



# Tottenberry's Times



Tottenberry's Private School & Day Care

October/November 2021



## October 29

Costume Parade  
Trunk or Treat  
Fall Festival

## November 22-24

Thanksgiving Break  
Non-Academic

## November 26 & 27

Thanksgiving Holidays  
School Closed

## December 20-23

Christmas Break  
Non-Academic

## December 24 & 27

Christmas Holidays  
School Closed

## December 28-30

Winter Break  
Non-Academic

## December 31

New Year's Eve  
School Closed



## Do you have the lunch box blues?

Cheer up! Chef Kayla brings hot lunches to Tottenberry's every day. You choose the days you want your child to receive a lunch, leave a payment at the school or pay through Venmo, and viola! Lunch is served! Pick up a menu at the front desk or find a copy on the handouts page of our website (tottenberrys.com).

## 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.



## No One Likes to Do It but It Has to Be Done

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



## Tuition Due Dates

Please make note of the upcoming tuition due dates:

- ❖ Monday, October 11
- ❖ Monday, November 8
- ❖ Monday, December 6
- ❖ Monday, January 3

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



## 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!



On Friday, October 29, we will host our annual Trunk or Treat and Fall Festival. We will begin our day in the parking lot at 10:00 with a costume parade. The festivities will continue outside for the Circus Room up to Kindergarten with a Trunk or Treat. One teacher from each class will decorate the trunk of her car and pass out candy to the children as they walk by. Be sure to send your child's trick or treat bag with him/her October 29. After this, the Circus Room, Bumblebees, Jungle Room, and Fish will head inside for some fun Halloween activities in their classrooms. All children in the Elephant Room, Farm Room, Ms. Caroline's class, and Kindergarten will stay together for some Halloween fun and games which will be held both outside and inside. **PLEASE SEND ONE BAG OF CANDY OR TREATS PER CHILD TO THE SCHOOL BEFORE THIS EVENT.** If you would like to help during the Fall Festival, please sign up at the front desk. Thank you!

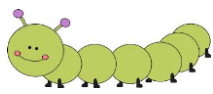


## Thursday Lunches

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:

- 10/7 - pizza
- 10/14 - chicken nuggets
- 10/21 - pizza
- 10/28 - chicken nuggets
- 11/4 - pizza
- 11/11 - chicken nuggets
- 11/18 - pizza





## Caterpillars

Ms. Michelle

6 weeks – 6 months

I hope everyone had a good summer. I'm enjoying the new school year with all the babies whether they be current or newbies. Most of our caterpillar babies are eating food and holding their bottles. They are also learning how to roll over and crawl. The new babies will be watching and figuring out these skills soon. I have enjoyed seeing parents in the mornings and afternoons again. Please feel free to ask me any questions you have. I want to take care of your child just as you would. I hope everyone has a good Halloween and a happy Thanksgiving!



## Butterflies

Ms. Lupita & Ms. Kaitlyn  
6 months – 12 months

Hello, Parents! As fall begins, we are starting some new learning goals in our classroom! These kiddos are growing and, before we know it, they will be walking! To help them along this process, we ask that everyone start wearing shoes. We are excited to help the babies take their first steps! This is also a great age for your child to begin eating solid foods. We are ok with helping your child with this if you would like to send some solid foods that your child has had at home. Practice at home is also important. Please remember to label, label, label all bottles, caps, bags, food, etc. We don't want anything to give a baby the wrong item. Also, please make sure that your child has all the necessary items (rash cream, wipes, diapers, snacks, extra clothes & socks, etc.) in our classroom. Thank you all so much for your continued help and support. We are looking forward to seeing your child grow into wonderful little humans! Happy fall, y'all!



## Circus Room

Ms. Rebecca &  
Ms. Veronica  
12 – 18 months

Hooray for Fall! Cooler weather is on the way. The Circus Room is happy to welcome our new teacher, Ms. Veronica, to our classroom. Just a reminder: the Health Department requires ALL food items and personal

belongings be labeled with the owner's first & last names. Homemade food items must also have the date they were made listed. Please remember to include an ice pack in your child's lunch. Only milk and water cups fit in our classroom refrigerator. During the months of October and November, your child will be learning about:

October	November
Food and Nutrition	Family Literacy Week
Fall (leaves)	Child Safety Month
Fire Safety	Pumpkins
Halloween/Harvesting	Thanksgiving (cornucopia)
Cooperation	Honesty
Green, Blue, Orange, & Black	Yellow, Brown, & Purple
Triangle, Rectangle, Square, & Oval	Diamond, Hexagon, & Pentagon
D, E, F, & G	H, I, J, K, & L
2, 3, 4, & 5	6, 7, 8, 9, & 10

We will also review all previous lessons. Thursdays are our Show and Tell days. Your child can bring an item corresponding with the lessons for the week. On Fridays, we wear the color of the week. We will have a Halloween party October 29. Please send \$5 with your child before October 26 to help cover the cost of the party. We will also have a Thanksgiving feast November 24. More information will be available soon. We look forward to watching your child learn and grow with us!

## Bumblebee Room

Ms. Marshonna & Ms. Jordan  
18 – 24 months



Hello, Fall! We hope all is well and y'all are ready for some harvest-like weather. This is what we will cover the next couple of months:

October	November
Food and Nutrition	Family Literacy Week
Fall (leaves)	Child Safety Month
Fire Safety	Pumpkins
Halloween/Harvesting	Thanksgiving
Cooperation	Honesty
Green, Blue, Orange, & Black	Yellow, Brown, Gray, & Purple
Triangle, Rectangle, Square, & Oval	Diamond, Hexagon, Pentagon, & review all
D, E, F, & G	H, I, J, K, & L
2, 3, 4, & 5	6, 7, 8, 9, & 10

We will have a Halloween party October 29. Please send \$5 by October 22 to help cover your child's food for the day. We have Show & Tell every Thursday. We also wear the color of the week on Fridays. Please participate in these events. Repetition is key to your child's learning. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out through the brightwheel app. Remember, every day is great, but you can make it awesome!



## The Jungle Room

Ms. Julie & Ms. Carla  
2 – 2½ years

Happy Fall! It's hard to believe it's October already! We are enjoying all our Jungle friends this year! During the fall months, we will study the following:

October	November
C & D	review of A, B, C, & D
3 & 4	5 & 6
triangle	circle & review
manzana (apple)	green
recognizing our names	Child Safety
Food and Nutrition	pumpkins
Fall (leaves)	Thanksgiving
Fire Safety	
Halloween/pumpkins	

We will also complete many fun fall crafts! We will have our Trunk or Treat on October 29 and our Thanksgiving feast on November 19. We will keep everyone posted with more details as the days get closer.



## The Fish Room

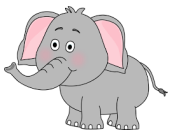
Ms. Sandra & Ms. Jeanine  
2½ – 3 years

Yay, it's Fall! We are very excited about both the new season and our learning. We are learning letters, numbers, shapes, colors, and how to recognize our names. Most of us even know how to say our colors in Spanish too! We also love to sing songs. We are busy in the Fish Room! Here is what we will focus on the next couple of months:

October	November
C, D, & P	review of A, B, C, & D
orange & brown	green & yellow
3, 4, & 5	6 and review 1 – 5
triangle & rectangle	circle & oval
manzana (apple)	perro (dog)
Food and Nutrition	<u>The Very Hungry Caterpillar</u>
Fall (leaves)	stages of a butterfly
Fire Safety	Thanksgiving
Halloween/pumpkins	

We will participate in the Trunk or Treat at the end of October. We will also celebrate Thanksgiving with a feast. Be on the lookout for more information about these events. Also, please remember to label ALL food items, cups, nap mats, etc. At this age, children aren't quite ready to recognize and claim their items. Don't forget to check your child's cubby each day!

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



# The Elephants

**Ms. Alicia**

**3 – 3½ years**

Welcome to a new school year! I am so excited and happy to see all the new faces in the Elephant Room. I can't wait to see just how much every student learns over time. I have many fun activities and projects planned that I believe will only make the kiddos more excited to come to class. As always, safety comes first. Our recent topics of study will include talking about child safety and how we can stay safe in various situations. We will also discuss nutrition; the importance of reading; and our favorite fall days: Halloween and Thanksgiving. For the next two months, we will also focus on:

Letters	E, F, G, H, & I
Numbers	5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, & 12
Colors	orange, brown, yellow, purple
Shapes	circle, square, rectangle, & oval
Math Skills	patterns & sequencing
Character Traits	cooperation & honesty

I feel it's very important to have strong parent/teacher communication so if you ever have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. If you have any suggestions or ideas I could integrate into our lessons, I would love to hear them. Let's begin working and set our mind on reaching our goals. Here's to a great new school year!



# The Farm Room

**Ms. Lorena**

**3½ – 4 years**

Hello Farm Room parents! I am Ms. Lorena or Ms. Rena, which is what the kids like to call me! I am very thrilled to have your child in my classroom. It will be an amazing year full of learning and lots of fun! I genuinely believe learning needs to be fun so we can all grow and develop! I cannot wait to share everything I know with you and your kiddo. Your child is our future! You will be amazed as you watch your child grow into an amazing friend, learner, writer, and so much more! I have so many projects and assignments to share with y'all. We will be working on E, F, G, H, & I; 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, & 12; orange, brown, yellow, and purple; and circles, squares, rectangles, and ovals. Our math skills will cover patterns and

and sequencing. We will also study the character traits cooperation and honesty. We will complete some fun Halloween and Thanksgiving projects! I love hearing feedback and any ideas you may have so please feel free to share them with me! If you have any questions or concerns, contact me immediately. Together you and I can work to make sure your child is successful. Let us get this school year moving!



# Pre-K

**Ms. Caroline**

**4-5 years**

Hello, Pre-K parents! The children have been doing a great job with the Pre-K curriculum and will continue to work on their handwriting and spelling their names. October will be filled with kid friendly Halloween fun. We will also learn the life cycle of a pumpkin and make sensory bags with the insides of a pumpkin. We will also learn about fire safety through some books and by learning about hot and cold objects.

## October

Pumpkins, Fire Safety

Letters: Hh, Tt, Ii, Uu, Cc

Numbers: 1 - 5

Patterns

Recognizing objects as "same" or "different"

Sequencing

In November, we will have a Pre-K feast to celebrate Thanksgiving. Please be on the lookout for dates and details via brightwheel.

## November

Thanksgiving

Letters: Oo, Qq, Gg, Ss

Numbers: 5-10

Patterns

Sequencing

Handwriting



# Kindergarten

**Ms. Ashlie**

It's Fall, y'all! We're looking forward to some (hopefully) cooler weather to enjoy for recess and I'm sure you are too. We're ready to kick this year into high gear! We

start October talking about colors, colors, colors. We'll be using the book The Crayon Box That Talked by Shane DeRolf to help us focus on our colors and we'll even be creating and coloring our own little mini book! We'll also be spending a lot of time learning about matter and the various properties that it can have (color, shape, temperature, size, weight, texture, and buoyancy). During the second full week, we'll be talking about Christopher Columbus. We'll use some color by number history sheets to help us on recognizing our numbers and we'll even be creating our own little boat using pieces of various shapes and sizes. In science, we'll be learning about heating and cooling and how they can affect different materials. We'll also start talking about chronology (organizing time, days of the week, months of the year) and will continue with that through the end of the month. During the last two weeks of October, we will be talking about creepy crawlies and spooky things. We'll be focusing on fun books and activities that relate to insects, pumpkins, and fun Halloween things. 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. 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. We've come a long way in recognizing our letters and are moving right into focusing on letter sounds. We can recognize our shapes and numbers so now we're working on drawing them and spelling out their names. Our handwriting is coming along great, and we make sure to work on it a little bit every day. It's all about practice, practice, practice. We are super excited to see where this year takes us!



# Noteworthy News Mrs. Joanna Everyone



The **Caterpillars, Butterflies, and Circus Room** are learning music using *First Steps in Music* by John M. Feierabend, who is considered one of the leading authorities on music and movement development in childhood. His curriculum consists of traditional folk songs and rhymes, as well as classical music listening.

The **Bumblebees, Jungle Room, Fish, Elephants, and Farmers** are going to be focusing on tempo (fast and slow) and levels (high and low) in October and November. We will do this using rhythm sticks to tap the beat to a song that alternates between duple and triple meter. We will use gross motor skills to explore up and down and use expressive poems to work on fine motor skills. Lessons are repeated two weeks in a row to help the children become familiar with the music and poems and get practice with the concepts they are learning.

The **Pre-K** class has been enjoying our pretend trips to the toy shop each week using fun songs and movement. Each week I sing them a question in a *tritone* tone. They are getting better at answering me back by singing the answer in a *bitone* tone. This helps them learn to sing on pitch. We are continuing to work on *dynamics* (loud and soft) and keeping a steady beat.

**Kindergarten** has been learning music skills using the *Classroom Music for Little Mozarts* curriculum. We are learning along with our fun, imaginary music friends: Mozart Mouse, Beethoven Bear, and Clara Schumann Cat. We have started learning to identify and play high and low sounds or notes using a children's xylophone and how music goes up and down. We will work on learning about dynamics (how music can be loud and soft) and tempo (how music can go fast and slow). Later, we will review all the skills we have learned up to this point in a fun way. We will also be working on playing a steady beat with rhythm sticks, and the students will learn what a quarter note and quarter rest is and how many beats each gets.



## P.E. Coach Marcus 3 years and older

Hi parents! I'm pleased to let you know that we've had a great start to the school year. This year is my first opportunity to work with the two-year-olds in PE, and they've done an awesome job participating in all the activities. My focus for the beginning of the semester is to strengthen hand-eye coordination and develop gross motor skills. Pre-K and Kindergarten are taking part in slightly competitive activities as well. Building teamwork and showing great sportsmanship is something I'm holding the kids accountable to. A few activities we've done so far include soccer, bowling, parachute, bean bag toss, and the older groups have played flag tag. Thank you for sending your child to school with tennis shoes on Fridays. We have been accident free! Yay!



## 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.
- Breakfast is served from 6:30 – 8:00. If you arrive after 8:00, your child can have his/her breakfast at snack time.

Fridays are always free  
dress!



## Art Class Ms. Griselda 1 year and older

Fall is my favorite time of year! I'm so excited to be back in our newly remodeled art room!! There are so many FUN art and crafts for the children to create during this season! Be on the lookout for Fall leaves, pumpkins, and some creepy creatures!! The children are excited to work and get messy in Art class!! Seeing them happy in my class makes me smile. 😊



## Bible Class

Mr. Greg  
3 years and older

Mr. Greg was recently hired to teach our Bible classes. We are waiting for his background checks to clear and for him to complete some training before he comes on board. We look forward to having him start sometime the week of October 4.



## Spanish Class

Ms. Angelica  
3 years and older

Hello! Hola! Mrs. Angelica here. Can you believe how time has flown? It's already fall! The children have been having a blast in Spanish! We have covered weather, seasons and will soon go over our senses, community helpers and much more. It has been a pleasure to be able to teach the children Spanish so far. I hope they enjoy it as much as I do!





## 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](http://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 \$45 a month. Register and get more information at [houstonsng.com](http://houstonsng.com).



## Tumblebus

### Tuesday or Wednesday After Lunch 18 months – 6 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. Information is available at the front desk.

## Chicken Alfredo Biscuit Bombs



### Ingredients

- 1 cup chopped cooked chicken
- 1 cup frozen broccoli florets (from 10-oz bag), thawed and cut into small pieces
- 1 jar (15 oz) Alfredo pasta sauce
- 1 can (16.3 oz) refrigerated flaky layered buttermilk biscuits (8 Count)
- 4oz block mozzarella cheese, cut into 16 cubes
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/2 cup panko crispy breadcrumbs
- 1 tablespoon grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- Chopped parsley, if desired

### Make It

1. Heat oven to 375°. Spray 16 regular-size muffin cups with cooking spray.
2. In medium bowl, mix chicken, broccoli, and ½ cup of the Alfredo sauce. Separate dough into 8 biscuits. Separate each biscuit into 2 layers. Press each biscuit layer into 3½-inch rounds.
3. Place a heaping tablespoon of the chicken mixture and 1 mozzarella cube in center of each dough round. Gently stretch dough up and around chicken mixture and cheese, bringing to top, and pinching firmly to seal.
4. In a small microwavable bowl, microwave butter uncovered on high 20 to 30 seconds or until melted. Stir in breadcrumbs, Parmesan cheese, and garlic powder; mix well. Roll each biscuit in mixture, lightly pressing mixture into dough, and place pinched side down in muffin cup. With sharp

knife, poke top of each biscuit 2 times to vent. Bake 19-24 minutes or until golden brown and biscuits are not doughy in center.

5. In small microwavable bowl, add remaining pasta sauce. Cover; microwave on high 60-90 seconds, stirring halfway through. Serve warm biscuits with warm sauce for dipping. Garnish with parsley.

Courtesy of Betty Crocker



## 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!)



## 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!

## 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!

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



Happy Fall,  
y'all!