

Tottenberry's Times

Tottenberry's Private School & Day Care

January/February 2021



Out with the Old, In with the New

Let's get organized this year! If you received a notice that something is missing from your child's file, please take care of this matter by the end of month. Fines may be charged for failure to comply.



Thursday Lunches

For only \$4, you can order a hot lunch for your child on Thursdays. Look for the "Thursday Lunch" box on the front desk and pull out an empty envelope. Write your child's name and class on it, list the dates you would like for your child to receive a lunch, put the money inside, and place the envelope back inside the "Thursday Lunch" box. You are welcome to pay for several lunches at one time. Once payment is made, we will take care of the rest. The menu for the next few weeks is as follows:

- 1/7 – pizza
- 1/14 – chicken nuggets
- 1/21 – hot dogs
- 1/28 – chicken nuggets
- 2/4 – pizza
- 2/11 – chicken nuggets
- 2/18 – hot dogs
- 2/25 – chicken nuggets



Check Out Inchbug

Are you tired of labeling your child's items all the time? Visit inchbug.com or namebubbles.com to view some permanent options. From personalized cup bands to dishwasher safe stickers, these two websites have all sorts of items that will make keeping track of your child's items a breeze!

Medicine Guidelines

If you would like for us to give your child medicine while he/she is at school, please be sure to send the medicine in the original packaging. Be sure to also include a medicine cup or syringe so we can measure the medicine correctly. Also, we will not administer any medicine "just because" or "just in case"; a child needs to exhibit some symptoms before we give him/her medicine.



No One Likes to Do It But It Has to Be Done

Both State Licensing and the Health Department require that all food and personal items be labeled with the owner's first and last names. All homemade food items must also include the date it will be consumed. Please help us follow these rules by labeling all your child's things. We don't like getting "in trouble"!



Tuition Due Dates

Please make note of the upcoming tuition due dates:

- ❖ Monday, January 4
- ❖ Monday, February 1
- ❖ Monday, March 1
- ❖ Monday, March 29

A \$25 late fee will be charged per day if tuition is paid after Wednesday. We can take credit card payments over the phone.

Check out our website!
tottenberrys.com



No Juice, Please!

Please fill your child's cups or bottles with only water or milk in the mornings.



January 4
Winter Holiday
Non-Academic

January 18
MLK Day
Non-Academic

February 15
President's Day
Non-Academic

March 15-19
Spring Break
Non-Academic

April 2
Good Friday
School Closed

April 28-30
Spring Pictures

May 17-21
Scholastic Book Fair

May 27
The Last Day of School!

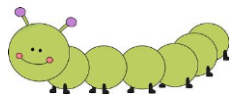
May 31
Memorial Day
School Closed



Always Be Prepared

Please send your child to school prepared and ready to go EACH and EVERY day. This includes but is not limited to diapers, wipes, water cup/bottle, extra clothes, and ice packs in lunches. We cannot care for your child without the proper supplies. Also, the children notice when they don't have something that their friends do; they feel left out. Unfortunately, because many parents do not follow or simply ignore our requests and reminders, we will begin adding fines to accounts if a child is missing an item. These fines will range from \$1 - \$5/day depending on the necessity of the item. Please help us help your child.

Please always place an ice pack in your child's lunch box!



Caterpillars

Ms. Michelle

6 weeks – 6 months

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a fun New Year's Eve. I can't believe it's a new year already. I hope this year is less stressful for everyone. I'm looking forward to having new babies in my room. We did get a few new babies in December. They are precious! I'm looking forward to having normal morning and afternoon greetings with all of you soon. Please remember to label your child's bottles and food items. Please be patient with me as I learn your child's schedule. Our SmartCare app is a great way for me to communicate with you while you are at work. I will answer any questions you have so we can work together and always be "on the same page". Babies who are 5 to 6 months old can begin to practice holding their own bottles. Please work on this at home because I will be working on it at school. Also, when you are ready to start foods, just let me know. I'm always here to help your child learn and experience new things.



Butterflies

Ms. Lupita & Ms. Jeanine

6 months – 12 months

We are wishing you and your family Happy Holidays! Anson will be turning one soon! Let's wish her a happy birthday! If your child is also one or close to turning one, please send him/her to school in shoes. According to the fire code, once children start walking, they must be in shoes. If your child is six months old, he/she is capable of holding his/her own bottle. Please work on this at home because we practice this at school. When a child can hold his/her own bottle, it's a huge break for you, parents! Don't forget to label all of your child's belongings including jackets. Thank y'all for your help and support!



Circus Room

Ms. Janette

12 – 18 months

Welcome 2021! I'd first like to say thank you for all the wonderful gifts. I hope everyone enjoyed their holiday break! I'm excited to start a new year full of wonderful lessons & watching your little ones continue to learn & grow. We will join the Bumblebees every morning for circle time at 8:30. The children will learn a shape, color, number, letter, & texture each week. On Thursdays we will have Show & Tell & on Fridays we will wear the color of the week. Please remember to label your child's jackets, personal belongings, and all food items in lunch bags. Please be on the lookout for any more information via SmartCare. Thank you for all your help & support!

Bumblebee Room

Ms. Marshonna & Ms. Jordan

18 – 24 months



Happy New Year! Goodbye, 2020! Hello, 2021! We hope Santa was good to everyone. Thank you for all the thoughtful gifts. We are excited to start the new year with more learning. We will continue studying shapes, colors, letters, numbers, and different textures. Stay informed through the SmartCare app. If you have any questions, feel free to message me. I will respond as soon as possible. Continue to stay safe!



The Jungle Room

Ms. Carla & Ms. Julie

2 – 2½-year-olds

Happy New Year! Where did the beginning of the school year go? Time certainly does fly when you are having fun! We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas with loved ones. Thank you for all the wonderful gifts and sweet cards.

During the month of January, we will study dinosaurs, MLK, polar animals, and winter. We will also learn about F, G, H, & I; 7 & 8; pink & purple; the square & triangle; and the Spanish words dinosaurio (dinosaur) & frio (cold). The

month of February will be about friendship and love. We will also learn about Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, dental health, and community helpers. We will study J, K, L, & M; 9 & 10; white & black; the heart & rectangle; and the Spanish words corazon (heart) & cepillo de dientes (toothbrush). We will have a Valentine's Day party. We will post more information about this party on the door as the day draws closer. Please remember to label all personal items - ESPECIALLY jackets and sweaters. Thank you!



The Fish Room

Ms. Sandra & Ms. Lalandra

2½ – 3-year-olds

Welcome back! We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas with their families. We would like to thank y'all for the thoughtful Christmas gifts. To start the new year, the children will focus on learning how to spell their names. Currently, the children are able to recognize the first letter of their name and we are very proud of them. In February, we will build on these skills by teaching the children how to trace their names and stay inside the lines while coloring. We will also cover the following items during January and February:

Themes: dinosaurs, winter, MLK, polar animals, Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, dental health, community helpers

Letters: F – M

Numbers: 7 – 10

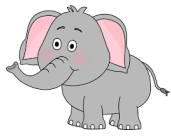
Colors: pink, purple, white, black, yellow, red

Shapes: square, triangle, rectangle, heart

Spanish words: dinosaur/dinosaurio, cold/frio, heart/Corazon,

toothbrush/cepillo

Please remember to send a jacket to school with your child on these cold days. Except in extreme, rare conditions, we will go out for recess daily. Please also remember to label ALL (clothing and accessories, lunch box items, nap essentials, etc.) of your child's personal belongings. Nothing is too small. We are planning to have a Valentine's Day party. Be on the lookout for more information soon.



The Elephants

Ms. Alicia

3 – 3½-year-olds

Happy New Year 2021! I hope this year is full of new beginnings after all the hardship 2020 gave us. We will begin this new year together and grow each and every day. As the newest member of the Tottenberry's team, I'd like to share a little about myself. I have been working in daycare for over 8 years and have spent my last 5 years teaching the preschool and kindergarten A-Beka curriculum. Seeing how students grow each day and the many new things they learn has inspired me to become a teacher. I now have my Associate's degree in early childhood education and will continue my way towards a Bachelor's degree. To start the year, we will learn about winter and polar animals, dental health, the different careers, and the all-time favorite: DINOSAURS! We will also honor one of the most memorable men in history, Martin Luther King Jr. and his contributions to the civil rights movement. We will review all letters of the alphabet and their sounds but focus more on letters O-V. We will also focus on learning to write our names. Because students are more visual learners at this age, I have many crafts and activities planned for my little elephants. I also look forward to helping them foster a love for learning. Please keep a lookout for folders that I will be sending every Friday. These folders will contain any important class information and class work completed by your child. I also ask you to join our Class Tag group so we can stay in touch. Let's begin the year on the right foot and learn to love coming to class where we will have fun and learn many new things. Cheers to a new year of happy, healthy, and new opportunities. And can I say: WELCOME TO THE ELEPHANT ROOM!

The Farm Room

Ms. Angelica

3½ – 4-year-olds



Happy 2021 to all! I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season! Since we will all be heading to Pre-K soon, I hope to have everyone writing his/her name before they leave the Farm Class. The Farmers have been working on tracing their names daily and I've seen some awesome results so far! Practice makes perfect! Since the start of the school year, we have been focusing on a new letter each week. Our letter of the week is usually shown on our board but if not,

please feel free to ask what it is! This is what we will be studying in January:

- Dinosaurs
- Winter
- Polar Animals
- Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Letters O – R
- Numbers 15 - 18

In February, we will enjoy a Valentine snack/dessert and exchange Valentines cards on Friday, February 12, 2021. We will also complete a few fun Valentine's Day activities as well! I hope all my friends are looking forward to it! During February, we will cover:

- Dental Health
- Careers/Community
- Groundhog Day
- Valentine's Day
- Letters S - V
- Numbers 19 & 20



Pre-K

Ms. Caroline & Ms. Kaitlyn

4-5-year-olds

Welcome to 2021! We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday! In January, we added another Pre-K class which is being led by Mrs. Kaitlyn. Both Pre-K classes will still participate in activities together but will generally run independently. We have lots of fun activities planned for this semester. Listed below are the topics we will cover over the next couple months and some special dates to mark in the calendar.

January

Letters: D, P, B, R

Numbers: 13,14,15,16

Themes: Winter, Arctic Animals, Hibernation, Migration, and Addition.

No special dates in January

February

Letters: K, A, M, N

Numbers: 17,18,19,20

Themes: Community Helpers, Valentine's Day, Nutrition, The 5 Senses, and Subtraction.

*** February 14th is Valentine's Day!** We will be making Tie Dye T-shirts (No supplies needed) and we will be having some yummy treats for snack! *

Please be on the lookout for notes going home to confirm dates and details about our "Special Dates". Thank you for all your support. We will continue to learn and have fun in order to make this year the best it can be!



Kindergarten

Ms. Ashlie

Happy New Year! Now that the holidays are over, it's time to jump right back into learning. We'll start January with a week of review as a little refresher, just to make sure we're back on track. After that, we blow right into our week about weather. We'll start tracking our daily weather and learning how to predict what the next day might bring. We'll also be talking about what clothing is appropriate for different kinds of weather. Mid-January, I'll begin assigning simple homework once or twice a week. Throughout January, we'll be learning about jobs & income as well as needs vs wants. The third week of the month will be focused on persuasive text and, since that week includes Martin Luther King Day, we'll be using a few of his speeches as examples. The last week of January will be focused on community helpers. We'll be talking about why people have jobs and the different types of jobs that can be found at home, in school, and in the community. We leap right into February with a week all about our 5 senses! We'll be using them to begin learning how to do (simple) research and how to read a map. Our second week begins with our 100th day of school! It's hard to believe we've reached that many days already. During this week, we'll begin learning about historical figures and patriotic holidays. We'll also be introducing 3-D shapes. The third week of February is a bit short due to Presidents' Day, but we'll continue focusing on historical figures. We'll also be talking about repeating patterns in the natural world (such as seasons, day/night, etc.). The last week of February, we'll be learning about Texas! We'll also begin learning how to differentiate between living and non-living things and compare 2-D & 3-D shapes. Throughout both months, we'll be continuing our work on writing numbers & letters as well as simple addition. We've moved on to numbers 11-15 and we'll be focusing harder on learning how to sound out words. We rocked our first semester and can't wait to begin our second. Let's get to learning!



Art Class

Ms. Griselda

1 year and older

Happy New Year! Ms. Griselda will take over the Art classes in the very near future.



Bible Class

Ms. Stephanie

3 years and older

As the year comes to an end, so will our time to learn about the events that led to the birth of Christ. The children have done a fantastic job trying to understand the key roles of all the important figures I've been teaching them about. The new year will consist of answering questions such as "Who is Jesus?" and "Why do people remember him?" These are important questions to ask and learn about in order to appreciate what Jesus has done for us. The children really are growing in God. It's great to see!

Update Your Child's Shot Records



If your child visits the doctor and receives any shots, please bring us a copy of the new shot record. We are required to keep updated records in each child's file. Thank you!

Fridays are always free dress!



Spanish Class

Ms. Angelica

3 years and older

Feliz Año Nuevo a todos! (Happy New Year, Everyone!) We have hired a Spanish teacher! Yay! Her name is Ms. Angelica, and she was one of our Pre-K teachers about 6 years ago. We are excited to have her back and anticipate her starting classes the week of January 18.

Please send your child to school in closed-toe shoes each day. Protect those toes!



P.E.

Coach Marcus

3 years and older

Hello parents! The 2020 school year has come to an end and the kids have grown so much! It is always my goal to see development in gross-motor skills and the ability to understand the concepts of our activities. I continually stress that a positive attitude and teamwork are especially important during competitions and this group has done a great job working together. I was especially proud to see the effort the children displayed during our 2020 Summer Olympics. It has been fun, and we'll see you soon! Happy New Year!



Noteworthy News

Mrs. Joanna Everyone



The Caterpillar, Butterfly, and Circus Rooms have been enjoying our time together in music. I get a lot of smiles when I sing old children's folk songs while playing the bongos to help reinforce steady beat. As usual, their favorite part of class is getting the chance to explore the shakers to classical music and fun children's tunes. The Bumblebee, Jungle, Fish, and Farm Rooms are exploring music by pretend play using different forms of transportation. We are focusing on concepts such as fast and slow and up and down. The children are getting a chance to sing a song while playing shakers, practicing using their voices by imitating sounds, and work on gross and fine motor skills by dancing and doing movements to songs and rhymes. The Pre-K classes are working on using their singing voices as well as singing while playing rhythm sticks to practice keeping a steady beat. We are also focusing on active listening and listening to music to act out a song. We will also be learning the music term *staccato* (short and choppy) and applying that by using our voices to sing and rhythm sticks and shakers. The students will learn a few words in sign language to use in singing a song. Kindergarten is working on playing rhythms with rhythm sticks by reading short music note patterns. So far they have learned what a quarter note and quarter rest are and their value. They will be learning about whole notes and half notes as well. They will learn how to play Do, Re, and Mi on a small xylophone and have a great time singing the "Do-Re-Mi Tapping Song," using their whole bodies to show the steps they make in music. They have been getting more familiar with quarter notes and quarter rests by playing rhythm patterns containing these notes with and without music.



Soccer Superstars

Thursday Mornings
3 years and older

GOOOOAAAL!! Soccer Superstars is a professionally designed program that uses a variety of creative games and activities to introduce children to the wonderful game of soccer. The program not only teaches children about the world's most popular sport, but it also emphasizes and promotes health, fitness, teamwork, and most importantly FUN! All the instructors are extremely passionate about soccer and kids. They hope to pass on their passion to the next generation of Soccer Superstars. More information is available at the front desk or online at soccersuperstars.org.



Wanted: Water!

Please send your child with a water bottle, thermos, or cup each day. The children keep these handy during the day so they can quickly get a drink if they are thirsty. This is especially true when they are at recess. Playing and working hard makes kids thirsty!



Sign Up for Remind

Text "@tottenb" to 81010 to receive important alerts, notifications, and reminders from Tottenberry's. Always stay in the know!



Tumblebus

Wednesday & Thursday
After Lunch
18 months – 5 years

Cheerfully decorated inside and out, the Tumblebus provides a unique & fun way for your child to receive the physical fitness that is so important to his/her development. Trained instructors with "special hearts" make the experience memorable as well as educational. Students twist, jump, bounce, and flip while listening to their favorite music. Healthy children are happy children! Tuition is \$40 a month and information is available at the front desk.



Microwave News

Please do not send items that need to be heated up longer than 1 minute for lunch. When we warm up things that take 2 or 3 minutes for several children, tummies start rumbling and the kiddos get impatient. Thank you for your help with this. (The kids thank you too!)



Car Seat Safety

Car crashes are a leading cause of death for children ages 1 to 13. That's why it's so important to choose and use the right car seat correctly every time your child is in the car. Get some helpful tips that will help you choose and install the right seat for your child at safercar.gov. This site will also tell you where you can take your car to have your car seat inspected once it is installed. You can never be too careful!

Cheesy Pepperoni Buns



Ingredients

- 1-pound lean ground beef
- 2 c. pizza sauce or pasta sauce
- 1 package (3 1/2 ounces) sliced pepperoni, chopped
- 4 slices American cheese, chopped
- 12 mini buns, split
- 2 c. shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese

Make It

1. Heat oven to 350°F. In a large skillet, cook beef over medium heat until no longer pink, 5-7 minutes, breaking into crumbles; drain. Stir in pizza sauce, pepperoni, and American cheese. Cook and stir until cheese is melted, 4-5 minutes.
2. Place buns on a baking sheet, cut sides up. Spoon meat mixture onto buns; top with mozzarella cheese. Bake until cheese is melted, about 5 minutes. If desired, serve with additional warmed pizza sauce.

*These also make a great New Year's Eve finger food!

Courtesy of Taste of Home

