

October 2019

Barkell Elementary

Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



Principal Announcements

- Lego Club has begun. It meets on Thursdays from 3:20-4:30. Please let me know if you need a permission slip.
- Thank you to all of our families for their support for our fundraiser. We usually raise over \$1000 every year. We use that money for playground toys, pizza parties, snow cones for the picnic, etc.
- The Barkell Elementary Christmas Concert is on Dec. 12th at 9:00.
- 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:

- 11/4 Picture Retakes
- 11/7 PT Conferences– half day (11:50 dismissal)
- 11/13 & 11/27 Early Dismissal days (1:46)
- 11/28 & 11/29 No School– Thanksgiving Break



Fire Safety Week



Barkell Elementary students once again celebrated Fire Safety Week by learning about how to prevent fires and how to keep safe in the event of a fire. Kindergarten students enjoyed a lesson in their classrooms and 1st-3rd graders enjoyed an assembly in the gym. Fourth graders got to experience the Smoke House and the fifth graders watched the Jaws of Life in action at the fairgrounds. It was an enjoyable



Students enter the Smoke House

Hancock Fire Department ladder towers over Barkell



Kindergarten students learn how to prevent fires.



Students learn about the gear firefighters wear and to not be afraid of them.



A fire fighter uses a student to demonstrate how to escape a fire.



Students ask questions as they learn about fire safety





Bulldog Halloween



Wonder Women pose for a pic



Go Blue!



Can you see him?



Marie smiles for a photo



Second graders parade and sing for the residents of the Lighthouse.



Mrs. Koskela and Young 5s begins the parade.



Students try to eat apples in Mrs. Dupuis' class



The parade makes the turn onto Fir



Barkell students kick off the parade on a crisp fall afternoon.





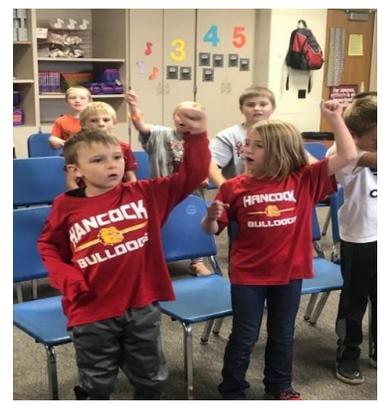
Music News



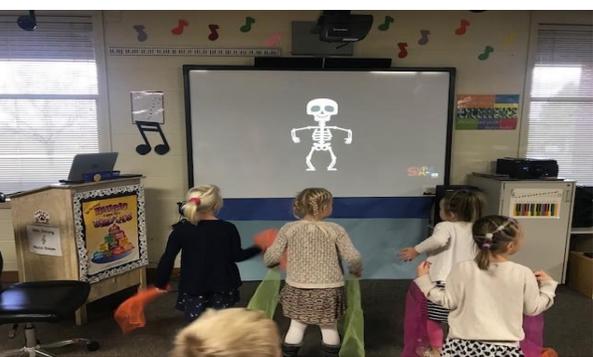
Things are heating up for Barkell Elementary students in their music classes. Students are working hard preparing for the Christmas Concert (December 12th). Students are also having fun learning about reading and writing music, music history, and how to play instruments. The Barkell Elementary Choir is also working hard preparing for their annual performance at the Pancake Breakfast which is on December 7th.



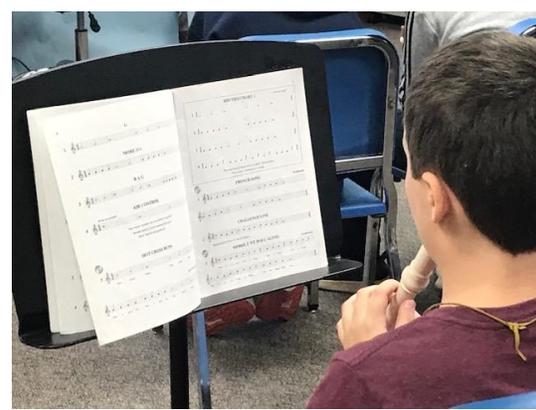
5th grade students playing a music rhythm reading game.



Practicing our school song in preparation for the big game.



This month students learned the "Skeleton Song" that teaches about the 206 bones in our bodies and how to take care of them.



The 5th graders are off to a fantastic start learning to play the recorder.

 **Grades 1 through 5 and the Barkell Choir will present the annual Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 12, 2019 @ 9:00 a.m. in the gym.**



The "Making Popcorn" song is always a 1st grade favorite.



The Barkell Elementary Choir performs at the Rosza Center



Bulldog Scientists



The fourth graders have been studying organisms, ecosystems, food chains, and food webs. A study of animal adaptations was the final lesson in this unit. The students investigated birds' beaks, comparing the beaks to common household tools. For their final project, each student created his own bird, being careful that all physical and behavioral adaptations were consistent with the bird's habitat and diet. Look for the birds on display during fall conferences.

Name *Irving Aho*

Avian Designer: Build the Bird of Your Dreams

Use the information you have learned from your investigations to design a new species of bird. (You may have to do some more research.) Draw a sketch of your bird below. Name its species. Identify and describe its natural habitat and food. Explain how each physical adaptation (how its body looks and works) will help your species survive. Add behavioral adaptations (the way your bird acts) to complete your report. Wouldn't it be fun to make a clay or paper mache model of your bird? Maybe your art teacher would like to have you do this. You can display your models with your data sheets.

Document your bird species:

Name of Bird: *Sally - Mini Cactusbird*
 Ornithologist-Artist: *Irving Aho*
 Habitat: *Desert*

Food: *cactus flower nectar*

How It Looks (Physical Adaptations or Characteristics):
 Beak (bill): *tube*
 Feet: *talons/claws*
 Legs: *short*
 Wings: *small*
 Tail: *short*
 Colors: *brown, green, red/orange*

How It Acts (Behavioral Adaptations or Characteristics): *Sits in cactus plants to hide.*

Hybrids
 A hybrid is the offspring of two different species. Most species cannot have offspring with other species. Hybrids are usually sterile, which means they cannot have their own offspring. Hybrids like certain mice can also have more health problems than their parents.
 It is a hybrid if the cross between a horse and a donkey, and it cannot reproduce. Mules have attributes from both their horse and donkey parents. Since mules can't reproduce, there aren't as many of them around.
 In some plants, the pollen of one plant must cross with another plant of a different variety. Many farmers also experiment with hybrid crops, such as types of corn, to produce and harvest. Can you think of any other hybrids?

Facebook

If you'd like to make any additional comments about our paper, please write to us at feedback@bulldogsc.com.

Draw your bird species here:

Avian-Designer: Build the Bird of Your Dreams

Use the information you have learned from your investigations to design a new species of bird. (You may have to do some more research.) Draw a sketch of your bird below. Name its species. Identify and describe its natural habitat and food. Explain how each physical adaptation (how its body looks and works) will help your species survive. Add behavioral adaptations (the way your bird acts) to complete your report. Wouldn't it be fun to make a clay or paper mache model of your bird? Maybe your art teacher to have you do this. You can display your models with your data sheets.

Document your bird species:

Name of Bird: *Polar bird*
 Ornithologist-Artist: *Irving Aho*
 Habitat: *Arctic*

Food: *Fish*

How It Looks (Physical Adaptations or Characteristics):
 Beak (bill): *Sharp*
 Feet: *talons*
 Legs: *short*
 Wings: *3 inches*
 Tail: *long*
 Colors: *White*

How It Acts (Behavioral Adaptations or Characteristics): *Doesn't fly, it walks. It has a thick layer of fat under its skin.*

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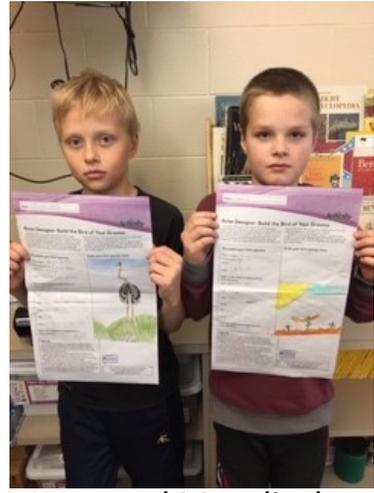
Facebook

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Draw your bird species here:



Dale, Romey, Ryan, and Casper test out different types of digging tools before determining which type of claws to use for their bird.



Isaac and Mac display their projects



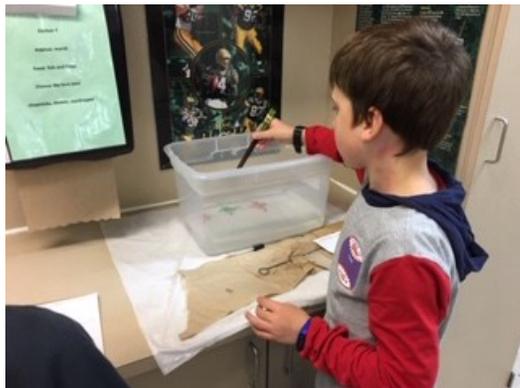
Tyler and Maribelle enjoy designing their bird



Kylie uses what she has learned to design an efficient bird



Gabe tests out various tools before deciding on structural adaptations for his bird





Young Fives News



The Barkell Elementary Young Fivers are off to a great start. Students have been learning about numbers and letters. Young Fives students have also been learning about Autism and how it affects an individual's view of the world. But perhaps the most exciting time for our Young Fives students is their mentoring time with their fourth grade buddies. Students have been enjoying getting to know each other and reading to each other. Our Young Fives students are looking forward to an exciting school year.



Goggles are used to show how some people with autism view our world



Azura and Iriina enjoy a book with their mentees.



Luciano reads to CJ



Wearing a blindfold to show that some people with autism have difficulty seeing the same way as others



Daniel and Nolan read a story to Jackson



CCISD Autism Consultant, Ms. Summers, teaches Young Fives students about Autism.



Zoey and Mac share a good book with their mentees

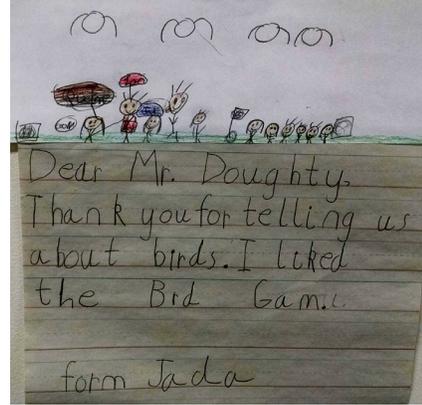




First Grade News



First grade students learned about bird migration in an Outdoor Science Investigation provided by the Michigan Tech Center for Science and Environmental Outreach. They also hiked through the school forest and found evidence of bird activity, such as nests and holes in trees.



Mr. Doughty from the Western U.P. Math and Science Center speaks to first graders about bird migration.



Mrs. Dupuis' first graders write their thank you letters.



Students enjoy playing the bird migration game



Students learn about birds through physical activity

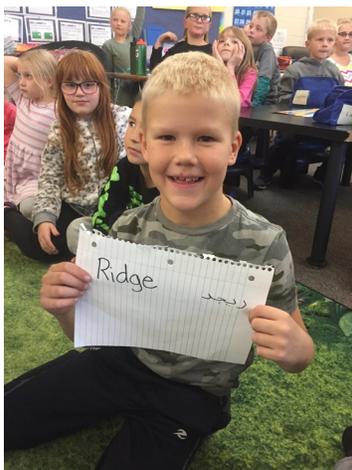




Second Grade News



Mrs. Garnell and Mrs. Nordmark's second grade classes learned about Saudi Arabia during Michigan Tech's Passport to the World Program. They learned about food, clothing, homes, and schools. The highlight of the presentation was seeing all of their names written in Arabic! Thank you to Laura Givens and the MTU students who helped make this program possible!



Ridge displays his name in Arabic.



Barkell second graders enjoy learning about other cultures.



Students enjoy a Power-Point presentation about Arabic culture.

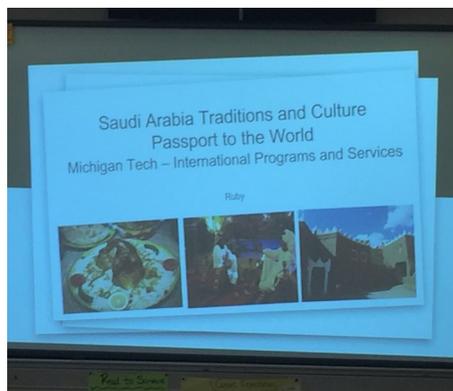
As part of the Passport to the World program offered by Michigan Tech, Barkell Elementary early el students have been learning about various cultures from around the world for the past few years.



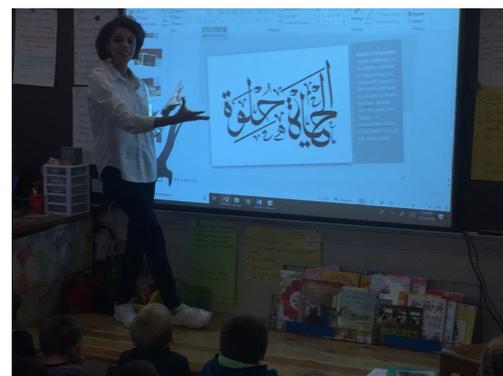
Students learn about the customs and traditions of Saudi Arabia



Students learn about the geography of Saudi Arabia.



SAUDI ARABIA





Second Grade News



Second graders went on an outdoor field trip to learn about seeds and trees in our school forest. Students learned how to tell how old a tree is by counting its rings. We also learned what plants need to survive: nutrients, water, sunshine, and space to grow! The second graders went on a scavenger hunt to find several different types of seeds in our own Barkell School Forest. It was an exciting learning experience for all of us!



Students gather to listen to Mr Doughty teach them about science.



Mr Doughty of the Western U.P. Math and Science Center teaches students what plants need to survive.



Amina and Jariya examine a tree sample.



Students enjoy scavenging for seeds.



Connor and Landon count tree rings.



Barkell second graders enjoy a hands on activity designed to teach them about plants



Third Grade News



Fourth graders learned about the field of engineering last week from a group of college students from MTU. This group is called The Society of Women Engineers. The students received a comic book in which Engineers solved a problem with a plane. The 4th graders love the story and were able to ask questions about the field of engineering. The MTU group will be back in the spring to teach us about the assembly line.

Zoey

1. Some girls just came in to teach us about engineers and a read us a comic book. One of the girls had the same name as me (Zoey). She talked to us about what she wanted to know what we want to be when we grow up. Some of the names were Mackenzie, Zoey, Ms. R, Audrey and Kendra. They talk about that they have to make a model before they build. They also despire before they build. Lightning could not hurt them because the make protogists than they told us their age and that they all work at Michigan tech. They said they are going to come back again in February.



The MTU Society of Engineers speaks to Mrs. Liimatta's class.



Students read a comic about an engineering adventure.



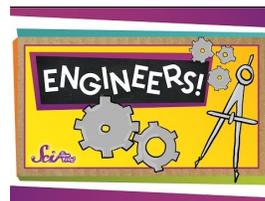
Engineers meet with students in small groups to discuss what it means to be an engineer.



Students enjoy working in small groups with their engineer.



Mrs. Liimatta speaks with an engineering student.



Iriina No. 44 #2

1. Engineers came to our room.
2. They gave us a comic book.
3. They read to us in small groups.
4. They told us about themselves.
5. One girls name was Zoey and we have a Zoey in our class.
6. The girls in our group was named Audrey.
7. Audrey is a Mechanical engineer.
8. Their names were Mackenzie, Zoey, Audrey, Ms. R, and Kendra.
9. They are coming back in february.
10. The engineers are from Society of Women Engineers.



Fourth Grade News



40 planted daffodil bulbs on the hillside outside of the classroom. The bulbs were donated by Dr. Allan Struthers. Then the fourth graders worked with their reading buddies in 1D to plant over a hundred tulip and daffodil bulbs in the beds along the front walkway. We're all looking forward to seeing beautiful flowers in Bulldog colors in the springtime!



Fourth graders plant tulips and daffodils on the hill behind the school.



Students in Mrs. Dupuis' and Mrs. Olson's class plant red and yellow flowers for our building entrance.



Jackson gets the next bulb ready to go



Students enjoy getting a little dirty at the end of a beautiful fall day.



Thank you to Dr. Allan Struthers for donating flowers for our school.





Fourth Grade News



The fourth grade hosted the Think Energy program on Friday, September 27. Sponsored by UPPCO and SEMCO, the program teaches about the wise use of renewable and nonrenewable resources and efficient energy use. The students built human circuits, modeled the creation of electricity, tested insulators and conductors, and learned about energy-related careers. Each student was offered the opportunity to receive an energy kit loaded with 4 LED light bulbs, faucet aerators, a water-saving shower head, a night light, and a 5 minute timer which encourages taking a 5 minute "Power Shower". The fourth grade classes receive a mini grant for energy surveys returned by parents. Many thanks to UPPCO, SEMCO, and to the Think Energy program for a terrific program .



Lucy tries out her new energy saving night light



Students do an activity that demonstrates how electricity can pass through people



Vince is looking forward to water savings



Tia displays her water use timer



All fourth graders received four free LED light bulbs

Students assemble in the library to learn about energy and energy efficiency.





Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- * **Barkell Elementary PTO** for all they do for our school
- * **Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous donations and purchases
- * **Barkell PTO and Barkell families** for everything they did for Teacher Appreciation Week
- * **Mr. Longnecker** for his donation of historical Barkell Elementary items for our display case
- **Mary Kay Kangas** for her donation of craft supplies
- **Jimmy Johns** for their generous donation of subs for staff



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.



Congratulations to Jonathan Eikenberry for winning our fundraiser prize. Thank you to everyone who helped us to raise money for our school!

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

