



Tottenberry's Times



Tottenberry's Private School & Day Care

March/April 2019



Easter Egg Hunts

All of the classes will have Easter egg hunts the week of April 15. Please send 1 or 2 dozen filled plastic eggs per child to help support these hunts by April 12. Do not send any chocolate or bubble gum – we are asking nicely! ;) You will also need to send your child with his/her Easter basket or bucket on the day of the hunt. Also, feel free to dress your child in an Eater or Spring outfit the day of his/her hunt. Happy Easter!

Super Spring Break Plans



Our Spring Break is March 11 - 15. We will be open regular business hours but will be taking a break from the curriculum for the week. We are ready for some fun! Below is the schedule of events. This schedule is also available on the Download page at tottenberrys.com. Remember, all Spring Break days are free dress days!

Monday – Movie & PJ Day (10:00)

Tuesday – DJ Jeffrey will be here! (10:00)

Wednesday – Petting Zoo (9:00 – 11:00)

Thursday – Creative Cooking @ snack time
Friday – Wear green & make a St. Patrick's Day craft.

* We hope to take the 1st grade and older schoolers skating on Thursday. More information will be available soon.

City of Pearland Bike Rodeo



Join the Pearland Police Department on April 6 from 9:00 – 1:00 at the Recreation Center & Natatorium. They are hosting a free event that will educate children and teens up to 15 years old on bicycle safety. All participants should bring their own bike and helmet. Participants should be able to complete all activities in 1.5 hours.

Stranger Danger



Parents, please DO NOT let other parents in the building! Only parents who know the code should enter freely. If you see someone standing at the door and feel like you should help them, let them know that someone will assist them in a moment.



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:

- 3/7 – pizza
- 3/14 – chicken nuggets
- 3/21 – hot dogs
- 3/28 – chicken nuggets
- 4/4 – pizza
- 4/11 – chicken nuggets
- 4/18 – hot dogs
- 4/25 – chicken nuggets



Say Cheese!



Lifetouch will be here April 10, 11, and 12 to take pictures of ALL of our students. Yes, even the babies! They will also take sibling pictures for the parents who are interested. Be on the lookout for more details closer to the actual picture dates.

Sign Up for Remind



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



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!

Tuition Due Dates

Please make note of the upcoming tuition due dates:

- ❖ Monday, April 1
- ❖ Monday, April 29
- ❖ Tuesday, May 28



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

March 11-15
Spring Break
Non-Academic

April 10-12
Spring Pictures

April 19
Good Friday
School Closed

May 6-10
Scholastic Book Fair

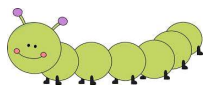
May 24
The Last Day of School!

May 27
Memorial Day
School Closed

Check out our website!
tottenberrys.com

Caterpillars

Ms. Michelle &
Ms. Evelyn



6 weeks – 6 months

Hello! We hope everyone is enjoying the year so far. We have new friends coming in and some friends moving to the Butterfly room. Please remember to label all of your child's items especially the bottles and food. Some of our babies will be learning to sit up, hold their bottle, and to move across the floor. If your child is learning these skills at school, please work on them at home too. We are working hard to learn your child's needs. Please be patient with us and let us know of any changes you are trying to make. We are always here to answer any questions. If you are introducing your child to food, please don't send any that you haven't tried at home. We are looking forward to Easter coming so we can see the Easter bunny and all of the pretty eggs. Happy Easter, everyone!

Butterflies

Ms. Lupita, Ms. Susie, & Ms. Judy
6 months – 12 months



We are now welcoming spring, as it is fast approaching. We will be planning to go outside to enjoy the beautiful blue skies during these upcoming months. It is so enjoyable to watch our little ones progress from baby foods to table food, crawling to walking, and babbling to talking. Their personalities also change and grow in front of our eyes!! They LOVE their music classes as well as play time and story time during the day. Here are some reminders to help parents have a better understanding of the Butterfly Room:

- Please have your child/baby dressed for the day and in a clean diaper upon arrival.
- Please do not walk on rug with shoes on. Remove shoes at the door or put on shoe covers located inside the door.
- Please label all your child's items with his/her first & last name. This includes all food containers, bottles, sippy cups, clothing, & anything else you may leave at the school.
- All bottles need to come with a nipple. We are not allowed to reuse nipples/bottles.
- In order to save us time, we ask that all food and bottles be prepared and ready to use.
- Please read our notes daily on the SmartCare app. This is sometimes our only way to communicate with you if your child needs diapers, wipes, extra clothes, etc. since teachers come and go at different times during the day.

We truly enjoy each and every one of our babies and want to thank all of you parents for allowing us to give them our love and care.



Circus Room

Ms. Samantha &
Ms. Grisleda
12 – 18 months

Ladies & Gentlemen! Boys & Girls! Welcome to Spring! We would like to begin by thanking you, parents, for all of the Valentine gifts. We really enjoy caring for the children and watching them grow and learn new things everyday! The children enjoy circle time every morning. We combine with the Bumblebees at 8 AM to learn the shape, color, number, letter, and texture of the week. Be sure to take a look at our circle time board at the beginning of every week. Also, remember to bring something for Show & Tell every Thursday and wear the color of the week every Friday. During March, we will learn about Texas history, St. Patrick's Day, insects, the 5 senses, and forgiveness. In April, we will learn about weather, recycling/Earth Day, gardening, and respect. Also, be on the lookout for more information about our Easter egg hunt. PLEASE PLEASE remember to label ALL of your child's clothing, jackets, cups, and food items. We'd appreciate it!

Bumblebee Room

Ms. Marshonna
18 – 24 months



Spring into the Bumblebee Room! First off, I'd like to say thanks, parents, for all of the Valentine's Day love. Ya'll are the best! Thank you also for participating in Show & Tell and wearing the color of the week. I've been working with the children in hopes of getting them ready for the next class. I am encouraging them to be more independent and to use their words. It's been going quite well. During March and April, we will go over our colors, shapes, and numbers again and we will finish going through the alphabet. Remember, children learn best through repetition. Hang in there; the school year is almost over! Please label ALL personal belongings and check your child's cubby on a regular basis. During March and April, we will cover the following topics:

March	April
Texas History	Weather
St. Patrick's Day	Recycling
Insects	Earth Day
The 5 Senses	Gardening
Forgiveness	Respect
Blue, Orange, Brown, & Yellow	Brown, Red, Purple, & Grey
Circle, Triangle, Square, & Diamond	Rectangle, Circle, Square, & Triangle
R, T, S, & U	V, W, X, Y, & Z
8, 9, & 10	2, 3, 4, & 5
texture of fluffy, farm animals, shamrocks, & insects	texture of recycled products, rabbits, gooey, & muddy
Signs for purple & flower	Signs for water & cow

Be on the lookout for information about our Easter egg hunt! And, remember, everyday is a new day so make it an awesome one! Share the love and peace!



The Jungle Room

Ms. Carla & Ms. Julie
2 – 2 ½

Wow! Can you believe Spring is right around the corner?! We are very excited to start learning about our favorite season. During March, we will learn about insects, St. Patrick's Day, the 5 senses, and farm animals. We will also study N, O, P, & Q and review all of the colors, shapes, and numbers. The children have been practicing how to hold a pencil while tracing. During the month of April, we will learn about the weather, Earth Day, and gardening. We will also work on the letters R, S, T, & U and review all of the colors, shapes, and numbers. We are very proud of how much the children are learning! Please remember to label all of your child's belongings and to put an ice pack in your child's lunch bag. Also, please dress your child appropriately if he/she is potty training. For example, tight pants are hard to pull up and down and onesies are difficult to get out of. Thank you for your help, parents!

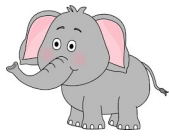


The Fish Room

Ms. Daisy &
Ms. Jeanine
2 ½ – 3

As we enter the month of March, the Fish class is continuing to learn new skills and build on the old ones. Most of our kids can recognize their names. Some can even spell them without help! We will study the letters N, O, P, and Q and review all of the colors, shapes, and numbers. We plan to purchase a kite so we can fly it on a windy day. During April, we will continue to review the shapes, letters, colors, and numbers. The letters we will study are R, S, T, and U. We will also be completing some Easter activities. Potty training is going well! Thank you for your continued support!





The Elephants
Ms. Jah'Mekia & Ms. Jill
3 - 3 1/2

The Elephant herd will be stampeding into March and straight into Texas History Month. We will learn about our great State of Texas through art, music, video, and geography. There will be tons of fun crafts to help us understand the truly unique state in which we live. We will cap off Texas History Month with Go Texan Day on February 22. Shamrocks and shenanigans are in the works for the week leading up to St. Patrick's Day. Soon, two silly leprechauns, Jolly McWiggles and Lucky O'Doodles, will join our class – bringing their shiny gold coins to share with the Elephants for some fun math activities. Toward the end of the month our five senses will come alive with enriching games and activities, and we will all benefit from an important character education unit on forgiveness. The Elephants will continue to work on letter and number recognition, fine and gross motor skills, listening skills, and following directions. We are adding new centers every week and the Elephants are having more opportunities for open-ended play, which is the very best way for them to learn at this age!

The Farm Room
Ms. Jennifer
3 1/2 - 4



Hello! We've had a great year so far! With the introduction of behavior logs at the start of the year, I've seen some positive changes in behavior. The Farmers are doing an excellent job recognizing some sight words as well. I've also discovered that some of them can even read. That's exciting! In addition, I've seen some massive improvements in their writing skills. We started tracing our names at the beginning of the year and, now, some of the children can write their first and last names without needing to trace the letters. We've also been working on letter, number, color, and shape recognition daily. We're even doing these in Spanish. Surprisingly, the children do well in both languages. Our circle time routine also includes reciting the days of the week and months of the year. I find that the songs we sing to remember really do help! The children are getting a lot better at being able to tell me what day of the week it is. The farmers have started to take on some bigger responsibilities in the room. I am requiring them to remember to put everything exactly where it came from and to keep the classroom neat and orderly. Along with these organizational tasks, the children have also started setting out their own lunches, with some assistance of course. Since the academic year will be over in a few months, I want to make sure all of the farmers are prepared for Pre-K so they can excel as I know they are all so capable of. The objectives in March will be the five senses, insects, St. Patrick's Day, and Texas History Month. We will conclude the month with our last four letters. In April, we will focus on spring, recycling, weather, and gardening. We will also add five new sight words to our growing list. We will begin our review time in April as well, to be reminded of all the new things we learned throughout the year. For a more detailed idea of what we will be doing throughout the months, come by the Farm Room and see our monthly newsletter posted on our door.



Pre-K
Ms. Shawn & Ms. Caroline
4-5 year olds

Howdy, Partner! We can't believe March is here and spring is on its way. Along with that, it's rodeo time in Texas. Yee-haw! We will start off the month learning about Texas and the state symbols. After that, we will roll into Spring Break and celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a variety of fun activities throughout the week. We will study the life-cycle of the butterfly and the frog and learn about the concept of symmetry. At the end of March and beginning of April, we will discuss the changes in weather during the season of spring and how it affects plant growth. We will also study the parts of an insect and sort and graph insects into different categories. In mid-April, we will discuss the Easter story and celebrate Easter with an egg hunt and special snack. The children will be excited to end the month of April learning how we can make a difference in our environment by recycling and keeping the Earth clean. Finally, during probably one of the most exciting weeks of the year, we will explore and discuss volcanoes and dinosaurs. The children will have a chance to create the lava of a volcano with an interactive experiment. You should be so proud of your children; they have almost finished learning how to write the alphabet. The only letters left are: V, W, X, Y and Z. The children will continue to review and write letters and numbers throughout the rest of the school year. We will also start blending sounds together to make simple 3 letter words for beginner readers. Parents, you are doing an excellent job reinforcing what we teach at school. We want to give a BIG thank you to you!©

Special Dates: Be on the lookout for memos concerning our Easter celebration.

Spring Break: week of 3/11

Egg Hunt and Special Snack: 4/18

Good Friday: 4/19 - No School

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



Collect box tops and donate them to Tottenberry's. There is a drop box on the front desk. We use the funds to buy new materials and equipment for the school.



Kindergarten
Mrs. Wiles

Spring is in the air in the Kindergarten class! We are all eagerly awaiting warmer weather. During our calendar time, we track the weather patterns and discuss how the seasons change from one to another. March is going to be just as exciting as January and February. We start off the month diving into reading with our Dr. Seuss week. During Western and Rodeo week, we will focus on learning about all different types of energy: heat, light, and sound. Also, we're beginning how to count money and read number words. Spring Break is March 11 - 15; this week will be non-academic but filled with lots of fun! After we come back from Spring Break, we will dive right into our Spring week. During April, we will focus on the Easter story and different Easter activities. We will also have an Easter Egg hunt. In addition, we will have a Community Helpers Week which will include a visit from a special community helper! Will it be a doctor, or a police man, or a fireman? Our science fair, which is our next big project, will also be in April. Earth Week is after that and we will learn how to take care of our environment and conduct an experiment to learn about pollution. We will end the month of April with a Transportation Week where, believe it or not, we will focus heavily on reading and writing. We are excited about these next few months and looking forward to the end of the year!





Art Class

Ms. Shante
1 year and older

The children are having a great time in Art class. They love to paint! We have been working on several St. Patrick's Day projects and hope to complete one or two more. I am also in the process of planning some fun Easter art activities. Spring is so fun!



Bible Class

Ms. Stephanie
3 years and older

Hello, Parents! Your children have been busy learning how we can show God we love Him and all the ways he shows us His love in return. It's already March but the children are still just as eager to continue learning about God. This continues to motivate me to teach them to the best of my ability. During March, our main focus will be the key components needed to have a deep relationship with Christ. We will focus on Prayer and how Daniel was a perfect example of this in His walk with God. For the rest of March, I will teach about Faith, Repentance, and Salvation. As always, I'm at your disposal with any questions you may have. I also encourage you to ask your children what they have been learning in my class.

Philippians 1:4 "In all of my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy."

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!



Spanish Class

Mrs. Juarez
3 years and older

I am proud to announce that the children are doing a wonderful job learning Spanish! I couldn't be prouder! We have learned a little about community helpers, food groups, shapes, and how to spell our names in Spanish! February was a busy month, but the children excelled with flying colors. March and April will be the time to talk and learn about the five senses, insects, Spring, and dinosaurs! These themes will be added to our learning schedule, so we're going to be extremely busy, but we love it!!



P.E.

Coach Marcus
3 years and older

Hello parents! I hope you've had a great start to the new year. Due to the weather, we've done more inside games recently. We've been able to do bowling, musical hoops, and bean bag toss. When outside, the kids were able to play Frisbee games and flag tag. My hope is that we get more sunshine so we're able to work on more sports and relay games. The kids all do awesome with basketball, soccer, and football drills. Also, now that we're approaching the spring and summer season, relays will be an intentional focus so that we'll be well prepared for the Summer Olympics! As always, thank you for allowing me to teach your children. Have a great Spring Break!

Fridays are always free dress!

Noteworthy

News

Mrs. Joanna
Everyone



The **Caterpillars, Butterflies, and Circus Room** continue to hear nursery rhymes, folk songs, classical music, children's music, and sometimes popular music. I play a small set of bongos while singing songs to help reinforce the *steady beat*. The babies love exploring with an age appropriate rhythm instrument and sometimes try to play the bongos. Some of the older babies sway or dance to the music. I also interact with each one of them one on one when reciting rhymes which usually leads to giggles.

The **Bumblebee, Jungle, Fish, Elephant, and Farm Rooms** might not understand music terms at their age but they are being exposed to them when we have music time together. We move along as if we are floating in a boat during the *legato* (smooth and flowing) refrain of the song, *Floating Down the River*, and jump around during the *staccato* (short and separated) verses. We will also practice *dynamics* (volume of music). We will use a parachute to practice music form and reinforce *legato* and *staccato* at the same time. Last month we learned a few words in sign language and we will learn a few more to use when singing some of our songs. I will have the children practice echoing rhythm patterns using quarter notes and eight notes played on a pie pan used as a drum.

The **Pre-K** classes have learned a few words in sign language that go with the songs we have been learning and singing. They have enjoyed drawing rain as we use our voices to make the sound of rain. We have really had fun using hula hoops and our imaginations to pretend that we are jumping and splashing in mud puddles as we sing along. The children have been taught the music terms *staccato* (short and separated) and *legato* (smooth and flowing) and have practiced this by tapping rhythm sticks together and singing "pitter patter" for rain in a staccato way and waving a scarf while singing "ooh ooh" for wind in a legato way. We will work more on vocal development in a fun way by singing along with the book, *Michael Finnigan*. We will also work on some activities that have instrumental and spoken cues and focus on self-controlled action. "*Control of the body is the first kind of the control children have over themselves and is the first step toward the development of internal control or 'self-discipline.'*" [Dance for Young Children: Finding the Magic in Movement](#), by Sue Stinson p. 5

Kindergarten has been practicing playing rhythm patterns that use quarter notes (one beat of sound) and quarter rests (one beat of silence) and have added the half note (two beats of sound). They really enjoy using the rhythm sticks and triangle to practice playing rhythm patterns along to music. They will also practice how to determine music form in an A-B-A pattern. We will also review everything we learned over the last nine weeks. After our review, the students will be introduced to the whole note (four beats of sound) and eighth notes (two quick notes that equal one beat) and will practice rhythms using a combination of all the notes we have learned.



Wanted: Water!

Please provide 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!

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



Pick-Up List Changes

If you need someone to pick up your child and he/she is not on your pick-up list, we will need written documentation. You can leave a note at the front desk, send a message via Remind, or send an email to tottenberrys@sbcglobal.net. If this person is only going to pick up once or twice, please do not tell them the code; we prefer to just let them in. The fewer people who know the code, the better. Thank you!



Put the Chef Hats & Aprons Away

If you provide your child's class with a treat, please remember, per state regulations, we are not allowed to serve the children homemade food items.



Do you have the lunch box blues?

Cheer up! Chef Gary brings hot lunches to Tottenberry's every day. You choose the lunches you think your child would eat, leave him a payment, and viola! Lunch is served! Pick up a menu at the front desk.

pudding Face



When your child makes cute and delicious pudding cup faces, he/she has also created edible works of art!

What You Need

- Vanilla, chocolate, or butterscotch pudding mix or pre-made pudding cups
- Candy decorations such as: licorice pieces, raisins, chocolate chips, butterscotch chips, coconut shavings, jelly beans, lifesavers, M&Ms, gum drops, gummy worms, red dots, and sprinkles
- Bowls or small clear plastic cups
- Spoon and butter knife

What You Do

1. Tell your child he/she will use candy to create faces on pudding cups, and he/she will get to eat the whole thing!
2. Your child can help you make pudding from a box or you can provide pudding already pre-made purchased pudding cups.
3. Have your child use a spoon to scoop pudding into a clear bowl or plastic cup. After the child has filled the bowl, a parent can use a knife to smooth out the surface of the pudding.
4. Let your child pick out the decorations that he/she would like to use to create a "face" on the surface of the pudding.
5. You may wish to photograph the finished pudding face creation before your child eats it.
6. Your child may want to create more than one pudding face. He/She could create desserts for the whole family!

Courtesy of Education.com

Chicken Noodle Casserole I



Ingredients

- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
- 6 ounces of egg noodles
- 1 (10.75 ounce) can condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 1 (10.75 ounce) can condensed cream of chicken soup
- 1 cup sour cream
- salt & pepper to taste
- 1 cup crumbled buttery round crackers
- ½ cup butter

Make It

1. Poach chicken in a large pot of simmering water. Cook until no longer pink in center, about 12 minutes. Remove from pot and set aside. Bring chicken cooking water to a boil and cook pasta in it. Drain. Cut chicken into small pieces and mix with noodles.
2. In a separate bowl, mix together both soups and sour cream. Season with salt and pepper. Gently stir together soup mixture and chicken mixture. Place in a 2 quart baking dish.
3. Melt butter in a small saucepan, and remove from heat. Stir in crumbled crackers. Top casserole with the buttery crackers.
4. Bake at 350° for about 30 minutes, until heated through and browned on top.

Courtesy of allrecipes





When Your Child Is Sick

When a child begins to run a fever or exhibits other unhealthy symptoms at school, we must send him/her home. We are also not allowed to let sick children return until they are symptom free for 24 hours without the help of medicine. Please help us follow this state mandate so we can keep everyone healthy. Also, do not send your child back to school until he/she is able to follow the regular classroom schedule along with the rest of the class, including going outside. We cannot keep a teacher inside for only one student; this affects our teacher/student ratios. Thank you!



Friendly Reminders

- Please leave ALL toys at home.
- Label all personal belongings including lunch items with first and last names.
- Children 3 years and older need to wear uniforms Monday – Thursday and tennis shoes on Fridays for P.E. class.
- Breakfast is served from 6:30 – 8:00. If you arrive after 8:00, your child can have his/her breakfast at snack time.



Dancing Stars

Tuesday Mornings
2.5 – 5 years

This educational and developmental dance class incorporates ballet techniques, skills, and posture; balance; gross and fine motor development; flexibility; grace; and poise. Designed to give our little ones a foundation for dance and ballet, the class includes on-site recital performances twice a year! The class meets every Tuesday at 9:00. Tuition is only \$40 a month. Register and get more information at houstonsng.com.



Tuesday Mornings
3 – 6 years

Snapology offers fun themed classes that are educational AND affordable. The **ABCs & 123s** (age 3) class will teach colors, shapes, letters, and numbers using DUPLO blocks. The **Junior Engineers** (ages 4-6) will experience pulleys, levers, gears, wheels, and axles while exploring energy, buoyancy, and balance by playing with and manipulating the models. For more information, visit snapology.com/houstonsouth. Classes begin soon.



Wednesday Mornings
3-5 year olds

TOT is a creative and unique way for a student to learn, experience, and master all sorts of ball handling tricks! TOT teachers will model, encourage, & inspire your child to be the very best that they can be! Your child will attain many new skills that will instill a drive and motivation that will carry over into all areas of your child's life. Give your child the TOT advantage! Learn more at teamssoftomorrow.com.



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!)



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 of 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.



Tumblebus

Mon., Tues., Wed., or Thurs.
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.

Use Only Blue or Black Ink



If you write a check to Tottenberry's, please use only blue or black ink. These are the only colors bank scanners can read. Thank you!