

January 2019

Barkell Elementary

Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



Principal Announcements

- Lego Club meets after school on Thursdays and runs from 3:25-4:30.
- Thank you to our community for their tremendous support of our Pancake Breakfast.
- I would like to thank everyone for their cooperation and patience with our new dismissal plan. It has gone extremely well because of your support. Thank you for your help in making our school an even safer and better place to learn.
- Please consider helping out our PTO. They do a lot for our school and could use a few volunteers to help with various events. You do not need to come to all of the PTO meetings to be a volunteer. They are looking for individuals who can help once or twice per year.
- Please don't hesitate to contact me if there is anything I can do to help.

Sincerely,

Dan Vaara– Barkell Elementary Principal



Upcoming Events:

- Jan. 9th 1:46 Early Dismissal
- Jan. 17th and 18th Half Day (11:50 dismissal)
- Jan 23rd 1:46 Early Dismissal



Barkell Christmas Concert



Hundreds of spectators pack in to watch the 2018 Barkell Elementary Christmas Concert.

Barkell first graders perform in front of a packed house.



Mrs. Delong and the choir get ready to kick off the concert.



Second graders and third graders get ready to perform.

Barkell fifth graders greet guests as they arrive.

No nervousness for the fourth graders as they get ready to take the stage.



Students perform on the xylophones.



Students get their costumes on behind the stage.



Third graders swing at the piñata.

First graders enjoy their first time performing on the big stage.





Pancake Breakfast



The annual Barkell Elementary Pancake Breakfast took place on December 1st. As usual, the turnout was amazing. Thank you to our community for the tremendous support that you continually show our school. Thank you to the PTO for organizing this, as well as to our choir for their great performance. We would also like to thank all of the sponsors including the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity for doing all of the cooking. It takes a lot of people and hard work to make an event like this happen.



Natalie and Caitlyn work the Cake Walk as youngsters hope to win some goodies.



The Barkell Choir performs in front of a packed house.



Special thanks to Phi Kappa Tau for their volunteer work in the kitchen.



Patrons enjoy some music with their pancakes.



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Cake Walk.





TV6 Canathon



The Annual TV6 Canathon was once again a major success here at Barkell Elementary School thanks to the extreme generosity of our school community. As a school we were able to collect 1,015 food items! Congratulations to Mrs. Blessing's class for bringing in the most food items of all lower elementary classrooms and to Mrs. Olson's class for bringing in the most items in the upper elementary. Thanks to Marissa Isaacson for organizing the can drive and for helping to make this such a success.



The turkey represents the school and it received a feather for every hundred food items we collected.



Students take a break to pose for a photo.



Students help the TV6 volunteers load up the U-Haul.



Fifth grade students pose for a photo while they wait for the TV6 trailer.



Each classroom had a turkey and it received a feather for every ten food items donated.



Mrs. Olson's class brought in approximately 175 food items!





Breakfast With Santa



Barkell Elementary had a special visitor in December. Santa showed up to deliver candy canes and to eat breakfast with our families. We would like to thank Ryan Towles for putting us in contact with Santa during his busiest time of year.



Santa passes out candy canes to Barkell students.



Many Barkell families came to meet Santa.



Santa visits Mrs. Scholie's art class before heading back to the North Pole.



Ninah and Nitalya pose for a photo with Santa.

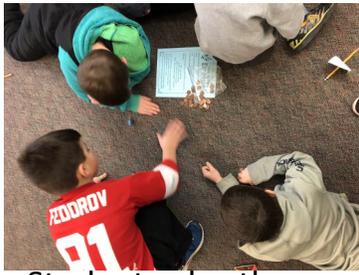




Second Grade News



Second grade "traveled" the world to learn about how holidays are celebrated in different countries. For each country, the children found it on a world map, drew a picture of the flag, learned about the culture, read a story, and made a souvenir. The students visited Germany, Israel, Mexico, India, Russia, and China. We had fun learning about world traditions!



Students play the Dreidel game while learning about Israel.



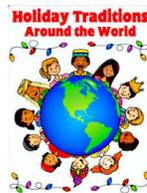
Students create poinsettias while learning about Mexican traditions.



Isha and Maggie display their Chinese New Year's envelopes.



Students show their ginger bread men made while studying holiday traditions of Germany.



Mrs. Nordmark's class poses for a photo after learning about Mexico.





Third Grade News



Two Michigan Tech engineering students, Greta and Courtney, came to visit Mrs. DeHerder's third graders. They presented what an engineer does and how the engineering process works. They were then given paper clips, tape, and paper to make a structure that could hold a text-book. They worked through the design process to figure out what type of strategies worked the best.

By: Vaeda
 On Wednesday morning two girls from Michigan Tech came and talked about engineering. Their names were Greta and Courtney. They showed us pictures of building and bridges. Greta and Courtney told us we had something fun to do. We used straws, paper clips, paper and tape. We had to build a building. Greta and Courtney said that they will give us 3 minutes to build and 1 minute to talk. Everybody in our class got two chances. They put a lit book on our building then they put a heavy book on our building. Greta and Courtney came and looked at our building and they talked all of us about what you are trying to do.

By: Romey Koskela 12
 On Wednesday two girls named Greta and Courtney came from Michigan Tech to teach us about engineering. Then we did a project. We had to use paper clips, tape and paper to build a structure with these things. The structure had to hold a little book then a big math book. We did two rounds. Some groups structure didn't hold. But some did hold. My group's structure could hold the math book we challenge ourselves and put a very heavy Michigan book. Then we put it on and it could hold. Then they had to leave.

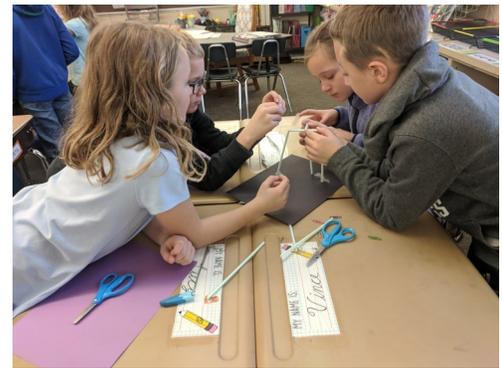


By: Trent
 On Wednesday in the morning Greta and Courtney came from Michigan Tech to teach us about mechanical engineering. First we looked at some buildings. Then we tried to make a structure that held a math book. The first time my group tried it didn't work because there wasn't enough support. The second time my group tried we got it to stay up because we put paper on it. We tried to put a Michigan book on it but it was too heavy. I had such a fun time!



Engineering 4 Kids!

Barkell Elementary third graders made their annual trip to Portage Pointe to sing. Students enjoyed interacting with the residents. It was a great time for all!

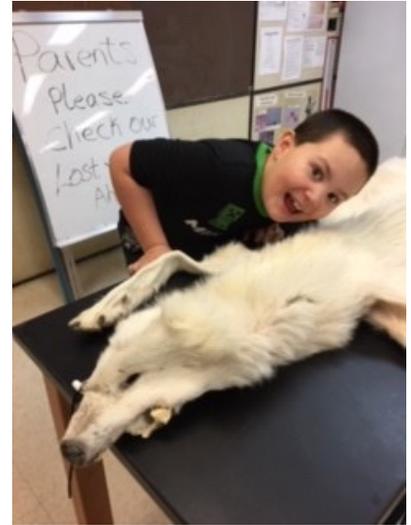




Third Grade News



Barkell Elementary fourth graders recently had the privilege of learning about animals through a hands-on presentation with Mr. Wheeler from the Michigan DNR. It was a great learning experience for all!



Mason checks out a wolf skin.

Dear Mr. Wheeler,

Thank you for coming to Barkell Elementary school. I learned five things when you were here. I learned that there is lots of different animals. I also learned that rabbits feed wolves. I also learned that beavers have two sets of skins. I also learned that bears and wolves are real big. I also learned that antlers and horns are different.

Thank you for bringing the books and letting us feel the furs.

From,
Chase

Gage, Shawn, Kyler, and Ted examine some moose antlers.



Azura, Anna, and Kalia learn about animal skins.



Dear Mr. Wheeler,

Thank you for coming to Barkell Elementary School. I learned so much about animals!

First, I learned that deer in the winter eat sticks and bark. Second, I learned that some animals are predator and some are prey. Third, I learned that ermine are very fast. Fourth, I learned that if the red fox is in the wolves territory the wolf will kill it. Fifth, I learned that the otters shed their skin.

Thanks again for giving us the books!

Sincerely,
Maribelle

Dear Mr. Wheeler,

Thank you for coming to Barkell Elementary School. I learned a lot about mammals!

1. I learned that ermines are skinny and white.
2. I also learned that if there were not wolves we would not have plants to eat because the rabbits would eat all the plants.
3. I also learned that wolves can kill a moose but only if they are really hungry.
4. I learned that cougars live where we live too.
5. I learned that omnivores eat both plants and meat.

Thanks again for the books and letting us feel those furs!

Sincerely,
Zoey



Dear Mr. Wheeler,

Thank you for coming to Barkell Elementary school.

I learned so much about animals.

1. I learned that there are cold blooded animals and warm blooded animals.
2. Also I learned about the canine family.
3. I learned that a wolf is in the canine family.
4. Also learned that the fur on the elk has two coats of fur.
5. The last thing I learned about is there are omnivores, carnivores and herbivores.

I liked touching the fur of the wolf.

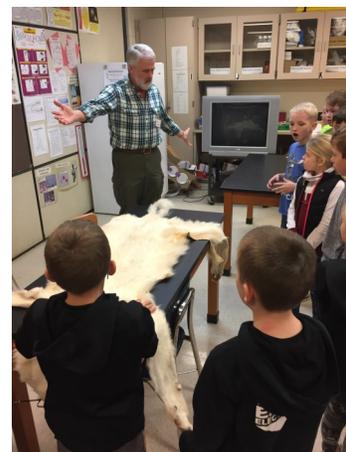
Thanks again for the books.

Sincerely,
Azura

Mr. Wheeler teaches students about animal adaptations.



Students inspect a variety of fur samples.

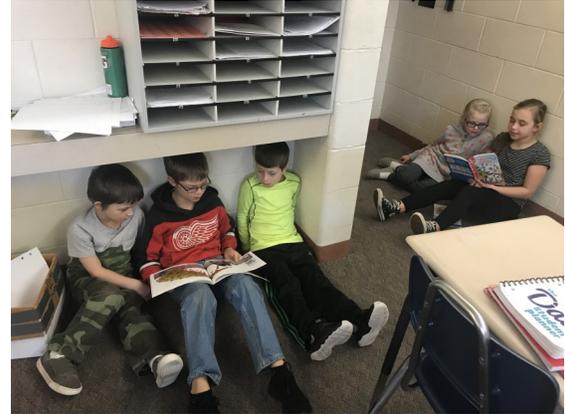




Fifth Grade News



Mr. Pertile's fifth graders and Mrs. Kellett's first graders are Reading Buddies. They meet periodically to read with each other. The first graders thoroughly enjoy their older mentors and the fifth graders enjoy being good role models for the younger students.



Fundraiser Thank Yous

We would like to thank everyone for their help with our fundraiser. We appreciate all of the support we get from everyone. We would like to specifically thank the following people for their donations to classrooms: I apologize in advance if we missed anyone

-Amanda Klein

-Gladys Dupuis

-Ronda Charlson

-Kim Joyal

-George Escola

-Christine Waldron

-Debbie Larkin

-Gina McClanahan

-Melissa Juntunen

-Rena Vencato

-Shawn Kerry

-Laurette Piet

-Louise Angel

-Karen Sintkowski

-Robert Nutini

-Denise O'hara

-Jason Harju

-Angela Leschper

-Samantha Boatman



Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- * **Barkell Elementary PTO** for all they do for our school
- * **Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous donations and purchases
- * **Kathryn Jordan** for her generous donation of gifts for the Bulldog Christmas Shop
- * **Ron and Roni Lessard** for their generous donation of money and hats and gloves
- * **Lori's Angels** for their generous donation
- * **Bree Kilpela** for her generous donation of gifts for the Bulldog Christmas Shop
- * **Calumet Hats for Hope Initiative- Michigan** for their generous donation of winter gear

School Reminders

1. All visitors must report to the office. Please do not go to the classroom once the day has begun.
2. Please remember to call the attendance line when your child is absent.
3. Please remember to check the lost and found. We have quite a few unclaimed belongings.

Pancake Breakfast Thank Yous



Barkell Elementary needs help with:

- *We are in need of board games (used or new) for our students to use during indoor recess.
- *We are in need of educational DVDs or VHS tapes for our indoor recesses.
- *We are in need of extra art supplies for our indoor recess arts and crafts program.
- *We are in need of Legos for our Lego club

