

November 2017

# Barkell Elementary

## Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



## Principal Announcements

- I would like to thank everyone for their support of our pancake breakfast. As usual the turnout was phenomenal. I would also like to thank the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity for their help as well.
- Winter is here. Please send you child to school with proper winter attire. We also recommend you write your child's name on their belongings. That will allow us to more easily return lost items to students.
- 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 3:45 on the third Wednesday 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:

- |                 |                             |           |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| • December 13th | Christmas Concert           | 9:00 am   |
| • December 19th | Breakfast With Santa        | 7:30-8:30 |
| • December 21st | No School - Christmas Break |           |
| • January 2nd   | First day back in school    |           |



# Barkell Halloween



Barkell Elementary students line up for the parade.



Levi and Aubree warm up for the parade.



This clown is no match for Wonder Woman.



No flying in the hallways, even if it's halloween

Officer Abby is on duty to make sure Harry Potter, Daniel Boone, and the witch do not cause any trouble.



Grandma Kaisa visits Barkell for the Halloween Parade.





# Bulldog Programmers



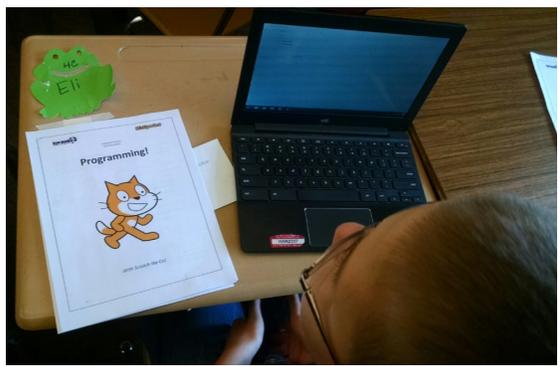
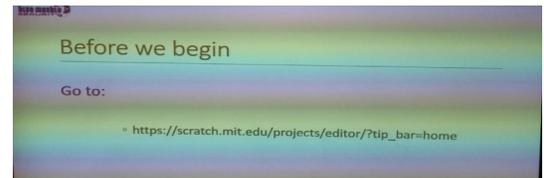
4C participated in a computer coding class presented by Avery Schmidt and Addison Weage of the Blue Marble Security team from Michigan Tech. Using "Scratch the Cat" programming, the students wrote code to enable "Scratch" to talk, walk, and to make repetitive movements. The students enjoyed making Scratch come to life. They also saw and used "Mario" which was created from this program and other games produced by Addison. Many thanks to these fellows for an informative and exciting lesson.



Scratch Coding By Louis Carlson  
 A few days ago in class, programmers from Michigan Tech came and taught us how to code. First, they showed us the commands and the work space. There was a cute little kitty on the work space called Scratch the Cat. They told us to go on the command place. The programmers told us what command to drag to the work space, and when we clicked on the green flag above the work space, Scratch did something. After a while of making Scratch move, they told us a link to go on Super Mario Bros. created on Scratch coding, and the game worked!!!  
 Scratch coding is so EPIC!

Programming  
 Michigan Tech students came to our class to teach us about programming. We used Scratch coding. Scratch is a cat. We made him move around and talk. I had Scratch say "Hi I'm Scratch." We made Scratch move with the arrow keys. We also learned to draw houses for Scratch. Then we learned to control two characters. We also could play other people's codes. I found it fun and I learned a lot.  
 by RJ Freeman

coding  
 for {kids}



# Veteran's Day

Elmer Limmatta, father-in-law of Mrs. Limmatta, spoke to the 4th grade on November 14. He presented pictures that showed the students his young life in the U.P. and his military service. His role in the Korea War was a tank mechanic. He told them there were keys in his life that helped him succeed. He learned early in life to do your best even if no one is watching. He explained that he learned to never give up, problem solve and work on a team in the military. By using these methods, he and his fellow army men could fix almost any mechanical issues so the tanks could work. To this day he still enjoys the challenge of a mechanical problem and works on cars to repair them. His life long passion is working on cars and fixing things. He challenged the student to really find a passion in life and to pursue it. It was an honor to have Elmer speak to the students and share his experiences with us.



The kindergarten and young 5's made decorations for the American Legion's Veteran's Day dinner. They also made a "Wall of Stars" with the names of veterans from their friends and family. They also created a Thank You Veterans Board in the early el hallway. Stars were passed out to students and staff to fill out with the name of a service member to honor.

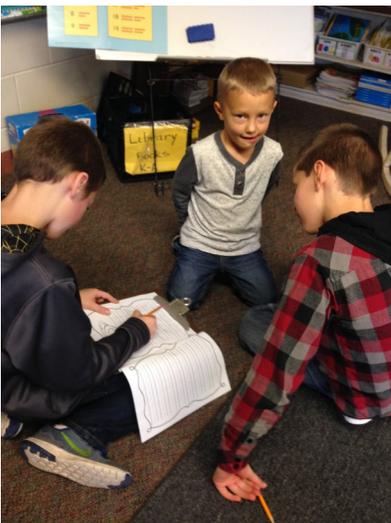
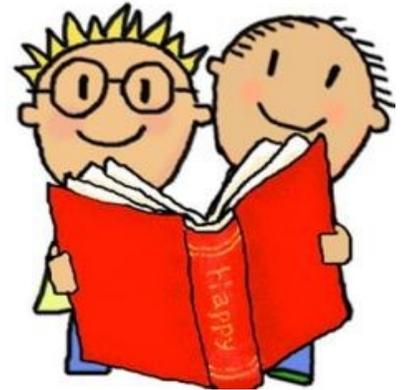
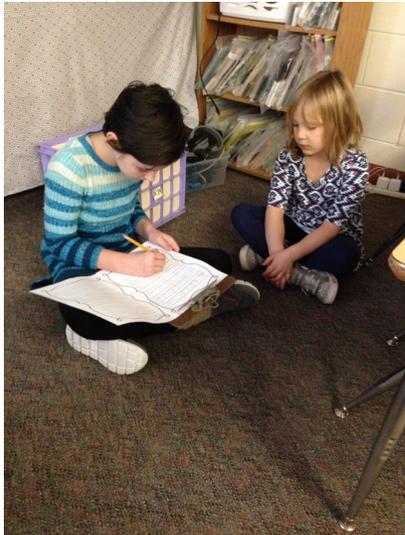
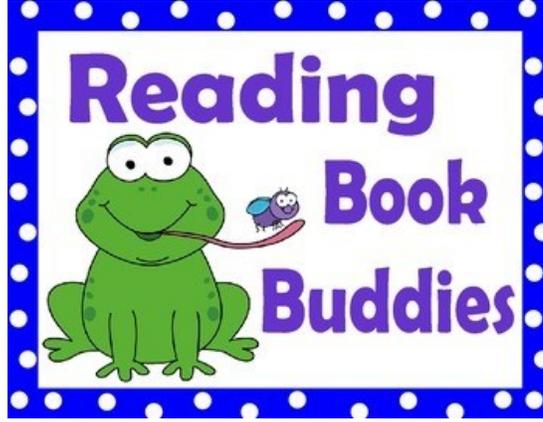




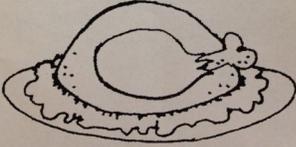
# Reading Buddies



Ms. Kellett's kindergarteners teamed up with Mrs. Andress's 5th grade reading buddies to write out recipes for how to cook a turkey according to the kindergartener.



First you kill the turkey you take it home then you cook it. You take the bones out. You take it outside



to dry. You put pepper and salt. Then you say it's thanksgiving day!



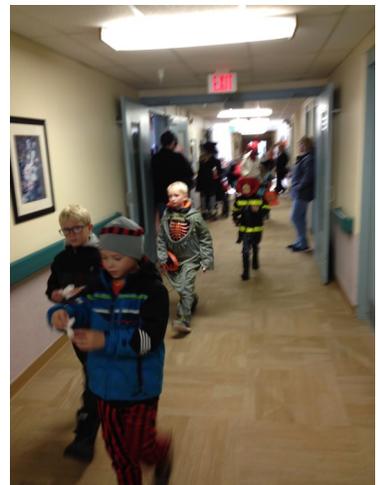
# Second Grade News



Mrs. Nordmark's class experienced PHUN week (Physiology Understanding Week). The kids learned that physiology is learning about our bodies and what keeps them healthy. Students from Michigan Tech came to Barkell to teach the class about exercise and keeping their hearts healthy. The kids played games and felt their heartbeat. Then, they enjoyed a healthy snack and learned about their hearts. Every student got to take home a model of a heart!



Barkell second graders made their annual trip to the Lighthouse on Halloween to parade for and sing to the residents. As always it was a great experience for all.





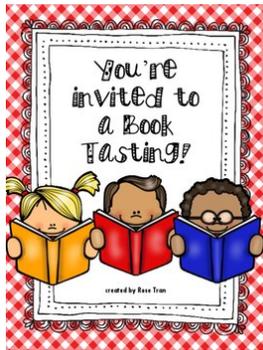
# Third Grade News



All three Barkell Elementary third grade classrooms recently participated in a book tasting activity. Tables were set up around the room featuring various genres. Students were able to sample the different books in a fun way.



Mrs. Knuuttila cooks up a good book for Isabel and Carter.



Mrs. DeHerder enjoys a nice book with Rebekah.



Trent kicks back with a good book.



Lauren and Cale enjoy a good book with Chef Da-



Max, Jana, and Alex are busy reading.

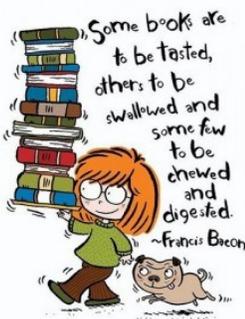
Regina  
Book tasting is when you just read books. You don't eat the books you just read them. There was poetry books and fantasy books and realistic fiction books and mystery books and historical fiction books too. You just read new books.

Jana  
On Friday we had a book tasting. We got to try out new books. We got to borrow books. I thought I would not like Rosa Parks but it turned out to be a nice story.



Noah takes a quick break from his book to smile for the camera.

Book tasting Chloe  
On Friday we had a book tasting. We got to test out many kinds of books. The genre I liked the most was poetry. On some other tables there were some non fiction historical fiction and some were just fiction. Even though we didn't get to go to all the tables it was still very fun.



Dietrich and Forrest get lost in a great story.



Mari focuses on her book.

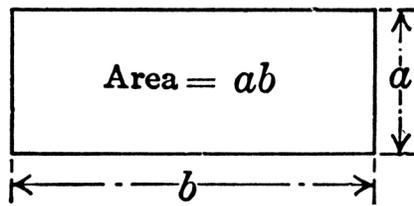
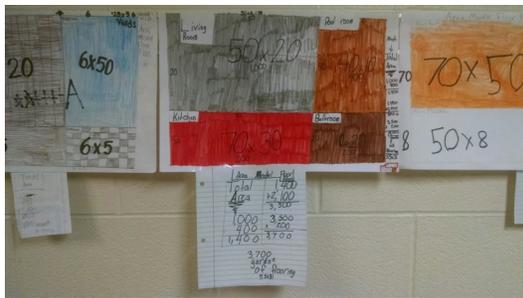


# Fourth Grade News



Students in Mrs. Koskela's fourth grade class have been doing some hands on learning. Students use their geoboards to study the area of squares and rectangles. Students also designed homes to apply their knowledge of area to a real world project.

Students improve their reading skills with a program called PALS (Peer Assisted Learning Strategies). PALS is a research based literacy program that is designed to increase early literacy skills.



# First Grade News

Students in Mrs. Dupuis' first grade class celebrated Thanksgiving with a little feast. Students made corn bread and butter and also learned about the pilgrims. Students thoroughly enjoyed the hands on learning and eating experience.





# Fifth Grade News

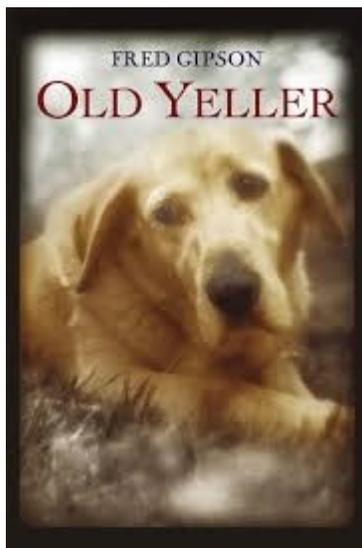


During the months of October and November, fifth grade students read the novel, Old Yeller. In the book Old Yeller, Travis' dad has to go to Kansas for a cattle drive. He makes a deal with Travis; he says that when he comes home that he will bring him a horse. He leaves Travis in charge to look over Mama and Little Arliss. At first, Arliss didn't take Travis seriously, but he learned to respect him. One day, a thieving' yeller dog stole all their breakfast meat. Travis just wants to beat that dog but Arliss stopped him. "That's my dog!" he yelled. Mama wanted Travis to let Arliss to keep the dog so, he agreed. Arliss takes all living thing that ran, flew, jumped, or crawled and puts them in his pockets so mama makes him empty his pockets before he heads inside. Travis was fixing the fence when he heard Arliss scream. Well, Arliss was a screamer by nature. He'd scream when he was happy and scream when he was mad. He'd scream sometime just to make noise. But, this time Travis knew that this scream was different. He ran to save him. He saw little Arliss holding the leg of a baby bear. There was also a mama bear charging at Arliss ready to fight. And the worst part of all, Travis could not get there in time. But Old Yeller could. Old Yeller fought the bear, and won. If you want to hear more check the book out from the library!

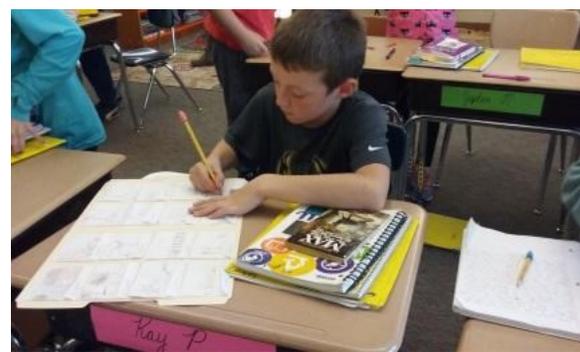
By: Aili Melvig and Kay Pietila



Lars and Dustin work diligently on their Old Yeller projects.

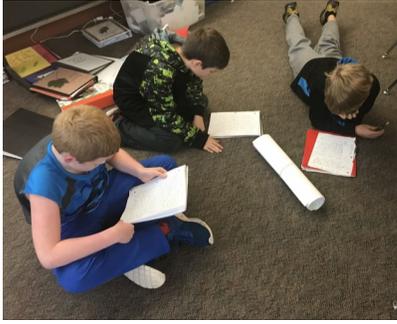


Zachary works hard on his summary of Old Yeller events.





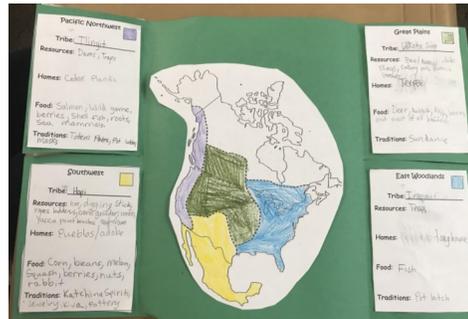
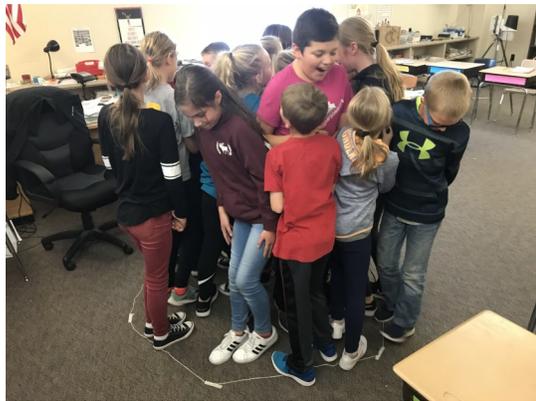
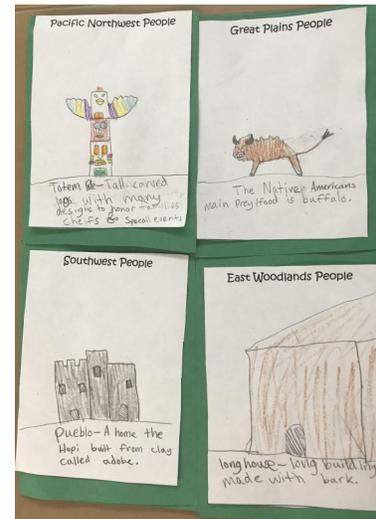
# Fifth Grade News cont...



Students in 5th grade are peer conferencing. They have been working on a compare and contrast essay on seasons. Students provide positive feedback as well as suggestions to help classmates improve their writing.



As part of a 5th grade US history unit, students studied Native Americans. The focus of the unit was how each regional tribe's culture was based on the natural resources provided to them. To review for the test, students created "Lap Books" to help them remember important information.



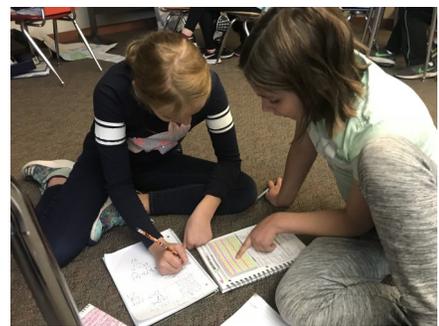
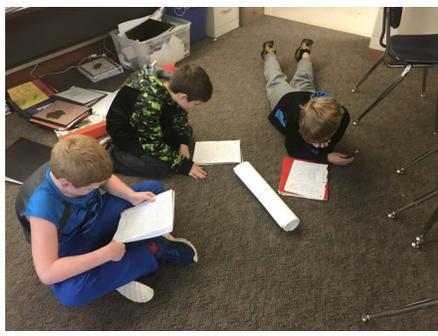
Fifth graders are learning about the 3 states of matter - solid, liquid and gas. In this demonstration, students represent the atoms/molecules in each state of matter. Students develop an understanding of how the particles move in each state. Students recognize that even in solid objects, there is still space between the particles and they are, in fact, moving. The attraction between particles is much stronger and therefore can only vibrate or wiggle in place



# Fifth Grade News cont...

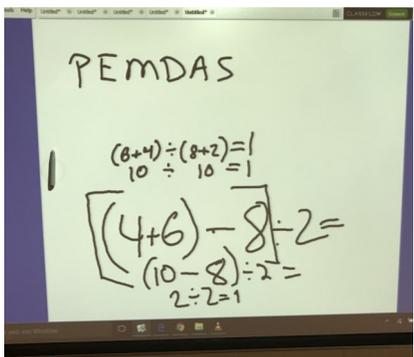
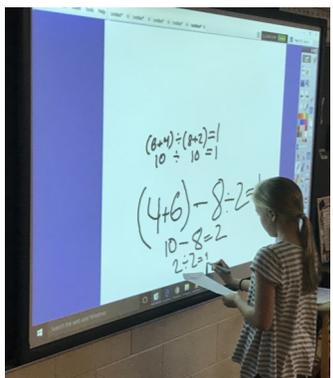
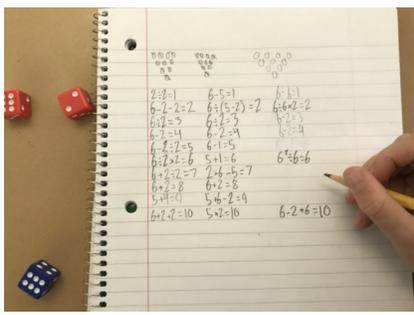


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Students are using PEMDAS (order of operations) to write Equations. In "Bowling for Equations", students use 3 dice to represent a roll of a bowling ball. The students use the 3 numbers on the dice to write Equations to knock down each of the pins (1-10). If they cannot get a strike, they roll the dice a second time to see if they can write Equations to knock down the remaining pins and get a spare. The students also learned how to manually score a game using a bowling score sheet. Can you bowl a 300 game?

Fifth grade students are using simple numbers to help develop an understanding of algebraic concepts. The students are writing equations using even numbers to find the odd solutions.



**Bowling Score Sheet**

Player Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total Score
Jadan	18	36	54	74	X	X					
Matthew	18	36	54	74	X	X					



# Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- \* **Barkell Elementary PTO** for all they do for our school
- \* **Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous donations and purchases
- \* **Angela Meersman Lessard & Michel Meersman** for their generous donation to our school
- \* **Karen Fenton** for her generous donation of clothes
- \* **Julie Lancour** for her donation of Christmas Shop items
- \* **St. Peter & Paul Lutheran Church** for the generous gift of winter clothing
- \* **KC Bonkers** for their generous gift of Kapla Planks for Mrs. Garnell's class



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.

## Thank You to...



### *World of Wood*

Thank you to Jake Korpela and World of Wood in Hancock for their tremendous repair of our favorite Library chair. Pictured here are Noah, Brenna and Chase enjoying "Uncle Jake's" chair! -Mrs. Smith

## 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

