

March 2016

# Barkell Elementary

## Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



## Principal Announcements

- I would like to thank everyone for the incredible turnout we had at our Barkell Showcase of Excellence. We appreciate all of the support we get from our community. I would also like to thank our staff, our students, and our PTO members for all of their hard work to make it happen.
- Kindergarten Roundup is April 14th from 8:30-6:00. Please check out the Kindergarten Roundup flier for more information. I will send it to the list serve a couple of more times between now and then.
- Please remember to always report to the office for a visitor sticker.
- I am here to help. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,

Dan Vaara– Barkell Elementary Principal



### Upcoming Events:

- April 14th (8:30-6:00) Kindergarten Roundup
- April 28th - Classroom Picture Day
- May 18th @ 1:30 - Spring Concert



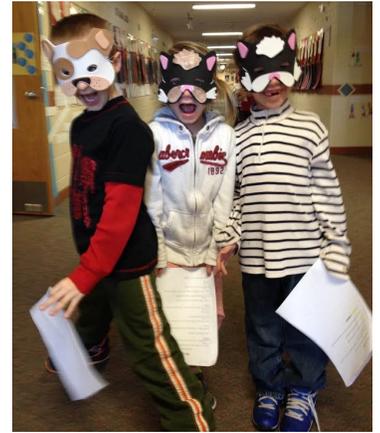
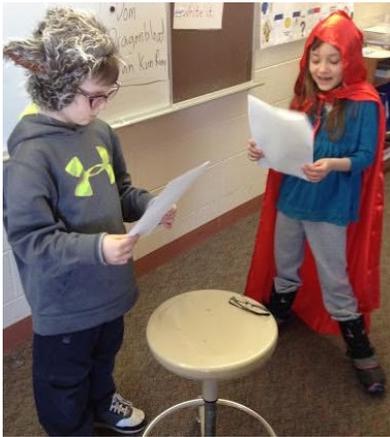
# March is Reading Month



MARCH IS READING MONTH



March was Reading month at Barkell Elementary. The theme this year was space. There were many fun activities throughout the month of March aimed at getting kids more excited about the joys of reading. Two unidentified aliens spoke with Barkell students to help jumpstart the month at our kickoff assembly. 5th grade students also put on an excellent skit highlighting the fun kids can have with a good book.



Barkell students had fun dressing up and performing Readers' Theatre. Rainbow Kids enjoyed a version of Goldilocks and the Wolf.



The early elementary hallway was transformed into the Milky Way Galaxy.

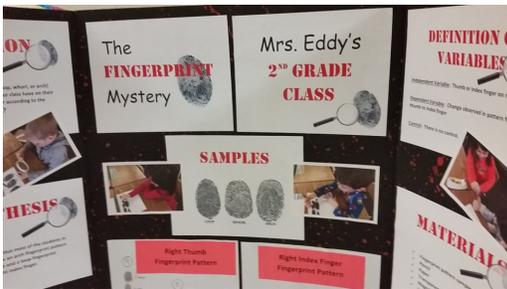


$$E = mc^2$$

# Bulldog Scientists



First Grade students from 1B are conducting their science magnet activity exploring how like poles repel each other and opposite poles attract. (Right) Cale races his magnet across the track while Jana waits to record his time. (Left) Jared races his magnet using only the magnets' power to repel each other while Savannah times and Austin waits to record his time.



Mrs. Eddy's classroom did a science investigation on fingerprints.



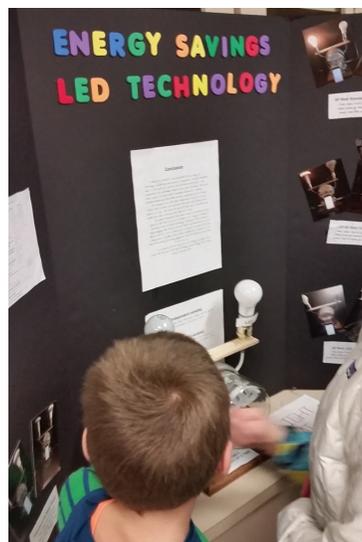
More fun for students at the Showcase!



Neva has fun learning about force.



More amazing science investigations!



Students have fun learning about circuits and electricity.



# MSU Science Show



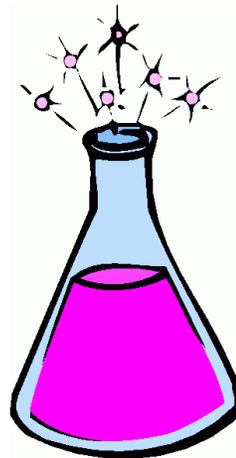
## Visits Barkell Elementary



What happens to a flexible racquetball when hit with a hammer after being submerged in liquid nitrogen?



Barkell students learn about how sound waves travel with the use of the fire tube.



Air pressure is taught using a marshmallow and a vacuum.



Students were treated to a variety of exciting and engaging scientific demonstrations that taught them about the states of matter, sound waves, air pressure, and the Doppler Effect.

# Barkell Showcase of Excellence



Barkell families enjoy dinner before checking out all of the great pieces of student work on display.



Future Barkell Elementary students enjoy a story from some of our fifth grade Safety Patrols.



Barkell students have fun learning about electricity with the Van de Graaff machine.



High quality 3rd grade writing projects on display for the Showcase.

Hundreds of student art pieces were on display. Thank you to Mrs. Scholie for displaying all of these excellent projects!

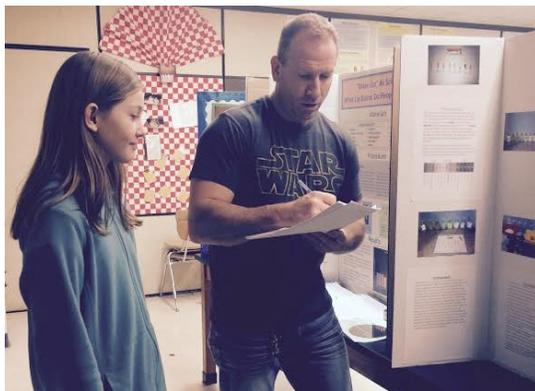


A special thank you goes out to our PTO for feeding over 500 people. We are very thankful for our PTO!

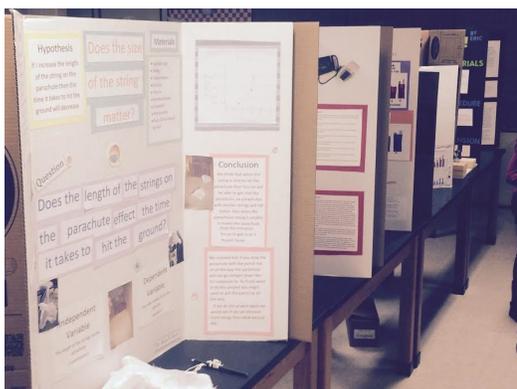
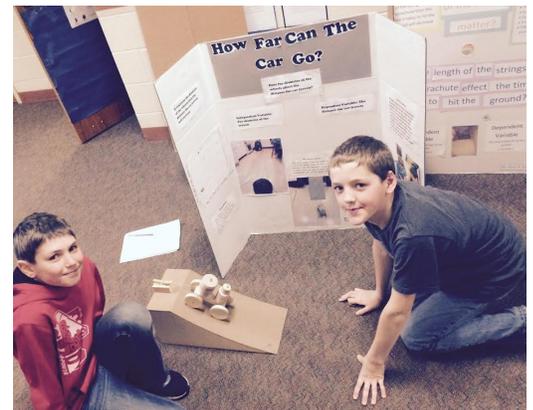
# Showcase of Excellence Continued...



Ms. Sutton and HCH students teach Barkell students science with fun and engaging activities.



Barkell students explain their Science Fair projects to Mr. Pertile.



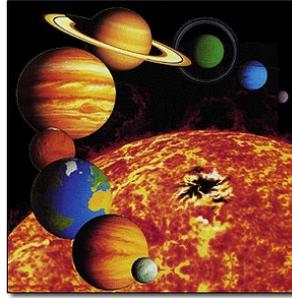
A few of the many great projects on display for the Showcase



Congratulations to Liana Berg, Maylie Kilpela, Tegan Madsen, and Madison Buschell for their success at the MTU Western UP Science Fair. All four students qualified to display their projects at the Carnegie Museum.

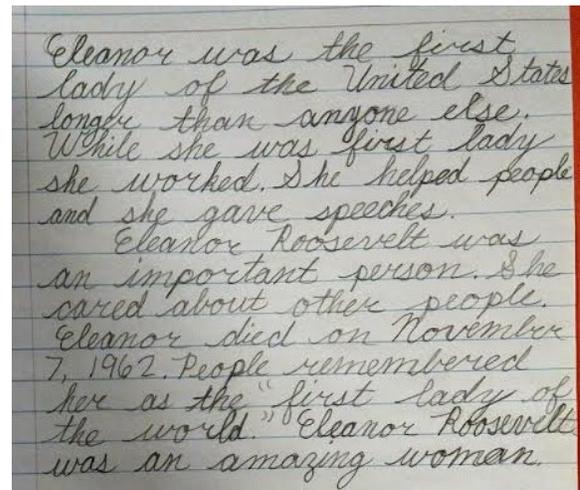
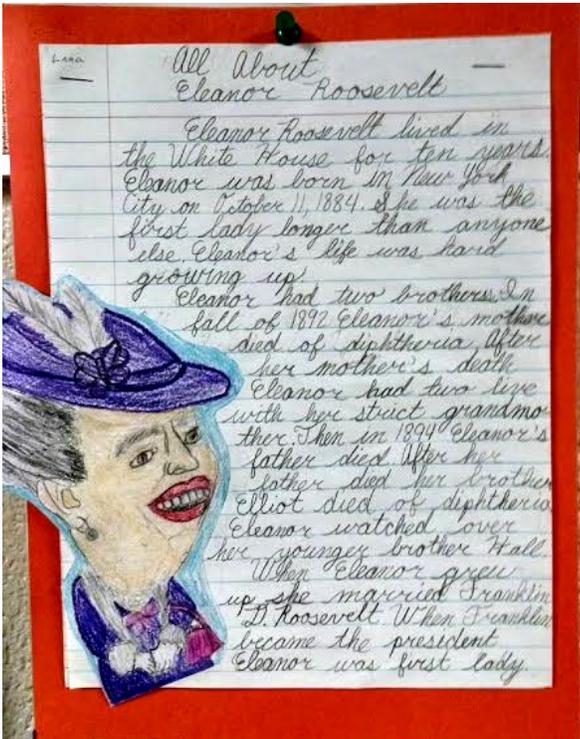


# Fourth Grade News



Teresa Wilson from the MTU Physics Department visited Barkell 4th graders to teach them about the solar system.

Barkell 4th graders are participating in the Drug Avenger's program. Thank you to the Hancock Public Schools Foundation for funding the program!



Barkell 4th graders wrote reports on famous people in history. Lana Aho did an excellent job writing about Eleanor Roosevelt!

# MTU engineers visit Barkell



Students from MTU's biomedical and mechanical engineering departments present the importance of understanding how many fields of science work together to solve problems and make people's lives better. They discuss how engineers are often interpreted as designers of engines and automotive applications. Their message was to show how engineers can be found in a multitude of career options, including how these two fields of study can work together to design prosthetics to improve the quality of life for paraplegics, quadriplegics, and other permanent conditions such as: loss of fingers, hands, limbs.



Taylor tries to zip a jacket without using her thumbs.

Students attempt to open containers without using their arms.



Sarah attempts to walk with a prosthetic leg.

# Bulldogs Learn About Immigration

Students in 5th grade learn about immigration. Students participate in a presentation by Barry James, a historian, from The Michigan Iron Industry Museum. The presentation included a reader's theatre and power point presentation which included primary and secondary sources on immigration. Content included: countries people came from, costs, what people could bring, conditions on the ships, Ellis Island, inspections and more. Students were highly motivated and participated with great enthusiasm and interest.



cameron suvanto #32 SB  
Immigration w/ Mr. James!  
On Wednesday, Mr. James came to Hancock from Marquette to teach us about immigration. He taught us about the exams the immigrants had to go through to get to America. We also learned that if you had a medical problem they would send you back home with a letter on your jacket. He also taught us about the different classes on the ship. I enjoyed learning these things.

I liked when Mr. James came from Marquette to teach us about immigrants. It was interesting to know that a lady could only bring 1 bag of her belongings to America. After we talked we did a play. I was a Swede named Elsa. The good part is that I was a girl, the bad part is I had to wear a bonnet. Calvin was lucky because he was on first class. I wasn't I was on 3<sup>rd</sup> class. Mr. James called on Kaisa and said put this on. He put a bonnet on her head, I was laughing. He told Kaisa to pick her friend. She picked me. I had to wear a bonnet too. It was so embarrassing.





# Bulldog Skiers



In 2011, the Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club (KNSC) bought 30 pairs of skis for the Barkell Elementary Students. For the past four years the students have had an opportunity to Cross Country Ski in the front lawn of the school. They groom a track for the students every year so that the students have a track to ski on. The KNSC has volunteers come in to work with the students to give the students an opportunity to get the best experience possible. The head of this project is Wayne Stordahl, who volunteers every day for about a month. Barkell would like to thank the Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club for giving our students this great opportunity.

-Ryan Walter





# Fun in the Snow!



Clever and creative Barkell students construct buildings using the top crusty layer of late winter snow.



Students enjoy a nice winter afternoon sledding on the playground.

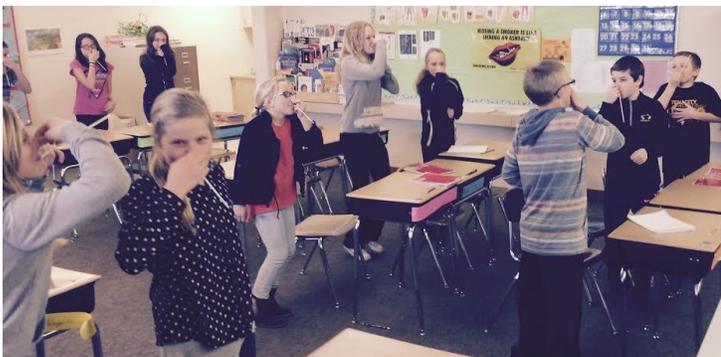
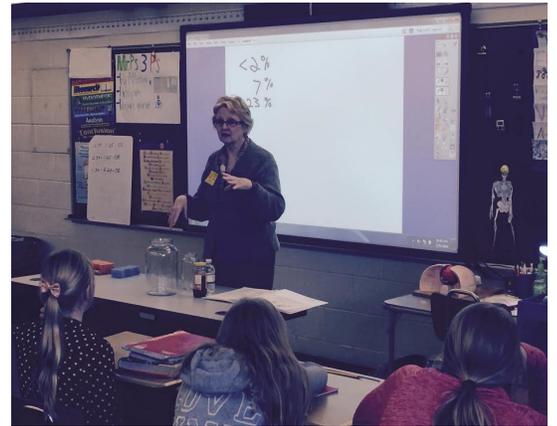
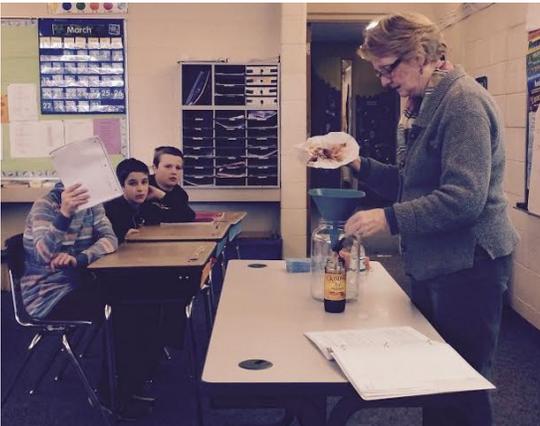




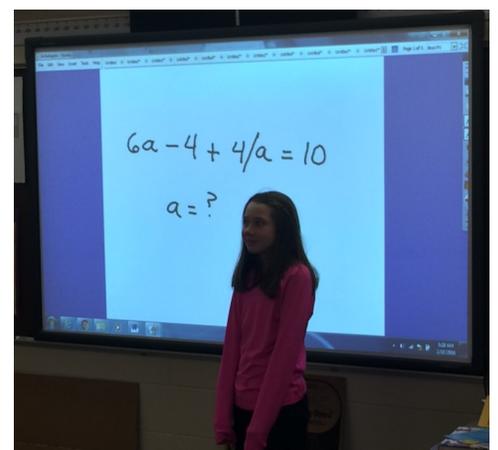
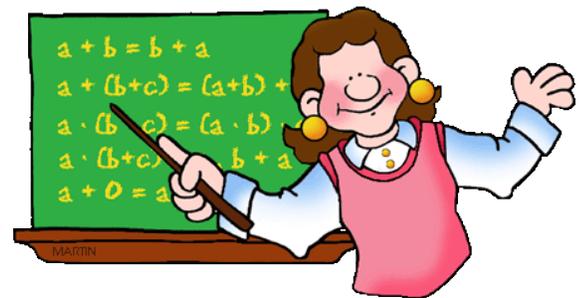
# 5th Grade News



The 5th graders are learning about the body systems. Presenter Barry Fink from the Health Department is teaching the students about the effects of smoking on the lungs through a variety of concrete demonstrations to help students understand what is happening inside the lungs.



Students perform an activity to demonstrate constricting bronchioles as a result of smoking.



Kaisa performs algebra on the Promethean Board



# Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- \* **Barkell Elementary PTO** for all they do for our school
- \* **Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous donations and purchases.
- \* **Coach Kalinek and MTU Tennis** for their donation of tennis balls
- \* **MTU engineering departments** for teaching our students how engineering fields work together
- \* **HCH State Championship Hockey Bulldogs** for visiting our students at lunch on March 24th
- \* **Teresa Wilson (MTU Physics Department)** for her 4th grade program about the solar system
- \* **Ms. Sutton and HCH students** for their help with the Barkell Showcase of Excellence



1. Please remember that students need warm jackets, hats and mittens for recess. Please write your child's name on these items so that if we find them we can return them to their owner.
2. All visitors must report to the office. Please do not go to the classroom once the day has begun.
3. Please remember to call the attendance line when your child is absent.

## Kindergarten Registration

Barkell Elementary has begun registering kindergarten students for the 2016-2017 school year. Registration packets may be picked up in the office. They have also been sent to the list serve and will be available on the district website. Kindergarten Roundup will be April 14th from 8:30-6:00. Incoming students will have a chance to tour the school, tour a school bus, play on the playground, and participate in a lesson in kindergarten classroom. Refreshments will be available.

## 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 bird seed for our science club/ bird identification program.
- \*We need yarn and hooks for our Crochet Club.
- \*We are need of extra art supplies for our indoor recess arts and crafts program.