

March 2017

# Barkell Elementary

## Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools

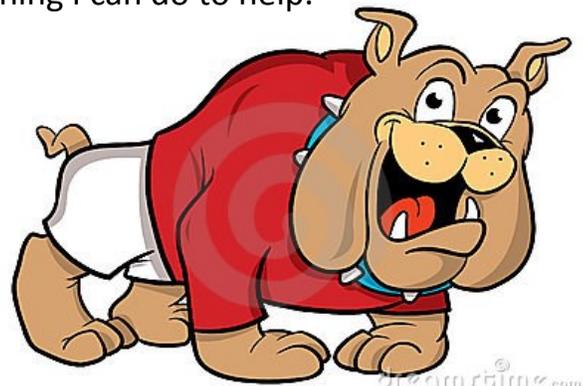


## Principal Announcements

- Kindergarten Round Up is on April 11th from 8:30-6:00. Parents can come anytime. There will be a variety of activities throughout the day designed to help incoming students become familiarized with our school and to be better prepared for their first day as Barkell Elementary students.
- Please remember that students cannot be dropped off before 7:30.
- 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. The PTO meets at 3:30 on the third Tuesday of the month.
- Please don't hesitate to contact me if there is anything I can do to help.

Sincerely,

Dan Vaara– Barkell Elementary Principal



### Upcoming Events:

- **April 11th**                      **Kindergarten Round Up (8:30-6:00)**
- **April 13th**                      **Half Day for students**
- **April 14th-April 17th** **Easter Break**



# Barkell Showcase of Excellence



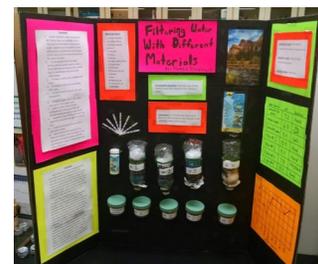
The Second Annual Barkell Elementary Showcase of Excellence was held on March 9th. It was a great opportunity for families to check out what happens in our school. Many student work samples and projects were on display throughout the school. There were also a number of hands on learning opportunities thanks to our own Hancock High School students, MTU students, and folks from the Western U.P. Science and Math Center. Thank you to all who attended and thank you to our tremendous staff for all of the hard work they put in to make this happen.



Barkell students and families enjoy some fun hands on science activities.



Barkell families check out all of the great science fair projects.

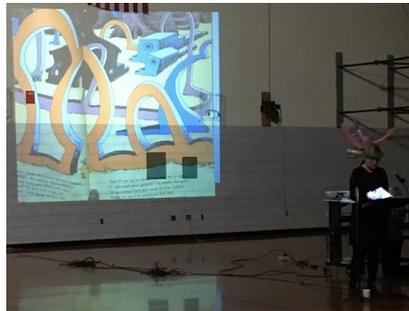


Barkell families enjoy a nice pizza dinner thanks to our wonderful PTO.

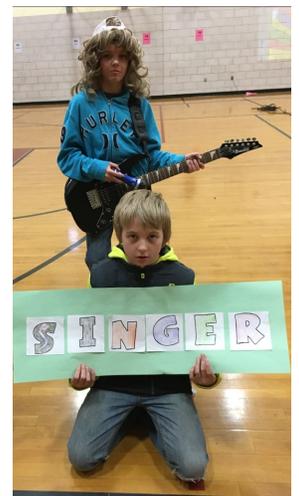
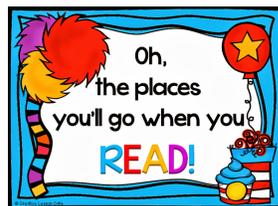
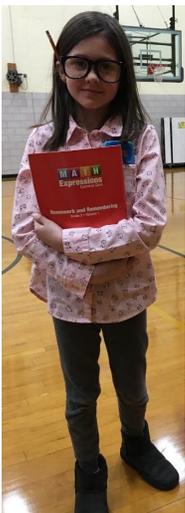
# March is Reading Month Assembly



March was once again Reading Month at Barkell Elementary. The theme this year was "Occupations". Students dressed up for various occupations representing each letter of the alphabet. It was an enjoyable time for all.



Mrs. Smith reads a Dr. Seuss story to the school to kick off the show!

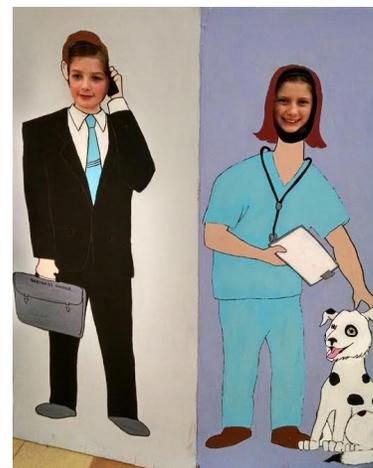




# March is Reading Month



Barkell students had a lot of fun celebrating March is Reading Month. Students participated in a variety of entertaining activities such as Crazy Hair Day, Pajama Day, Occupation Day, etc. Students also enjoyed the opportunity to have their photos taken in some interesting "costumes".

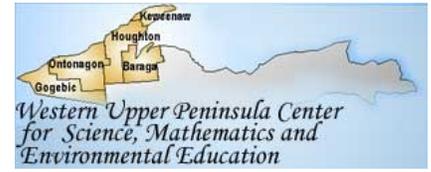




# Family Science Night



February 28th was Family Science Night at Barkell Elementary. Students and families had the opportunity to learn about designing water purification systems, computer programming, animal tracking and characteristics, and invasive species to name a few. It was a tremendous learning experience for our students. Thank you to the MTU Western U.P. Center for Science and Math for making this happen.



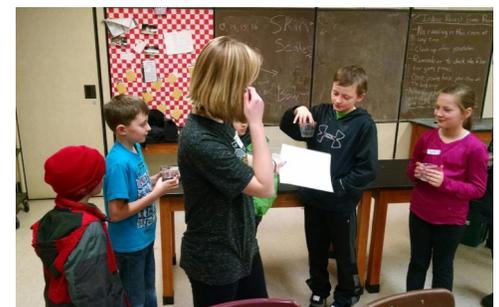
Students and families in this session learned how to design an animated computer character and make him move around their screen.



Morgan learns about local wildlife and their physical characteristics.



Barkell students and families design their own water purification system.





# Jump Rope For Heart



Through our participation in the 'Jump Rope for Heart' campaign through the American Heart Association, our students have been practicing their jump rope skills for the last several weeks during our PE period. On Monday April 3, we had our 'Jump Rope Jump Off Challenge' in which we had over 70 students demonstrate their skills in the challenge, and against each other. The entire student body and staff were treated to our students abilities as they watched in support of their classmates. -Mr. Salani



**American Heart Association®**

Congrats to the winners of the "Jump Off"! Pictured from left to right are: Abby Alholinna, Morgan Pietila, Amy Goulette- Jump Rope for Heart coordinator, Camryn Pertile, and Jana Pietila.

*It Takes Heart to be a Hero!*

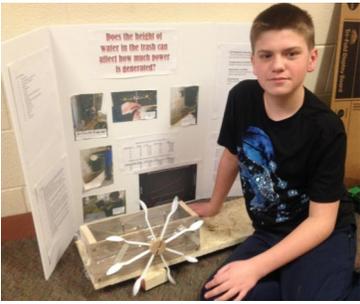




# Science Fair



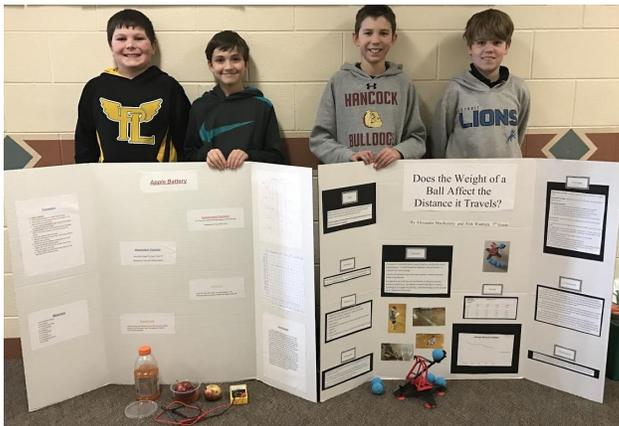
Students spent the last 2 months working on science fair projects. Fifth graders were required to complete a science investigation using the scientific method. They worked really hard and presented some amazing projects. The students learned how to develop a question and a hypothesis, design a procedure, collect and analyze data and produce conclusions based on their findings. Each student was interviewed by Mr. Pertile to determine understanding. Great job students and parents. The projects were displayed in the science room during our science fair at the annual "Showcase of Excellence". Zach, Gabe, Alex, and Erik also entered their project at the Western UP Science Fair at MTU. Alex and Erik received a Silver award for their hard work. Congratulations! Lana Aho and Morgan Pietila also participated at the event. You represented us well.



Jacob displays his project.



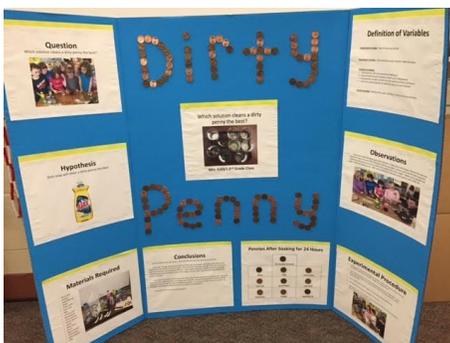
Bryce demonstrates his science experiment.



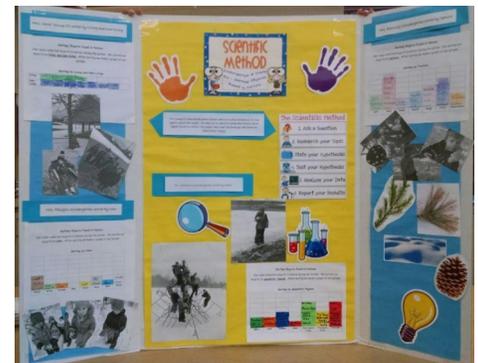
Zach, Gabe, Erik, and Alex display their projects.



Madison, Mallory, and Lana display their projects.



Students in Mrs. Eddy's room learned about which substance will clean a penny the best.



Young 5's students learned about classification.



# Kindergarten News

## 100th Day



On February 10th the Young Fives and Kindergarten celebrated the 100th day of school by dressing up like 100 year olds. We had fun parading around the school to the different classrooms. We also did many counting activities throughout the day. It was a day enjoyed by all.



Young 5's pose for their 100th day photo.

Happy★  
100th  
Day of  
School★

### Superior Smiles shares the importance of Healthy Teeth in Kindergarten



Miss Courtney from Superior Smiles came to talk with Kindergartners on the importance of keeping our teeth healthy and happy. She showed some examples of foods that keep our teeth happy and some foods that can make our teeth unhappy. Students even had the chance to practice good brushing on the teeth of George the stuffed animal.





# First Grade News



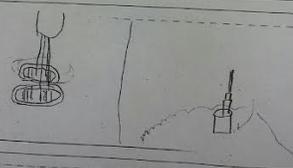
Barkell first graders enjoyed an exciting field trip to the Maasto Hiito ski trails to learn about animal camouflage and what type of insulation keeps animals the warmest.

February 20, 2017 Aiden  
we went in the snow and got the time and went outside and we took the ramp and it was 24 then we went snowswe we got to play a game of hide the bird then we went back



Abby  
February 20, 2017  
This is what we did we hide animals in the trees we took about animals camouflage and we took about animals hide in the winter and animals have thick fur to stay warm.



February 20, 2017 Tyler  
Tyler  
We went snow shoeing on the field trip we did ic sparimints it was swpr fun!!!!!!  


Kalia  
February 20, 2017  
on the field trip we went snowshoeing and we played a game the game was that they said if you have a birthday in February some get a bird and hide it so me and mindy went and got a bird and we went to and staved hiding the birds

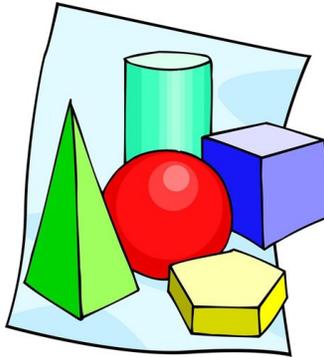
Bottley  
February 20, 2017  
On the field trip we went snowshoeing and we played a game we had to find birds and we did a scavenger hunt and it was fun  



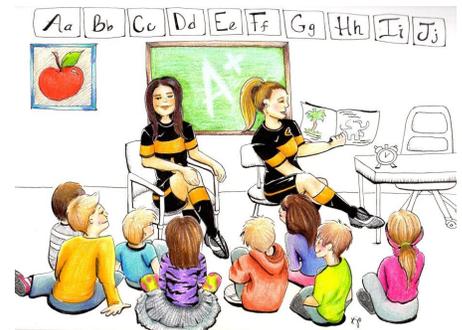

# Second Grade News



Students in Mrs. Garnell's 2nd grade classroom were solving tangram puzzles. A tangram is a puzzle made up of shapes. Students have to arrange the shapes to make new shapes. Tangrams help students develop mathematical concepts in geometry and fractions. Tangrams are also a great way to teach students to persevere while solving a math puzzle!

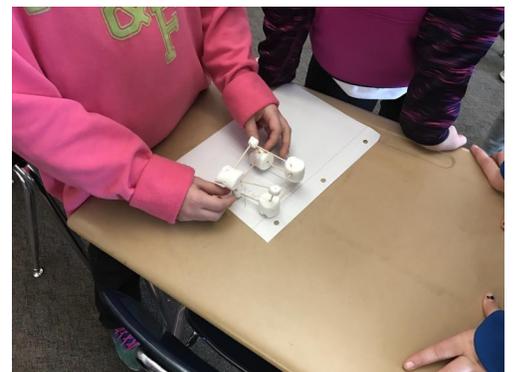


During March is Reading Month, students in Mrs. Eddy's class were treated to a story read by two Michigan Tech soccer players. Thank you for being guest readers in our school!



# Fifth Grade News

As part of our Matter unit, the students designed models of salt molecules by using marshmallows. This strategy allows students to grasp abstract concepts in a more concrete way. ( $\text{Na} + \text{Cl} = \text{NaCl}$ ). Students learned about atoms, elements and their symbols, molecules, and compounds.

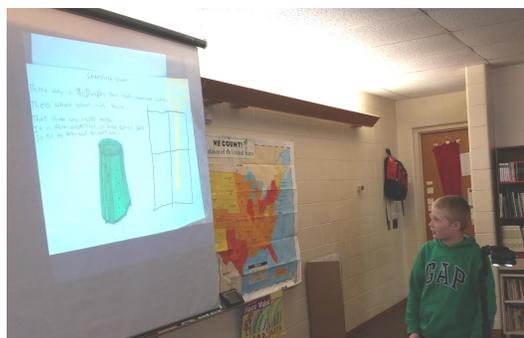




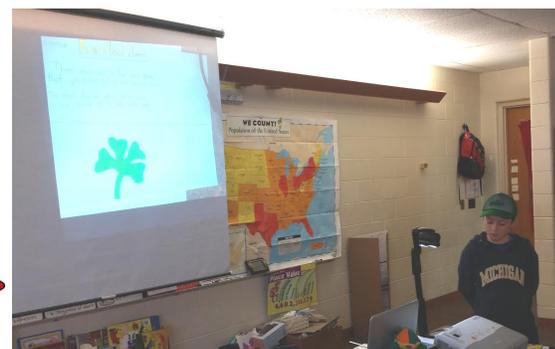
# Fourth Grade News



Fourth graders are using microscopes. Wow! That's what a fly's eye looks like!



Students in Mrs. Koskela's class use technology to present their poems to their classmates.

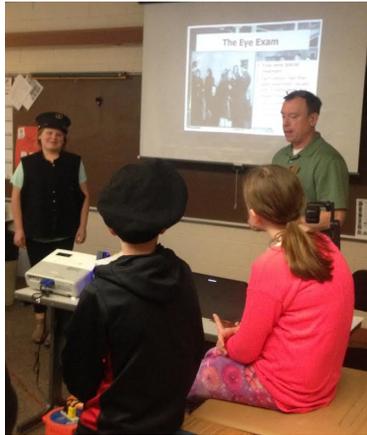




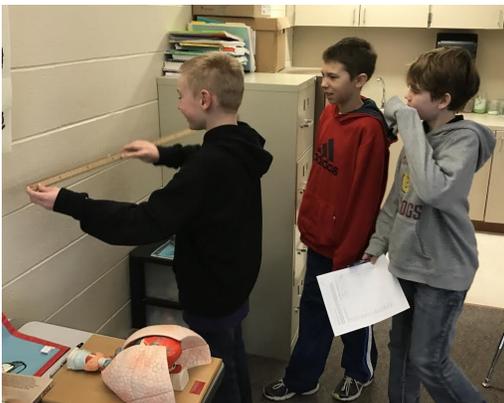
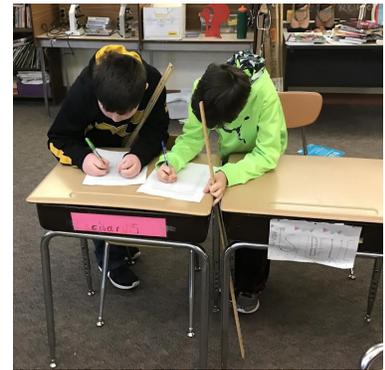
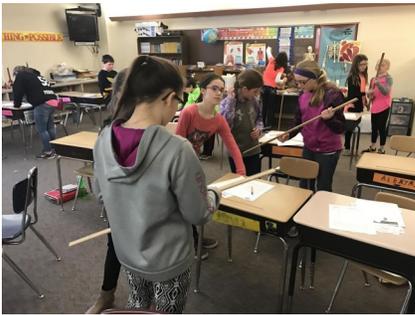
# Fifth Grade News



Barry James (Michigan Historian) visited our 5th graders in March. Mr. James works at the Michigan Iron Mining Museum. He came to speak with our students about immigration and the effects it had on iron mining in our area.



Fifth graders are doing an exploratory activity with metric measurement and conversions. The task is to find objects in the room measuring a certain length. They use a meter stick to assist them. As the activity unfolds, students begin to naturally convert between millimeters, centimeters, decimeter and Meters.



Measuring using the Metric System

Find an object in the room that has the following measurement. If you cannot find an object with the exact measurement, just make sure that it is close. Use a meter stick to measure objects in the classroom. Explain. Just remember to put back wherever you use.

Measurement (Use Metric sticks)	Name of object or Description of object
37 cm	The height of the chair
2.5 M	The ceiling
4.2 dm	The length of a book and a part of a calendar
320 cm	From the floor to the top of the ceiling
1.6 M	The length of the classroom
68 cm	The length of the desk
3 dm	The length of the ruler
18 cm	The length of the small ruler
7 cm	The length of the pencil
134	The length of the hallway
2 dm	The width of the desk
400 mm	The length of the ruler
27 cm	From the floor to the top of the desk
8.5 dm	From the floor to the top of the desk
79 mm	From the floor to the top of the desk
388 mm	From the floor to the top of the desk
72 cm	From the floor to the top of the desk

Unit	mm	cm	dm	m	km
1000	1000	100	10	1	1000
100	100	10	1	1000	1
10	10	1	100	1000	1000
1	1	10	100	1000	1000
0.1	0.1	1	10	1000	1000
0.01	0.01	0.1	1	1000	1000
0.001	0.001	0.01	0.1	1	1000
0.0001	0.0001	0.001	0.01	0.1	1
0.00001	0.00001	0.0001	0.001	0.01	0.1
0.000001	0.000001	0.00001	0.0001	0.001	0.01



# Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- \* **Barkell Elementary PTO** for all they do for our school
- \* **Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous donations and purchases
- \* **MTU athletes** for reading to our students during March is Reading Month.
- \* **Beth Shannon and Americorps volunteers** for helping with our leveled library
- \* **Rich and Trina Barette** for painting the nice new red stripe in our hallways
- \* **Wester U.P. Science and Math Center** for all of their fun, educational field trips
- \* **Amanda Malik** for her help with our Health and Wellness Grant

## 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.

# Kindergarten Round Up

Tuesday, April 11th 8:30-6:00



## 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 yarn and crochet hooks for our Crocheting Club

