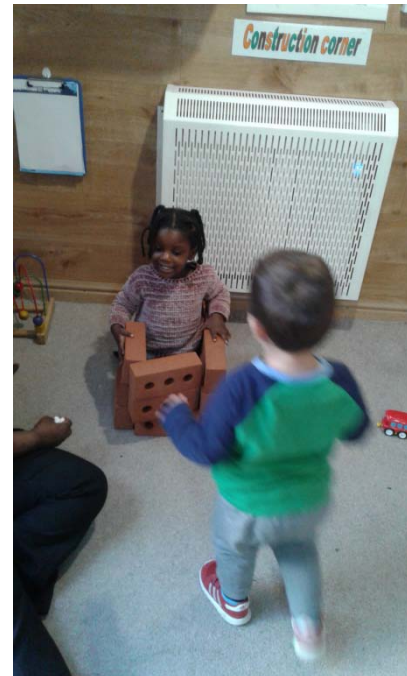
Stacking isn't easy! It requires great concentration, perseverance and motor-skills!



Things look different...



Spontaneous writing.



Creative building



Learning that some things are mine, some things are yours.



...catching up with my old Baby Room...



...it also means we get to share equipment...

Soon, baby will be joining you in Tweenies.

Play-Dates!

Some activities are planned with Babies or Pre-Schoolers as this builds the children's cultural capital: skills for life. The children learn that they are active members and participants of the nursery community as a whole, not just one class. They have opportunities to learn from one another, speak and engage in fun cross-curricular activities. This will help with transitioning from room to room, too.

The Babies, Toddlers and Preschoolers put on shows for one another, to celebrate what they have achieved in the term: 'All About Me' as well as 'Multi-Cultural Month'

Baby-Room performed the Ghanaian version of Head, Shoulders, Knees & Toes.

Pre-School performed dress dances from Peru, Jamaica and Poland.

Tweenies performed Bob Marley's "One Love" with their own instruments.

