

Tottenberry's Times

Tottenberry's Private School & Day Care

May/June 2019



Don't Let Your Summer Be a Bummer!

We have planned a fun-filled summer for our Tottenberry's students. The Houston Museum of Natural Science, a magician, a petting zoo, the Johnson Space Center, a cowboy clown, a Lego teacher, and even a bubble party are scheduled to come see us! We also have some fun dress-up days and other fun visits planned! And, of course, we will have Splash Day once a week! What is a summer at Tottenberry's without Splash Day?! The event calendar will be available soon. Look for it in your email, child's cubby, at the front desk, or on the Parent Bulletin Board at tottenberrys.com. Please remember to add the summer activity fee (for children 2 years and older) to your May 28 tuition payment.

Full-time	\$85
4 days	\$80
3 days	\$75
2 days	\$70

Tuition Due Dates

Please make note of the upcoming tuition due dates:

- ❖ Tuesday, May 28
- ❖ Monday, June 24
- ❖ Monday, July 22



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



How Does Your Garden Grow?

Mrs. Wiles, Miss Amber, and the Kindergarten students have quite the green thumb. They have planted tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, peas, peanuts, and some spices in our parking lot! It's a pretty great garden. Stop by and take a peek when you get a chance!



What Are Your Plans for the Summer?

Parents, if you are planning to change your child's schedule or pull him/her out for the summer, please let us know in writing before May 18. This will give us plenty of time to look at our summer staffing situation. Keep in mind that we do offer some part-time options; you are more than welcome to switch your child from full-time to part-time if you don't want to pull him/her out completely. If you do decide to take the summer off, don't forget to leave a \$200 deposit before you leave so we can hold your child a spot. Let us know if you have any questions.



May 6-10

Scholastic Book Fair

May 24

The Last Day of School!

May 27

Memorial Day

School Closed

June 3

Summer Fun Begins!

July 3

4th of July Parade & Festivities

School Closes at 5:00

August 13

Tottenberry's Olympics

August 15

First Day of School for Pearland

August 22

First Day of School for Tottenberry's



School Holiday

Tottenberry's will be closed Monday, May 27, in honor of Memorial Day. Enjoy your holiday! God bless our fallen soldiers and their families.



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:

- 5/2 – pizza
- 5/9 – chicken nuggets
- 5/16 – hot dogs
- 5/23 – chicken nuggets
- 5/30 – chicken nuggets
- 6/6 – pizza
- 6/13 – chicken nuggets
- 6/20 – hot dogs
- 6/27 – 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!

Check out our website!
tottenberrys.com

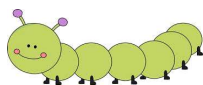


The Book Fair is Coming!

Be sure to visit our book fair the week of May 6 - 10. There will be many great books to buy! Each purchase earns Scholastic dollars for Tottenberry's. We have been able to purchase 2 Smart Boards, several Bluetooth radios, and some great new books so far. We love our new stuff!

Caterpillars

Ms. Michelle &
Ms. Evelyn



6 weeks – 6 months

Wow, summer is almost here! We hope everyone is ready for the summer fun here at Tottenberry's. We will have some activities that the babies can participate in like the petting zoo, the 4th of July parade, and some dress-up days – just to name a few. We will also frequently take the babies out for a stroller ride in the parking lot. Our older babies are learning to sit up and roll around on the floor. Some of them are even holding their bottles. If you see your child trying to do these things at home, please practice with them. Once a baby is 4 months old, he/she can sit in a Bumbo. This encourages them to reach for and grab toys out of a bucket. This is another great skill to practice at home. We look forward to spending the summer with the babies and teaching them new skills. Thank you for all of your support!

Butterflies

Ms. Lupita, Ms. Susie, & Ms. Judy

6 months – 12 months

Happy Birthday,
Butterflies! Most of our



Butterflies will turn 1 over the next couple months. How exciting! We are so proud of them and how fast they are growing! Pulling up is something the babies enjoy doing as they start getting older and stronger. Therefore, we recommend that you send your child in shoes each day. This will offer support for the tiny feet and help the babies get used to wearing shoes, which they will need to do when they move to the Circus Room. We have been having some fun taking the Butterflies outside. We will continue taking them out over the summer as long as the weather cooperates. We want to thank you, parents, for helping us make the Butterfly Room great! Once again, here are some reminders:

- 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.
- Start sending table or finger foods for your child so they can learn to pick up foods and feed themselves. We aren't afraid of the mess!
- 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.



Circus Room

Ms. Samantha &
Ms. Grisleda

12 – 18 months

Can you believe it's May already?! It has been amazing to watch the babies grow and learn. The school year is almost over but we will continue to review what we have learned now and throughout the summer. The children LOVE circle time! We have quite a few events to celebrate in May and June: Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, Flag Day, and the first day of summer. Fun fun! Keep an eye out for information about these events. Also, with HOT weather approaching, make sure the babies are dressed appropriately and make sure to apply sun block and mosquito spray each morning. Splash Day starts in June! Please make sure all of your child's cups, lunchboxes, and personal belongings are labeled. We are looking forward to a great summer!

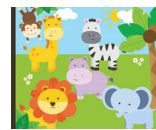
Bumblebee Room

Ms. Marshonna

18 – 24 months



As the end of the school year approaches, I would like to say what a pleasure it has been teaching the little bumblebees this year. To make sure the children are well prepared for the next room, we will review all colors, shapes, numbers, letters, and textures. We will also celebrate Cinco de Mayo. Since it falls on a Sunday this year, we will have our fiesta on Friday, May 3. Ms. Marshonna will provide snacks and a fajita lunch complete with rice and beans. Yay! Be on the lookout for our fabulous Mother's Day and Memorial Day crafts. In June, we will celebrate June 19th by eating watermelon. Keep an eye out for the summer calendar. We are ready for the summer fun to begin! Please ALWAYS label your child's belongings and remember to check his/her cubby periodically. Remember, every day is a new day so make it an awesome one! Stay awesome and share the love. Peace!



The Jungle Room

Ms. Carla & Ms. Julie

2 – 2 ½

So long, Spring! Hello, Summer! First of all, we'd like to thank all of our parents for bringing so many Easter eggs. Although the weather didn't cooperate and we had to hunt eggs inside, we still had a good time! During the month of May, we will learn about Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, Transportation, and Space. We will also review all letters, numbers, shapes, and colors. May will be Ms. Carla's last month for a bit; she spends the summers with her children. During June, we will take a break from the curriculum and participate in some fun summer activities. We will post the summer calendar on our door as soon as we get it. We are especially looking forward to Splash Day! Please remember the following things on all Splash Days:

- ✓ Send your child to school dressed and ready to splash.
- ✓ If your child is not potty-trained, put a swim diaper over his/her regular diaper.
- ✓ Label all of your child's clothes and towel.
- ✓ Send extra swim diapers.
- ✓ Send a plastic bag for the wet items.



The Fish Room

Ms. Daisy &

Ms. Jeanine

2 ½ – 3

We are so excited about the progress the children have made in the Fish Room. During the month of May, we will continue to review what we have learned throughout the year. We will play matching games with our numbers, letters, and shapes. The kids also love to play letter and shape Bingo. June will be a fun-filled month! We are planning a lot of summer activities for the children. From time to time, we will also review the letters, numbers, shapes, colors, and practice recognizing our names. We don't want the children to forget the things we have learned during the year. Thank you for all of your help this year, parents, especially with the potty training!



The Elephants
Ms. Jah'Mekia & Ms. Jill
3 - 3 ½

The Elephants say so long to spring and hello to summer! May will bring our formal learning time to a close. However, we will remain busy; letter and number recognition review, pre-writing practice, and listening skills practice will carry us through the month. June has the Elephants looking forward to some early summer fun: Splash Day, a petting zoo, a bubble party, and so many other exciting activities!

The Farm Room

Ms. Jennifer
3 ½ - 4



Hello, everyone. I can't believe the school year is almost over! We've come a long way since I first started in the Farm Room this past September. With the school year coming to an end, we will be spending our remaining time reviewing everything we've learned these past few months. With the addition of new, exciting circle time materials, the Farmers look forward to our circle time routine every day. We continue to practice our colors, days of the week, and months of the year in English and Spanish. Most of the Farmers have them all down! We've also added new shapes to our normal rotation and the children seem to have picked up on them quickly. Sight words are also becoming easier to recognize with repetition. We've also added discussing the weather to our daily routine and the children love going outside and telling me the weather so we can add it to our board. Most of the Farmers can write their name from memory, which is a vast improvement to where we were at the start of the year. The Farmers have also become more responsible by doing their part in the classroom when they need to. I assign different class jobs to the children during the week and they look forward to doing their job daily. I know that all of my Farmers are going to be very successful when they go to Pre-K next year and I'm looking forward to continuing to see them grow. Our main objectives in May will include talking about Mother's Day, Cinco de Mayo, and space. After, we'll call our academic year to an end. We will have an end of the year party in the Farm Room. When the time nears, look for information on our door for more details. I know some of the Farmers have parents who are teachers and they will take the summer off. We will certainly miss them! ☹️ Our fun summer program begins in June. It will be my first summer at Tottenberry's and I'm so excited for all the fun events we have planned! As always, if anyone has any questions on what we're up to "on the farm", please ask!



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

Wow! We can't believe the school year is almost over. It has truly been one awesome year and we are so proud of our kiddos. We will end the year reviewing all that we have learned this year through lots of interactive games. We will complete year end assessments during the first 2 weeks in May and will put the results in your child's folder. The children are academically ready for Kindergarten and you should be so proud of their accomplishments this year. We will have our year end celebration on Thursday, May 23rd so be on the lookout for future memos concerning this special event. Listed below are the theme units we will cover the last month of school and some important dates to jot down on your calendar. It has been a pleasure teaching your children this year and we are wishing you all a safe and fun summer. The month of June will be full of summer fun activities. Make sure you check out the summer calendar for the daily events.

Themes: Space/Solar System, Ocean Creatures, Zoo Animal and Habitats

Wednesday May 15th: Party money is due. (\$ 5.00)

Tuesday May 21st: Summer bucket gifts are due. A sign -up sheet will be posted for these on May 6th.

Thursday May 23rd: Year-End Celebration and Pizza Party

Week of May 20th: It's game week! Bring your favorite game to share and play.

Friday May 24th: Last Day of School!



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

April showers bring May flowers - or maybe some tomatoes or fresh basil? The month of April definitely brought some showers to Tottenberry's but also a fresh, new garden! The Kindergarten Class, Mrs. Wiles, and Miss Amber have all been working very hard in the new garden! If you have a minute check it out! Feel free to ask questions as well! For the month of May, Kindergarten will finish the school year off with a bang! The first week is all about our Community Helpers! This week involves learning about the different people in our community who help us and ways that we can help our community. We will also discuss jobs, wants/needs, and the responsibilities of pet care. During these days of fun, we are still hoping to meet our goal of reading 100 sight words! This is an exciting goal for the Kindergarten class! In Math, we are moving right along to money and time and will finish up with graphing and word problems. Mid-May we will have our science fair and also an end of the year party! During the last days of school, we will go back and look at our year during friendship week and discover super hero week! Both weeks are fun, engaging, and exciting for the kids. This year has been such a wonderful year for Mrs. Wiles and the Kindergarten class. Mrs. Wiles would like to thank all the parents, the Tottenberry's staff, and Mrs. Bowman for making it truly one of the best years.





Art Class

Ms. Shante

1 year and older

Ms. Shante is on maternity leave. She will return in June.



Bible Class

Ms. Stephanie

3 years and older

As our school year comes to an end, I want to share some wonderful news with you about your children. They have been blossoming in my class, in their Biblical knowledge, and in their walks with God. It's truly a blessing to see how much the children look forward to learning about Jesus. As Easter ends, we will transition our focus to creation. The children will have a better understanding of their role here on Earth and how to cherish their surroundings on a daily basis. I will teach and encourage them to value themselves as much as Christ does. God has been working in a mighty way this school year and my students are a reflection of that! "Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy." Psalm 47:1

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

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

Hola Amigos! The children are doing absolutely incredible as always! We have been learning the names of items that we see in our school environment. The children love a challenge and are doing a wonderful job! We are learning the shapes, body parts, and new songs. During the month of May, we will continue with naming school items and review the basics. We will discuss the importance of Cinco de Mayo and, hopefully, complete an arts and craft for the occasion. June will be the month to learn the names of dinosaurs and outer space objects! The children and I are pretty excited! I can't wait to see how the children do!



P.E.

Coach Marcus

3 years and older

Hello! P.E. has been great this spring. The weather has been better and better weather means more outside activities. The students have participated in soccer, basketball, football, and several relay games this month. They have all grown in skill level and developed a better understanding of each sport. I'm very proud of them. Moving forward, I will continue mixing up the relay games and activities so we'll be well prepared for the Summer Olympics. The Olympics will take place on August 13th. Be sure to save the date! This has been another great school year and I'm looking forward to having a blast this summer. Thank you all for allowing me to teach your children!

Fridays are always free dress!

Noteworthy

News

Mrs. Joanna

Everyone



The beginning of May means that we have four weeks of music left until we break for summer. This past school year has been so much fun! I look forward to next school year!

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. They seem to know when it is music time and are ready for it. I love interacting with each one of them when reciting rhymes which usually leads to giggles from all of us.

The **Bumblebee, Jungle, Fish, Elephant, and Farm Rooms** amaze me with how much information they absorb. We have recently discussed light and heavy sounds and movements. The children have done a great job distinguishing between the two. We had so much fun playing on plastic containers and round metal cake pans as drums and listening to the timbre (tone, sound quality). We will be focusing on energy as we have fun with music. We will work on inhibitory control using our bodies and rhythm instruments and practice more legato and staccato using hula hoops.

The **Pre-K** classes have done a wonderful job practicing legato and staccato using scarves and rhythm sticks and the parachute. We have also enjoyed singing along to the story of *Michael Finnigan*. We have acted out the story as we sing it and will use a glockenspiel to make the sound of the wind. We will explore hearing and listening. "*Hearing and listening* are quite different. Hearing is a process involving nerves and muscles that reaches adult efficiency by age four to five. Listening is a learned behavior, a mental process that is concerned with hearing, attending, discriminating, understanding, and remembering. It can be improved with practice. Listening affects social interactions, one's level of functioning, and perhaps one's overall success in life." (Weiss and Lily-White, 1981). We will also draw to music to see how the dynamics in the music affect each child. Also, playing finger games will help with preparation for playing piano or string instruments.

Kindergarten has been doing so well learning to play rhythms using quarter notes and quarter rests, half notes and half rests, whole notes and whole rests, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes. I am so proud that they can recognize and recall which note is which. We have played some rhythms out of a beginner drumming book on some plastic containers that we have used as drums. The students have practiced reading and playing the rhythms and I am so very proud of how well they have been doing. For the last four weeks of music classes we will be watching the movie musical, *Mary Poppins*. I will explain to them what a musical is and the difference between a movie musical and a stage musical.

I have really enjoyed getting to know and teach your children about music. I will really miss them! I hope that what I have tried to teach them will give them a good foundation for their future music classes in school.



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!



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.

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!

Make Rice Pictures



This is a fun project that will work on your child's pincer grasp and help prepare him/her for proper pencil holding.

What You Need

- Uncooked rice
- Rubbing alcohol
- Food coloring in several shades
- Glue or rubber cement
- Paper

What You Do

1. **Color the rice:** In a large bowl, mix 1 cup of rice with a ½ teaspoon of rubbing alcohol and a few drops of food coloring. Lay the rice in a jellyroll pan to dry. (This could take 1 day.) Repeat with as many colors as you'd like.
2. **Prepare the paper:** Draw a basic picture on the paper, using a waterproof marker. Or, if you'd prefer, use a page from a coloring book.
3. **Glue the rice:** Generously paint one area of the picture with glue. Then, show your child how to place the rice, piece by piece, onto it. Until the glue dries completely, the rice will move allowing your child to tweak the picture as needed. He/She can lay the rice in rows or patterns or add the rice in a more impromptu fashion. As your child finishes a section, paint another with glue and continue. Placing the rice down piece by piece is what makes this a small motor activity. If your child gets tired and starts scooping it onto the page, stop and come back to it at another time. When finished, pour a coating of glue over the picture and allow it to dry overnight.

Courtesy of Education.com

Cheez-It Meatloaf



Ingredients

- 2 lb. ground beef
- 1 c. Cheez-It crackers, crushed
- 2 large eggs
- 1 packet Lipton onion soup mix
- ¼ c. shredded sharp Cheddar

Make It

1. Preheat oven to 350°. In a large mixing bowl combine ground beef, crushed Cheez-Its, eggs, and onion soup mix. Use your hands to knead together until thoroughly combined.
2. Place the beef mixture in a greased loaf pan and bake until the meat has browned and pulled away from the edges of the pan, about 40 minutes. Top with cheese and broil until melted, about 5 minutes.

Courtesy of delish



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.

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



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 houstonnsng.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 teamsoftomorrow.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!



**Sign Up for
Remind**

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



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!