



# Tottenberry's Times



Tottenberry's Private School & Day Care

March/April 2021

## Super Spring Break Plans



Our Spring Break is March 12 - 16. 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. Remember, all Spring Break days are free dress days!

**Monday** – Movie & PJ Day

**Tuesday** – DJ Show

**Wednesday** – Wear green & make a St. Patrick's Day craft.

**Thursday** – Creative Cooking @ snack time

**Friday** – TBA

All events (except for snack & craft times) begin at 10:00.



## 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 March. Also, we updated our parent handbook. Please read the new one then sign and return the acknowledgement form on the last page.

## No Car Seats, Please!

If possible, please leave all car seats in your car rather than at the school during the day. Unfortunately, we do not have room to store them. We do understand that, if someone different will be picking up your child, you have no choice but to leave a car seat. We can make arrangements to store one or two every once in a while. We appreciate your help with this! We need to keep all doorways and hallways clear in case of an emergency.



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

## Say Cheese!



Lifetouch will be here April 28, 29, and 30 to take pictures of ALL 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.

## Important Dates

Please make note of the upcoming tuition due dates:

- ❖ Monday, March 1
- ❖ Monday, March 29
- ❖ Monday, April 26
- ❖ Tuesday, May 24



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 15 - 19**  
Spring Break  
Non-Academic – Free Dress!

**April 2**  
Good Friday  
School Closed  
**April 28 – 30**  
Spring Pictures  
**May 17 – 21**  
Scholastic Book Fair

**May 31**  
Memorial Day  
School Closed



## It Has Been a Long Time



It has been almost a year since parents have been allowed in the school. Isn't that crazy?! Please know that if you would like to come in one afternoon to see your child's classroom or briefly meet with his/her teachers, we can certainly set something up. We can't allow everyone to walk through the building, but I don't see a problem with one or two people coming in. Of course, a temperature check and mask will be required.



## Easter Egg Hunts

All the classes will have Easter egg hunts the week of March 29. Please send 1 or 2 dozen filled plastic eggs per child to help support these hunts by March 26. PLEASE do not send any chocolate or bubble gum! 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!

## 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:

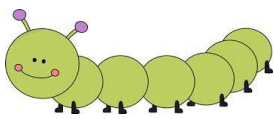
- 3/4 - pizza
- 3/11 – chicken nuggets
- 3/18 – hot dogs
- 3/25 – chicken nuggets
- 4/1 – pizza
- 4/8 – chicken nuggets
- 4/15 – hot dogs
- 4/22 - chicken nuggets



## Referral Bonus

Help us get our enrollment back up to normal! During March and April, if you refer a family to Tottenberry's and they register with us, your family could receive a \$500 tuition credit. (Bonuses will be made in five \$100 credits every 4 weeks as long as the new family is in good financial standing and still enrolled with us.) So, talk us up, parents! Your words are powerful! Feel free to display a yard sign as well! Thank you!





## Caterpillars

Ms. Michelle

6 weeks – 6 months

I hope everyone is doing fine after our winter storm. 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. 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 can practice holding their own bottle. 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. If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you!



## Butterflies

Ms. Lupita

6 months – 12 months

Hello Spring! Goodbye Winter! We hope everyone is doing well after the winter storm we just had. We are going to spend some time in March helping the children who don't already know how to hold their bottles to master this skill. Please work on this at home as well. If your child is eating finger foods at home, don't hesitate to send some to school. Children at this age get extremely excited about food - especially when they see someone else with it! Please remember to label all your child's belongings including the caps to his/her bottles. It is common for two babies to bring the same bottle to school so mixing up the caps does happen often. Please help us prevent this. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call Tottenberry's or send us a message via SmartCare.



## Circus Room

Ms. Janette &

Ms. Grace

12 – 18 months

Hello, Parents! What a crazy end to February! We hope everyone made it through okay. We definitely missed everyone! We will continue to join the Bumblebee room every morning at 8:30 for circle time. The children learn a new shape, color, number, letter, and texture each week. We do have Show-and-Tell every Thursday. Please send an object that relates to one of our areas of study. Also, on Fridays, we all wear the color of the week. Please remember this when you are dressing your child Friday mornings. Please be on the lookout for any more information and images of your little ones via SmartCare. Thank you for all your help and support!

## Bumblebee Room

Ms. Marshonna, Ms. Jordan, &

Ms. Grace

18 – 24 months



Welcome, Spring! During the months of March and April, we will cover:

- Texas History Month
- St. Patrick's Day (A PM snack will be provided by the teachers on March 17.)
- Insects
- The Five Senses
- Weather
- Recycling and Earth Day
- Gardening
- Respect and Forgiveness
- Q, R, S, T
- Rectangles, Stars, & Diamonds
- Green, Yellow, & Orange
- 5, 6, 7, 8
- Texture of: Insects, Shamrocks, Gardening Tools, & Recycled Products

We will have an Easter egg hunt on April 1. How egg-citing! We do have Show-and-Tell weekly. Please remember to send an item that correlates with our theme with your child every Thursday. The children do play with the Show-and-Tell items; please do not send anything valuable. We also review the color of the week every Friday. Please remember to dress your child in the color of the week on Fridays. Also, please remember to label all items in your child's lunch box. If you have any questions, you can message us through SmartCare. We check it throughout the day. Thank you!



## The Jungle Room

Ms. Carla & Ms. Julie

2 – 2½-year-olds

Happy Spring! During March, we will talk about Texas History, St. Patrick's Day, insects, the five senses, and Spring. The themes for April will be weather, recycling and Earth Day, gardening, and respect. Our curriculum for March and April will also include:

- P, Q, R, and S
- a review of all numbers
- a review of all colors
- a review of all shapes
- Spanish words: vaca (cow)\* and papel (paper)

\*There is a fun song on YouTube titled "La Vaca Lola" that the kids love to sing! Please help us by making sure all your child's belongings are labeled. At 2-years-old, most children cannot verbalize whether something belongs to them. Thank you!



## The Fish Room

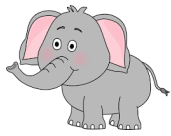
Ms. Sandra & Ms. Lalandra

2½ – 3-year-olds

First, we'd like to say thank you for all the Valentine's Day gifts. 😊 We enjoyed the Valentine's Day party and are glad everyone was safe during the winter storm. We can't wait for Spring and its beautiful weather. We are very proud and amazed with how the students are orally spelling their names. We will continue to work on this. This is what we will be working on during March and April:

- Texas History
- St. Patrick's Day
- Insects
- Our 5 Senses
- Farm Animals
- Spring
- Weather
- Recycling
- Gardening
- N, O, P, Q, R, S
- Review all colors
- Review all numbers
- Review all shapes
- Spanish words: bicho (bug) and vaca (cow)

Please remember to label all your child's belongings. Thank you!



**The Elephants**  
**Ms. Alicia & Ms. Jeanine**  
**3 – 3½-year-olds**

I hope everyone is keeping warm after that crazy winter storm we had recently. I know I am probably not the only one eager for spring to arrive so we can leave the cold weather behind. Let us peek at what is coming up for the months of March and April. We will be going over the last four letters in the alphabet while reviewing our numbers, shapes, and colors. Because of all the crazy weather we experience in Texas, it would be a great idea to study just how much weather changes. We will be taking notes and tracking the many changes weather can cause. Along with the weather, we will also be exploring our five senses and developing our green thumbs. We will be getting our hands dirty by planting and growing our own flowers and talking about the many insects that help keep our planet green. Taking care of Mother Earth is something we should all take part in to keep our planet healthy for generations to come. Here are some special dates coming up:

- March 2: Dr Seuss' Birthday
- March 15-19: Spring Break
- March 17: St Patrick's Day
- April 2: Good Friday
- April 4: Easter Sunday
- April 22: Earth Day

I am very excited for the upcoming days and can't wait to help my little elephants explore the world around us. Please continue to check the ClassTag app where I will continue to post reminders and any information. Let's go exploring!

**The Farm Room**

**Ms. Angelica**  
**3½ – 4-year-olds**



Hello, Farm Room parents! I hope you all are recovering from the winter storm. We have had a wonderful year to date! The Farmers and I had a blast at our Valentine's Day Party and with our Valentine's Day activities! Since the Farmers began tracing their names at the start of the year, I've seen some massive improvements in their writing skills. Some of them can even write their

names without needing to trace the letters! We've been working on letter, number, shape, and color recognition daily and I've been seeing some great results from them so far! Part of circle time consists of singing "The Days of the Week" and "The Months of the Year" songs. The children are getting much better at being able to tell me what day of the week it is. I find that the songs they sing to remember things are incredibly helpful! The farmers have started to take on some bigger responsibilities in the Farm Room, such as remembering to put everything exactly where they belong and ensuring their classroom is neat and orderly when it needs to be. Along with organizational tasks, the students have also started setting out their own lunches - with some assistance when needed. They LOVE and look forward to setting out their lunches every day! With the academic year ending in just a few short months, I want to ensure that all my bright farmers are prepared for Pre-K and can properly excel. They can do it!



**Pre-K**

**Ms. Caroline & Ms. Kaitlyn**  
**4-5-year-olds**

Hello Pre-K parents! This year is flying by! The children had a great time tie-dyeing Valentine's Day shirts and matching their teachers during our celebration. We will continue to work on letters, numbers, name writing, and sight words. Along with learning new material such as syllables, rhyming, patterns, and some new math skills.

**March**

Letters: N, V, W  
 Number: 20

Themes: nutrition, dental hygiene

**April**

Letters: X, Y, Z

Numbers: review all numbers

Themes: lifecycle of plants & animals, the water cycle, parts of a flower

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Caroline or Ms. Kaitlyn through SmartCare.



**Kindergarten**

**Ms. Ashlie**

Warmer weather is here! We begin March with a week dedicated to Dr. Seuss (his birthday is March 2nd). We'll be focus on and discuss author's purpose and learn a few new vocabulary words. Throughout the month, we'll learn about the basic needs of organisms, with a focus on plants and animals. Since our second week in March is rodeo themed, it'll be a great time to really dive into this using the different kinds of animals that can be found at the rodeo. The last two weeks of March will be centered on family and Easter. We'll be learning about the similarities and differences among people as well as talking about different kinds of family traditions. We'll continue to work on our handwriting and spelling as well as learn about subtraction during our math lessons. We dash right into April with a superhero themed week! We'll be learning about the characteristics of drama and discussing what a main character is. Our second week in April focuses on plants. We'll be learning about basic parts of a plant as well as the plant life cycle. We'll even be planting our own seeds to see what grows! The third week of April is Earth themed and we'll be using that week to focus on our new math lesson which is measurement. We'll learn about measurable attributes, specifically length, capacity, and weight. During the last week of April, will focus on technology. Technology is an important part of our lives today and we'll be discussing examples as well as uses for different types of technology in our homes and at school. We'll also be talking about how much different our lives would be without technology. We're getting closer to the home stretch of this school year and we're doing great. Happy Spring!



## Spanish Class

Ms. Angelica  
3 years and older

Hello or Hola! I am Ms. Angelica, the new Spanish teacher. I am so pleased to be able to teach the children the Spanish language. I am happy to be a part of Tottenberry's and love teaching the children as if they were my own. They are going to learn so much this year! So far, we have learned about the seasons with a focus on winter, community helpers, and Valentine's Day. Each week, we will discover new vocabulary and participate in new activities that center around our unit of the week. My hope is that all the children enjoy learning and speaking Spanish as much as I do. They are really enjoying the stamps and stickers I have been giving them. Adios!



## P.E.

Coach Marcus  
3 years and older

Hello parents! I hope you've had a great start to the new year. This year, the students have been able to do a variety of indoor and outdoor activities. I've spent some time introducing myself and the structure of P.E. class to the Elephant room. They've done well with the activities and get better every week. The Pre-K and Kindergarten classes are upping their skill level and have begun to move faster and compete with great sportsmanship. Teamwork and sportsmanship will be a huge focal point for that group this year. Thank you for sending your child in tennis shoes on Fridays. This has helped keep accidents to a minimum.

Check out our website!  
[tottenberrys.com](http://tottenberrys.com)



## Art Class

Ms. Griselda  
1 year and older

I am excited to be teaching Art this year! The children are also excited to be back in the Art room. In the months of March and April, we will celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday, Texas Independence Day, Spring, Easter, and Earth Day. I am looking forward to assisting the children with their masterpieces!



## Bible Class

Ms. Stephanie  
3 years and older

Hello, Parents! I hope this newsletter finds you well. As you all know we have been facing some strange and difficult times. This has been an especially hard time on our young children. I have been working hard to ensure the students how important they truly are. I want them to know their value in the eyes of God and how they can remain close to Him. I value my time with all the children and strive to teach them the importance of living for God. Recently, the children have been learning so much about obedience and how essential it is for their everyday lives. They have also been taught different tools the Bible gives us to live a life of obedience that honors God. Instilling this knowledge into your children will help them feel confident in their walk with God and strengthen their faith according to scripture. "Be strong in the Lord." Ephesians 6:10

## Update Your 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!



## Noteworthy

### News

Mrs. Joanna  
All Ages



The **Caterpillars, Butterflies, and Circus Room** will continue to hear nursery rhymes, folk songs, classical music, children's music, and popular music. I play a small set of bongos while singing songs to help reinforce the *steady beat*. The babies will continue exploring with an age-appropriate rhythm instrument and even the bongos.

The **Bumblebee, Jungle, Fish, Elephant, and Farm Rooms** will be focusing on tempo (fast and slow). Our lessons have a transportation theme. The children are learning to control and coordinate their body's movements by getting faster or slower and stopping and starting. They are also going to focus on the concept of up and down. Music moves up and down and we will explore that with our bodies and voices (speaking, singing, vocalizing, and listening).

The **Pre-K** classes are learning the music terms, *staccato* (short and choppy) and *legato* (smooth and connected). We are using a weather theme to practice our music concepts. The students are going to learn the American Sign Language signs for stop, rain, rainbow, and wind. We will sing and move with props and with instruments. We will also work on self-controlled action and vocal development.

**Kindergarten** will continue to work on keeping a steady beat and learn the difference between beat and rhythm. They are getting the chance to pat, clap, and use rhythm instruments to play patterns that include quarter notes and quarter rests. The children have started to learn that music moves up and down like going up and down steps and are beginning to learn songs that contain *Do, Re, and Mi* patterns. They will learn some simple rhythmic and pitch *ostinatos* (patterns). The students will learn about the half note (two beats of sound). They will also practice how to determine music form in an A-B-A pattern.





## 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](http://soccersuperstars.org).

**Fridays are always free dress!**



## Tumblebus

**Tuesday or Wednesday**  
**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.

## Waffle Iron Pizzas



### Ingredients

- 1 package (16.3 ounces) large refrigerated buttermilk biscuits
- 1 cup shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese
- 24 slices of pepperoni (about 1.5 ounces)
- 2 ready-to-serve fully cooked bacon strips, chopped
- Pizza sauce, warmed

### Make It

1. Roll or press biscuits to fit waffle iron. On 1 biscuit, place ¼ cup cheese, 6 slices pepperoni, and a scant tablespoon of chopped bacon to within ½ inch of edge. Top with second biscuit, folding bottom edge over top edge and pressing to seal completely.
2. Bake in a preheated waffle iron according to manufacturer's directions until golden brown, 4-5 minutes. Repeat with remaining ingredients. Serve with pizza sauce.

Courtesy of Taste of Home.



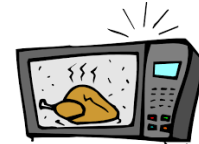
### Sign Up for Remind

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



## 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 name and last name. All homemade food items must also include the date it will be consumed. Please help us follow these rules by labeling all of your child's things. We don't like getting written up!



## 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!)



## 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.

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



## 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 thirsty kids!