



Tottenberry's Times



Tottenberry's Private School & Day Care

November/December 2022



November 21-23

Thanksgiving Break
Non-Academic

November 24 & 25

Thanksgiving Holidays
School Closed

November 28 - December 9

Scholastic Book Fair

December 8

Staff Meeting
School Closes at 6:00

December 19 – January 5

Winter Break
Non-Academic

December 23 & 26

Christmas Holidays
School Closed

December 30

New Year's Eve Holiday
School Closes at 1:00



Fall Food Drive

Now through December 2, we will have a food drive to help support the Pearland Neighborhood Center and Channel 13's "Share Your Holidays". Please contribute any non-perishable and unexpired, canned, boxes, and bottled foods, or money donations. Thank you!



Staff Meeting

Tottenberry's will have a staff meeting Thursday, December 8. The school will close at 6:00 PM for this meeting. Please make note of this. Thank you!

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 plan to store one or two occasionally. We appreciate your help with this! We need to keep all doorways and hallways clear in case of an emergency.



Tuition Due Dates

Please make note of the upcoming tuition due dates:

- ❖ Monday, November 7
- ❖ Monday, December 5
- ❖ Tuesday, January 3
- ❖ Monday, January 30

A \$25 late fee will be charged per day if tuition is paid after Wednesday.



Update Your Information In brightwheel

Please take the time to update your personal information on the brightwheel app. We often turn to brightwheel when needing a phone number or email address in a hurry only to find out the information we need isn't contained in your account. It would be very helpful if all the information we need is in the same place. Thank you!



The Book Fair is Coming!

Be sure to visit our book fair during November 28 – December 9. 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, some Bluetooth radios, and tons of books. We love getting new stuff!

Check out our website!
tottenberrys.com



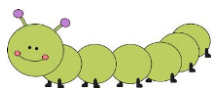
Thursday Lunches

For only \$4, you can order a hot lunch for your child on Thursdays. If you want your child to participate, let us know at the front desk or message us via brightwheel. Payments can be made with cash, check, or through brightwheel. 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:

- 11/3 – pizza
- 11/10 – chicken nuggets
- 11/17 – pizza
- 12/1 – pizza
- 12/8 – chicken nuggets
- 12/15 – pizza
- 12/22 – chicken nuggets
- 12/29 – chicken nuggets



Fridays are always free
dress days!



Caterpillars

Ms. Michelle

6 weeks – 6 months

I hope everyone is doing well! I want to welcome our new babies to the room. I have enjoyed learning their personalities. They all have done well getting into the routine of the room. The babies are especially enjoying Music class on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. I hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas. This is truly the most wonderful time of the year. I know it will be for you too; celebrating your baby's first Thanksgiving and Christmas with your family and friends will be a beautiful time. If you have any questions, please free to ask. I will help anyway I can. The babies are a joy to have in the Caterpillar room.



Butterflies

Ms. Karyn & Ms. Shara

6 months – 12 months

Hello October and Happy Fall. As we gear up for Fall and Winter, please make sure to send your kiddos with a jacket and socks! Some babies are getting cold little feet during the day. A few new kiddos have joined us in the past few weeks. Welcome friends! We also have had some friends move up to the next room. We are all growing and learning how to do new things! Exciting times! Music is on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. All the babies love this time so much. I encourage you to listen to music at home too. This is great for the babies! ❤️ Continue to label everything you bring for your child with his/her name. Please remember to check brightwheel for reminders of things your child may need. Thank you for allowing me to be your child's teacher. Here's to a great Fall!



Circus Room

Ms. Najet & Ms. Nicole

12 – 18 months

It's fall, Y'all! We are excited for the approaching holidays! We have many hands-on activities planned to help the kiddos learn more about the holidays. From decorating pumpkins to making stockings, we'll be doing it all! We will also continue to learn our numbers, shapes, letters, and colors over a 2-week span. On Fridays, we wear the color of the week and would love for your child to wear the color as well. The Circus room does go outside to play twice a day. Please remember to send your child in shoes every day. Here are the topics we will be covering during the months of November and December:

November	December
G & H	I, J, & K
black, white, & gray	brown, purple, & pink
5, 6, & 7	8, 9, & 10
rectangle, triangle, & heart	diamond, oval, & pentagon
Thanksgiving & turkeys	Holidays Around the World & Cookie Day (December 4)

We will also create some seasonal story books for the children to take home. They will be cute!

Bumblebee Room

Ms. Jordan & Ms. Lizeth

18 – 24 months



The Bumblebee room is buzzing with excitement over the upcoming holiday season! In November, we will explore the characteristics of pumpkins, leaves, and Thanksgiving. A special Thanksgiving feast will be held during our lunchtime November 18. In December, we will learn about Christmas traditions from around the world, decorate Christmas cookies, and have a book exchange during our Christmas party on December 16. Happy holidays to all our bumblebees and their families!

November	December
F & G	H
6 & 7	8 & 9
Brown	red & green
square & triangle	circle & star
Texture: pumpkins	Texture: cookies
Thanksgiving, Fall, and leaves	Christmas Around the World and book exchange



The Jungle Room

Ms. Julie & Ms. Carla

2 – 2.5 years

Happy Fall, y'all! This is what we will cover the next couple of months:

November	December
review A - D	E
green & yellow	red
circle & oval	diamond
6	7
otoño (fall)	Navidad (Christmas)
	Christmas Around the World

We will also participate in some fun activities and seasonal crafts. In December, we will learn some Christmas carols. Our Thanksgiving feast will be Friday, November 18. We will also have a Christmas party with a book exchange. We will collect \$7 per child for both events. More details will be sent via brightwheel closer to the party days. Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas!



The Space Room

Ms. Dashay & Ms. Emely

2.5 – 3 years

We are excited about the Fall season and are looking forward to all the activities we have planned. During October, we made a lot of progress with learning the letters, colors, numbers, and discussing the days of the week, months of the year, and weather terms. Our focus in November and December will be:

November	December
review A - D	E
green & yellow	red
review 1 - 6	7
circle & oval	diamond
Child Safety, Pumpkins, & Thanksgiving	My Family, Holidays Around the World, & Cookie Day (December 4)

Some highlights of October included our visit from the fire department as well as the experiments that we have been conducting. The students got the chance to see items float and sink in water and discover how primary colors can be combined to make other colors (ex. mixing red and yellow to make orange). We are super excited about the costume parade and Trunk or Treat taking place on Monday, October 31. We hope you can join us!

The 3-Year-Olds

Attached is a list of topics both 3-year-old classes will cover during the months of September and October:

I – N	Family Literacy
9 – 14	Child Safety
rectangle, oval, star, diamond	Pumpkins
yellow, purple, green, red	Pilgrims
patterns & sequencing	Thanksgiving
honesty & sportsmanship	Cookie Day
Georgie Porgie	Family
The Gingerbread Man	Holidays Around the World



The Elephants Ms. Veronica 3 – 3½ years

We are just a couple of months away from the end of the year! How exciting! I plan to make the rest of the year full of memorable and fun experiences before it is time to say goodbye it. During November and December, we will also celebrate the two biggest holidays of the year. Woohoo! We will most likely have parties so that the kiddos can enjoy these holidays with their friends. We will send more details about these parties as they get closer. Since the temperature will be getting chilly soon, please make sure to check your child's cubby to see if they have the correct type of seasonal clothes to wear in case of an accident. We wouldn't want it to be cold outside and have to put a kiddo in shorts. Please make sure to label all your child's belongings (clothes, extra shoes, cups, and lunch items which will also need to be dated). Thank you and have a wonderful Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas to you all!



The Farm Room Ms. Alicia 3 – 4 years

The leaves are falling, the weather is changing, and we are preparing for the end of 2023. There is still so much more to learn and do and so many celebrations too. In addition to the above areas of study, our class reads a special book that relates to the

week's theme. It is very important to me that we read a book every day in my class to build those necessary reading skills. November and December will also be months of celebration. The two biggest celebrations being Thanksgiving and Christmas. I have a variety of crafts and activities planned that will make these celebrations that much more fun and exciting. Please remember to always check your child's folder weekly. These folders will contain classwork and sometimes special information and reminders. I will also send these reminders through bright wheel when needed. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am more than happy to help. Let's end the year on a good note by spending extra time with our children and enjoying every moment we can with them. Happy Fall Y'all!



Pre-K Ms. Marshonna & Ms. Rebecca 4-5 years

Happy Holiday greetings from Ms. Marshonna and Mrs. Rebecca! We have some super fun learning activities planned for the upcoming months. Please make note of these important dates:

Thursday, November 17 – Thanksgiving Feast

Friday, December 16 – Christmas Party

The teachers will provide lunch for both events. Please be sure to check brightwheel for more information coming soon. December 19 – January 4 are non-academic days. We have lots of fun activities planned during that time. This is what our lessons will cover the next two months:

November	December
J - M	M - O
10 - 13	13 - 15
orange, gold, gray, & green	green, red, & white
rectangle, diamond, circle, & oval	oval, square, & triangle

REMINDERS

- Please check your child in and out daily via brightwheel.
- Breakfast is not served after 8am. Curriculum/Electives begin at 8:30.
- Please be sure your child has a

lunch and water bottle each day. Lunch time is 12:00 – 12:30 each day. During this time, we provide a quiet and distraction free area to allow the children to eat their lunch in a safe and timely manner.

- Please do not allow toys to be brought to school unless it is an appropriate Show and Tell item.

We are very proud of how our children have adjusted to Pre-K and look forward to watching them learn and grow with us!



Art Class Ms. Griselda 1 year and older

Time flies when you're having FUN!! The holidays are upon us! I am excited to spend Thanksgiving and Christmas with family and yummy food!! This is my favorite time of the year! There are also countless crafts and projects we can choose from! I love working with all the children and they love coming to art class. I'm looking forward to all the fun crafts and creations we will make!!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



P.E. Coach Marcus 3 years and older

Hello parents! It is hard to believe we're so close to a new year. In October, the kids have learned several new games like Trees and Squirrels and Freeze Ball. Those two games require a lot of running and I want to thank you for remembering to have your child wear tennis shoes on Fridays. Trips and falls have been minimal. The 2-year-olds have continued to play games that develop their gross motor skills and hand-eye coordination. A big thank you to the teachers for their help with the little ones! We'll finish the year with more sports activities, and I'll introduce a few more new games. This has been another great year of P.E. and I've genuinely enjoyed having your children. Have a great Thanksgiving and holiday season!





Kindergarten

Ms. Ashlie

'Tis the season! The holidays are approaching, and we are in full swing here in the Kindergarten classroom. November starts with a trip back to the '50s as we start talking about spatial terms (over/under, near/far, left/right) and relative location. We'll also be practicing our color words using some rockin' jukeboxes. After that we jump into a week all about Veterans and the military. We'll continue our study of relative location by creating our very own treasure maps! Also, we'll be reading about Gabe the hero dog (he's a bomb sniffing dog) and practicing our counting and addition skills using toy soldiers. For science, we'll be focusing on the way things move (straight line, zigzag, round and round, back and forth, fast and slow) by completing an obstacle course! We'll finish out November with a week all about being thankful. We'll be talking about family and eating healthy as well as all the things we're grateful for. We'll be reading short stories and giving responses to them. In science, we'll learn how to sort rocks by size, shape, color, and texture, as well as learning why rocks, soil, and water are useful to us. Jumping right into December, we start with two weeks devoted to space! We'll be learning about natural sources of water on Earth, and we'll be starting to talk about geography. At the end of the two weeks, we'll be finishing our space lesson by creating a model of the solar system. Each child will create a model of a planet and we'll hang them up around our classroom. To finish out December we'll have a week devoted to all things Christmas! During this week we'll start learning about money and how much each coin is worth. We've come a long way in our handwriting/spelling but we're still working hard on it each day. We'll be working more on letter blends now that we're getting comfortable with single letter sounds and we're deep into our lessons on addition. We're finishing out the year strong and excited to be learning. Happy holidays!



Bible Class

Ms. Rose

3 years and older

My Bible class friends are amazing, and I've had so much fun with them over the last few months! I'm beyond excited the children are loving coming to class. They walk in, have a seat on the rug, and get their hands ready to sign as we sing "This is the day the Lord has made" - sometimes they request we sing it a second time. I'm sure you've heard it. This has blown me away! They are memorizing the monthly Bible verses like true Bible Verse Superstars! (Thanks parents!) When the children can recite the Bible verse, they get to visit my Golden Shoebox! The pride and self-confidence shown on their faces when they say the Bible verse by themselves gets me every time. All my classes learn the same lesson each week. The Elephant and Farm room classes occasionally make different crafts from Pre-K and Kindergarten. I like to incorporate songs and crafts for extra reinforcement. Who doesn't love to sing and make crafts? I seriously find myself singing these songs at home all the time! If you're interested in knowing what CDs I use, just send me a message through brightwheel and I'll give you the titles. November and December are such special months. November brings Thanksgiving, blessings, and learning to be thankful. Of course, December brings Christmas and the birth of our Savior - the GREATEST gift of all! We will wrap up 2022 with a birthday party for Baby Jesus! A few parents have shared cute stories about Bible class with me. If you'd like to share something, I'd love to hear it!



Spanish Class

3 years and older

Ms. Angelica

Hello. Hola! I am Ms. Angelica. I teach Spanish here at Tottenbery's. It is a pleasure to teach your child Spanish. It really makes me happy to see the children learning. The year has truly flown by, but we still have many new things to learn. Fall is upon us, and the children will enjoy

learning about the seasons, Halloween, Thanksgiving, fire safety, and nutrition. We will also review the alphabet, colors, numbers, and shapes. There is no greater joy than teaching children. Have a great Thanksgiving and a merry Christmas! Hasta luego!

Noteworthy News

Mrs. Joanna

Everyone



The **Caterpillar, Butterfly, and Circus Rooms** will hear nursery rhymes, folk songs, and classical music focusing on a *steady beat*. They will continue to explore playing an age-appropriate rhythm instrument. They seem to really enjoy having me speak rhymes and sing to them. In December, we will have lessons that include winter and Christmas songs and rhymes.

The **Bumblebee, Jungle, Space, Elephant, and Farm Rooms** are having so much fun doing pretend household chores to music that they don't even realize they are learning high and low and steady beat. Their favorite is to "dust, dust, dust" using washcloths to dust all around the room and sometimes each other. They will also play one-bell jingles and egg shakers. In December, we'll enjoy winter and Christmas songs with movement.

The **Pre-K** classes will continue to practice using their singing voices. Some of the children have sung individually for the class. We will practice keeping a beat using ankle bells and movement and discuss tempo (the speed of music). We will work on active listening and identifying specific sounds. We will also act out a song using the music as cues to how the children should act. In December, we will have fun with music and movement using winter and Christmas songs.

Kindergarten has been having fun learning about music through the eyes of Mozart Mouse, Beethoven Bear, and Clara Schumann-Cat. The children were briefly introduced to Do, Re, Mi and will learn what a quarter note looks like and that it gets one beat. They will also learn about a quarter rest and practice playing rhythm patterns using these. The children will continue to learn about basic music concepts and enjoy Christmas and winter music activities in December.



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 \$45 a month and information is available at the front desk.



Tuesday Mornings
3-5 years

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.



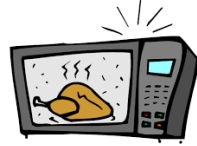
Dancing Stars
Thursday Mornings
2½ – 5 years

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 Thursday morning. Tuition is only \$55 a month. Register and get more information at houstonsng.com.

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!



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!

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!

Cheeseburger Biscuit Cups



Ingredients

- 1 lb ground beef
- ½ cup ketchup
- 2 T light brown sugar
- 1 T yellow mustard
- 1 t Worcestershire sauce
- 2 tubes (6 oz each) refrigerated biscuits
- 4 oz Velveeta cheese (cubed small)

Make It

1. Preheat oven to 400°F. Prepare a 12-cup muffin pan and spray 10 of the muffin cups with cooking spray. Set aside.
 2. In a skillet pan, over medium-high heat, cook and crumble ground beef until no longer pink. Drain.
 3. Add the ketchup, brown sugar, mustard, and Worcestershire sauce. Stir to combine. Turn heat to LOW and let it simmer while you prepare the muffin cups.
 4. Take one biscuit and smush it out to make a large, flat circle shape. You can use your hands for this (it's easiest) but you could also use a rolling pin. Press it into a muffin cup. Repeat with remaining biscuits.
 5. Place 2 cubes of Velveeta cheese into each biscuit cup. Top with a large scoop of the cheeseburger mixture (fill to the top of the biscuit) and then place 2 more Velveeta cubes on top of each biscuit cup.
 6. Cook for 13-15 minutes or until biscuit cups are golden brown on top and cooked through.
 7. Let cool for about 5 minutes in the muffin pan and then serve.
- Courtesy of Together as Family