

March 2023

Barkell Elementary

Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



Principal Announcements

- Barkell Elementary is accepting registrations for the 2023-24 school year. Parents can register at our elementary school office or on our website.
- Breakfast and lunch are no longer free this year for all students. Please fill out a free and reduced lunch form if you have not already done so. Bills can be paid at this link: [hancock.familyportal.cloud](https:// Hancock.familyportal.cloud)
- Please remember that if you drop your child off at school in the mornings to do so at the main entrance doors.
- 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

- 4/11 Classes resume– first day after Spring Break
- 4/19 Early dismissalal (1:46)
- 4/20 Kindergarten Registration/ Round Up (8:30-5:30)



MSU Science Theater



MSU Science Theater performed once again for our students. Through hands on activities, students learned about seismic waves by creating “earthquakes” by stomping their feet in the bleachers. Students then were able to see how strong of an “earthquake” they created by reading the seismograph MSU brought and projected on the wall. Other demonstrations included: sound wave demonstrations using a fire tube called a Theramin, a robotics coding demonstration, and an air pressure demonstration.



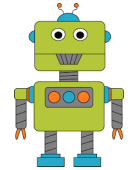
Students assist the presenters with a demonstration



Caleb and Merrick help demonstrate the power of air pressure



Students read the seismograph



A can is heated up for an experiment



Quinn and Hunter manipulate the Theramin Tube



A presenter demonstrates with a Tesla Coil



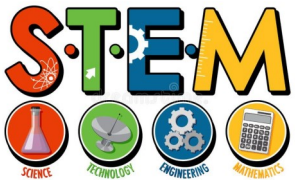
Chase tries to overpower air pressure



Christopher prepares to demonstrate sound waves



Marcus assists with the demonstration





March is Reading Month



March was Reading Month at Barkell Elementary. The theme was Tall Tales and students enjoyed a wide range of activities including exciting assemblies, book raffles, an outdoor Book Walk, dress up days, mystery guest readers, and much more.



Famous Tall Tale characters pose for a pic



Kindergartners read the books they got from the Book Fair



Paul Bunyan greets visitors



The "Book Walk" is set up and ready to go



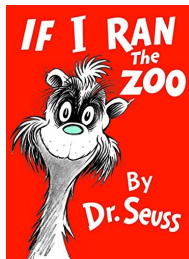
Johnny Appleseed and Sally Ann Thunder Ann Whirlwind pose for a photo



Second graders work on decorating their door



Pecos Bill handles a giant rattler



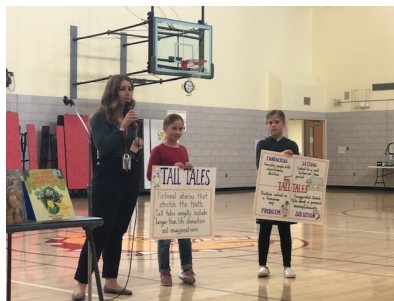
Paul and Babe visit our students



Alora enjoys dress up day



Swamp Angel and Thundering Trantion pose for a photo



Students assist with the kickoff assembly

MARCH IS READING MONTH





Y5s/ Kindergarten News



Kindergarten and Young 5's had fun learning about animal tracks during an exciting outdoor field trip to our school forest.



Students listen to the presenter discuss local wild life and how to identify animal tracks



Students use a guide to help determine what type of tracks they found



Fourth/ Fifth Grade News

Barkell Elementary fourth and fifth graders enjoyed a demonstration from UPPCO designed to teach kids about electricity safety. Students also learned about what electricity is and how it travels. Everyone enjoyed the model of a town and the fun demonstrations they did.



Fifth graders enjoy a lesson on electricity



Ava tests out the insulated safety gloves



Students hold hands in a circle for a demonstration



UPPCO workers use a city model to demonstrate how electricity works



Kari-Ann tries on the safety gloves





First Grade News



Barkell Elementary first graders made leprechaun traps for St. Patrick's day. Students put their engineering skills to the test to create the most effective traps they could design. Students then had to explain to their partner the steps of how their trap worked. Unfortunately, no leprechauns were caught this year. Barkell first graders will try again next year.



Nora explains her design



Gena explains to Bennett how her trap works



Scott and Owen put the finishing touches on their traps



Gage takes a quick break to pose for a picture



First graders discuss their plans to catch a leprechaun



Elias and Tad do the final inspections before they set their traps



Lacey feels confident with her design



Raelynn is excited about her design and her prospects for catching a leprechaun



Rayna poses for a photo with her design





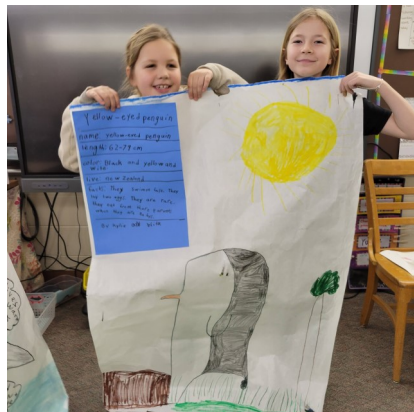
Second Grade News



Second graders have been learning about penguins. They researched a penguin and created a life-sized poster of their unique penguin! They also learned how blubber protects animals that live in cold climates. Students then made their own blubber glove and tested it out. They learned that the blubber (Crisco) actually does a great job insulating their hands.



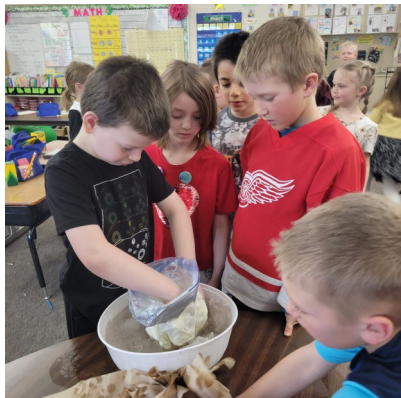
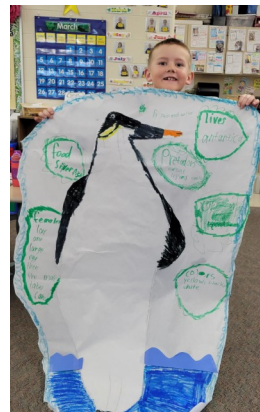
Seth, Marcus, and Phoenix show their project



Brita, Kylie, Cami, and Serena show their penguins



Walter and his project



CJ, Ellie, and Cheyenne learn how blubber insulates animals



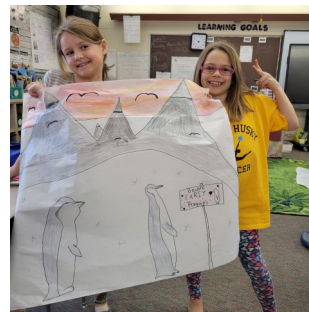
Second graders pose for a Wacky Wednesday photo



Scott shows his hard work



Jillian, Jessa, and Ellie hold up their penguin project



Anna and Cheyenne display their work



Jessa enjoys learning about how animals stay warm





Third Grade News



Barkell Elementary gives a special thank you to Bob Wheeler for the great mammal presentation to our third and fourth graders. Both grades enjoyed learning about all the different mammals and discussing all the different mammals in our area. The students especially enjoyed seeing all the animal furs and antlers.



Students check out moose antlers



Easton, Aaron, and Kell check out a skunk



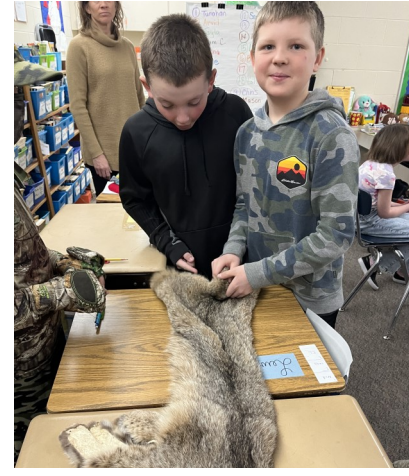
Students demonstrate the size of moose antlers



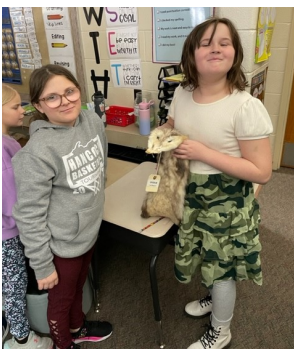
Margaret poses for a quick picture



Fourth graders enjoy a presentation on mammals



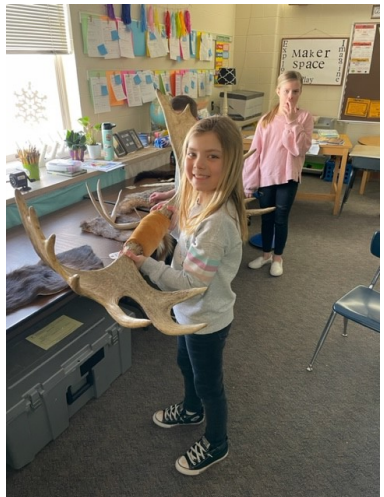
Eli and Lewis check out a large fur



Aliea and Wynter check out a weasel



Ciara examines a fur



Charlotte smiles for a photo



Students examine a variety of furs





Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- **The Barkell PTO** for all that they do
- **The Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous grants
- **31 Backpacks** for their continued support of our community
- **Deanna Levanen** for her generous donation of robots
- **Dana Ollanketo** for her generous donation of winter clothing
- **Vicki Vichich** for her generous donation of boots



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.



Newly hired Hancock Public Schools Resource Officer Olson enjoys lunch with some third grade students. Welcome aboard Officer Olson!

Barkell Elementary needs help with:



*We are in need of kid size socks for all of the wet feet that come off of the playground

* We are in need of board games (used or new) for our students to use during indoor recess.

*We are in need of extra art supplies for our indoor recess arts and crafts program.

*We are in need of boys/girls pull-on pants size 5-7