

April 2018

Barkell Elementary

Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



Principal Announcements

- Barkell Elementary will be once again accepting teacher requests for the 2018-19 school year. Parents can turn in request forms up until May 18th. Forms can be requested in the office. Please let me know if you need a form sent home.
- 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:

- **May 4th** **Half Day for students– dismissal at 11:50**
- **May 28th** **Memorial Day– no school**
- **May 31st** **School Picnic**
- **June 1st** **Track And Field Day**



Barkell Showcase of Excellence



The Third Annual Barkell Elementary Showcase of Excellence took place on April 5th. Approximately 400 people were treated to science fair projects, art projects, and many other outstanding samples of student work. Thank you to the staff and to our PTO for all of their help with this. I would also like to thank all of the families who attended.



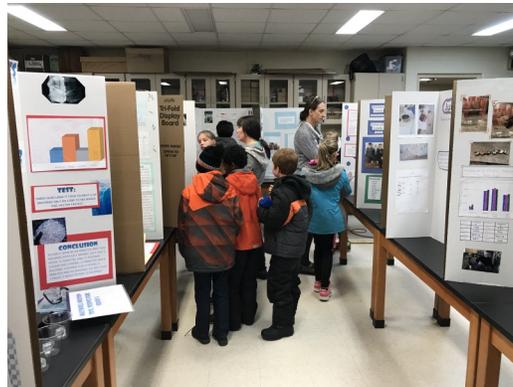
Students learn about how train track safety signals work.



Students engineer towers.



Alex, Solomon, and Sophia enjoy a fun science activity.



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



Ava and KariAnn enjoy building.



**STUDENT
SHOWCASE**



Aili, Camryn, and JinJing used impressive engineering skills to construct their giant towers of spaghetti and marshmallows.



Mary learns about biology.



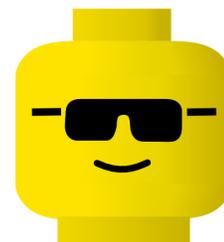
Rayna, Emily, and Peyton work on their project.



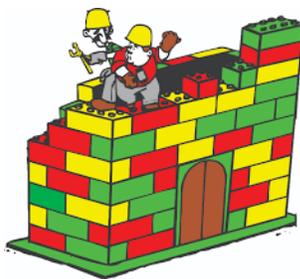
Stefan, Marty, and Dustin enjoy a slice of pizza.



LEGO Club



The Barkell Elementary Lego Club may be new but it is already a major hit with our students. We have met twice and have had attendance numbers in the mid 40s both times. Students have had a lot of fun constructing their "Lego City". They are working together to create various pieces for the city which will be combined later this year. They have constructed an airport, amusement park, Police station, and various other buildings. Thank you to everyone who helped make this happen.





Girls on the Run



Our Girls on the Run season is off to a great start! The girls have been learning a lot about healthy habits and making good choices. They are also building endurance to do a fun 5k in May. They are very proud to be the first Girls on the Run team in the Keweenaw!



Annie, LeAndra, Mari, and Lauren learn about heart.



Lauren, Kaisa, and Necee enjoy Girls on the Run.



The girls run outside on a nice sunny day.



LeAndra races for the finish line.

Mrs. Blessing speaks with the girls about hard work and positive thinking.



Mari sets the pace on a run through the neighborhood.





International Studies Program



Barkell K-2nd grade students have been learning about India and China throughout the course of the year. They learned about India the first half of the school year and about China the second half. MTU students from China and India taught these programs to our students through the use of hands on exciting lessons. Our students learned about various aspects of Indian and Chinese culture such as foods, music, animals, climate, geography, etc. The program culminated with a special assembly where students were treated to examples of Indian and Chinese culture. It was an incredible learning experience for all.



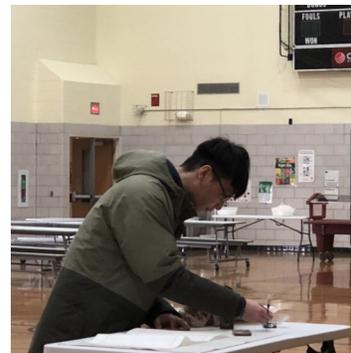
MTU Chinese students demonstrate their traditional dance.



Students play traditional Chinese and Indian music.



Barkell students teach the Indian and Chinese students about how to play in the snow.



Barkell students get their passports punched



Bulldog Mentoring Program



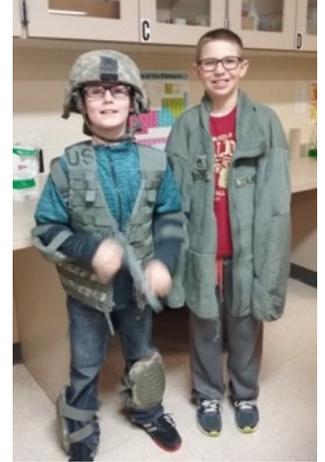
On April 17, 2018, SSG Bates and Specialist Salo came to the school during our meeting time loaded with information and special equipment to show. Together SSG Bates and Specialist Salo went through the different gear they would carry under different circumstances. Students learned about the importance of staying hydrated, eye protection, ear protection and different type of material used to keep military personal safe. Students in the program had the opportunity to try on different gear and ask questions about the purposes for the gear. SSG Bates encourages students to take on active lifestyles, to do well in schools, and to most importantly- invest in themselves. The students really enjoy meeting with SSG Bates and his guests!



Tiana and SSG Bates pose for a photo.



SSG Bates and Specialist Salo speak to Barkell 5th graders.



Dominic and Eli pose for a photo.

The National Guard Program is good for kids so they can learn more about a lot of different things like learning about the National Guard, its history, and that the National Guard is not just about combat. The National Guard helps out with floods, tornado and power outs for hospitals and a lot of other things. - Brody

"I think the National Guard Mentor Program is really cool. I know more about the Guards now then I used to. I am thankful for everyone that volunteers and serves." - Josh



Ninah in rain gear.



Santino and Eli try on protective gear.





Bulldog Environmentalists



"Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair"

Mr. Brian Doughty from Michigan Tech worked with the fourth graders, having them consider "trash", and alternatives to dumping it all into a landfill. The students made a garbage pizza, ordering waste from most to least common items disposed of. They also brainstormed the trash that they toss while considering alternatives to a trash bag. Mr. Doughty also discussed the dangers of ocean dumping, and wrapped up with creative ideas about reducing our lunchroom trash. Thank you, Mr. Doughty!



Emery and Kurt play Garbage Pizza.



Krissa, Sophie, and Drew learn about waste reduc-



Mr. Doughty demonstrates how to produce less waste to Barkell fourth graders.



Fourth graders pose for a photo as they unload the recycling bin.

What Are We Wasting?

Directions: Record and measure your list of personal waste and decide which items can be recycled and which should be re-used or repaired. If composting is an option for the classroom, mark a "C" in the recycling column next to any item that you will compost.

Waste Item	disposable	recyclable	compost	reusable
1. paper				
2. paper cups				
3. paper plates				
4. paper napkins				
5. paper towels				
6. paper bags				
7. paper boxes				
8. paper envelopes				
9. paper folders				
10. paper bags				
11. paper bags				
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Recycle!

We are going to tell you about our recycling project with Mr. Doughty. First, we watched a video about recycling and how people throw too much trash into streams or rivers. The trash gets into the ocean, also when the garbage gets in the ocean the fish eat the garbage. After the video, we played a game where you put pictures of different kinds of trash on cardboard shaped like a pizza. Last, we got a piece of paper shaped as a garbage can. On it we wrote things we threw away during the weekend and put them in categories such as disposable, recyclable, and reusable. That is how we did our recycling project with Mr. Doughty.

By, Sophie Berryman and sophia Hebert

Recycle

Mr. Doughty showed us a video about pollution and what it can do to our environments. He said that ocean animals can get caught in the garbage and die. You can see people cleaning up polluted places. It was very fun. We did a activity that was called, Garbage Pizzas. It is where we guess the different kinds of garbage and how much we threw away. We did a sheet that made us think if we would recycle, throw away, compost, or reuse our own trash.

By Eliand connor
4C





Young Fives News

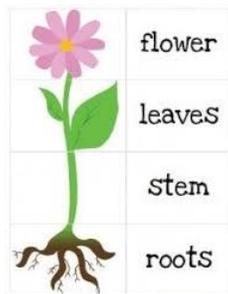
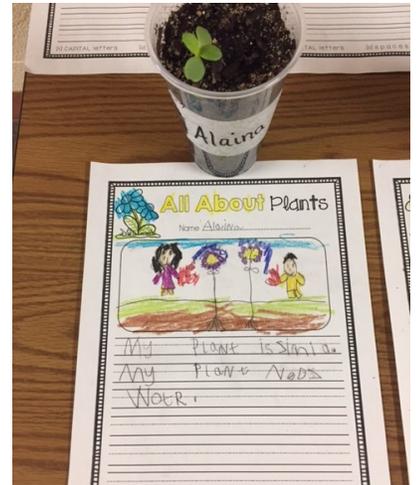
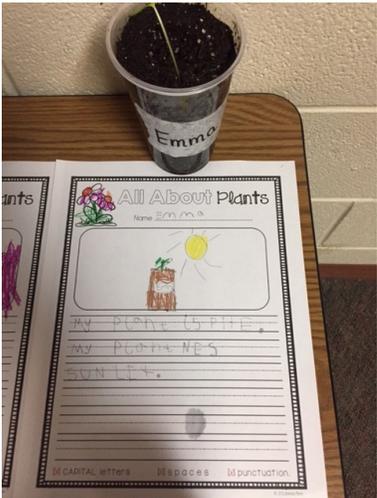


Bryn and Kit get their soil.

The Young 5's class enjoyed learning about the parts of a plant during their planting unit. We took the time to plant some zinnia seeds in some soil and we talked about how to care for the seeds. The class is enjoying watching the plants grow and making observations in their writing journals. Once the plants start to flower, the class will get to take them home to their special mother's on Mother's Day.



Bradey and Lianna plant their seeds.





First Grade News



Barkell first graders enjoyed a beautiful winter day at the Maasto Hiihto ski trails where they learned about animal characteristics and adaptations.

4-25-18 We went on the skia Chrayls. We found the breads. We went snow show ing.. We got to now what keeps the animals warm.
Kiara



Date: 4-24-18
My favorite part of the Maasto Hiihto field trip was the bird hide and seek snow shoeing.
By: Alia Tanner



Students enjoy snow shoeing on a sunny winter day.

April 25 2018 at Maasto Hiihto we went outside and we played a game. some pelpde were hocks and some were brieds. and then we went inside. then we got bags of animal fur. fat. fethrs. and then we megrd the animal fur. fat fethrs.
Jenae



Date: 4-24-18
My favorite part of the Maasto Hiiht field trip was when we snow shoed!
by: Kiara Benda



Second Grade News



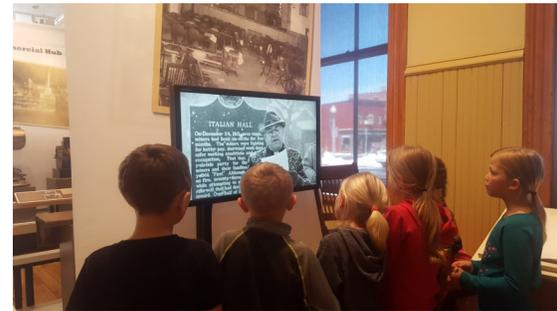
Barkell second graders recently went on a field trip to the Keweenaw National Historic Park. Students enjoyed the Calumet Visitors' Center where they learned a great deal about the history of our area.



Andrew, Anders, and Tyler have fun making historical maps with Legos.



Molly and Angela study local history.



Students learn about the Italian Hall tragedy.



Students examine a large map of Lake Superior.



Tatum picks up a strange unfamiliar device.



Finn chats on the phone.



We really loved the Calumet Visitor Center. We went on three floors. On the first floor we learned about maps and different places. One thing made us feel sad, it was the Italian Hall disaster. On the second floor we did a scavenger hunt. We saw an old cookbook and we also saw a pail that kept pastries and tea warm. On the third floor we learned about games. The games we learned about were called Grace and Hoop-and-stick. They were fun, we hope to go back there again!

By: Molly Koiristo, and Tatum Sporski

Olivia
We really enjoyed going to the Calumet Visitor Center. We had so much fun. Exploring the Calumet the best part was the scavenger hunt it was so fun. Listening on the phone and cook book that was my best fill trip ever.



Fourth Grade News



The 4th grade students have been busy learning about the Middle West region of our country. Students enjoyed making a poster to show their knowledge about this region. We also discussed Earth Day and ways we could reduce the amount of water, electricity and gas we use. Students made a lift the flap project that showed what they had learned.

The whole fourth grade studied the midwest region. Now we know that four out of the five Great Lakes are in the midwest. We also know that The Mall of America is the largest indoor shopping mall in America, and many of us have been there. This region is nick named "The Americas Bread Basket"
By: Alice Larson



Todd and Shane are working hard.



Mason take a break from his work to pose for a picture.

All About The MIDWEST REGION
Landforms of the Midwest
Buffalo like to be in a place where there's lots of grass like the Midwest.
Water of the Midwest
The five great lakes surround Michigan and spell HOMES.
Huron
Ontario
Michigan
Erie
Superior



Alicia and Caitlyn enjoy Social Studies.



MIDWEST REGION
Landforms of the Midwest
one land form in the Midwest is great water while many farmers grow crops for us to eat.
Water of the Midwest
The water in the mid west is very unique because the great lakes are the biggest body of fresh water.



Earth Day
To help keep the earth clean we have earth day. We can pick up trash. We can not litter. We can turn off the water when not using. You can go outside instead of watching tv. You can unplug something when your not using. You can not flush the toilet for no reason and take five minute showers.
- Hailey Hayrynen 4A



Adam, Walter, and Blake are working too hard to notice the camera.





Fourth Grade News



UPPCO Electrical Safety Program, "Path to Ground", comes to Fourth Grade. UPPCO representatives Dave Heinonen and Matt Mattila visited the fourth grade on Tuesday, April 9. The children learned about the dangers of moving power lines, climbing trees near wires, and playing near substations. Dave and Matt demonstrated the danger of playing near transformers and digging up underground wires. They also talked about insulators and conductors. Most importantly, we all learned how to avoid being a "Path to Ground"



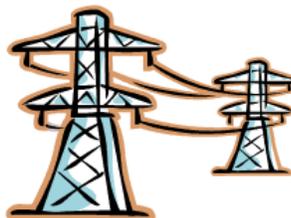
UPPCO employees Dave and Matt demonstrate what happens when something touches electrical wires.



Drew helps with a demonstration.



Upper Peninsula Power Company



Ted tries out the electrical safety gloves.

UPPCO visits 4th grade
 On April 10, 2018 UPPCO visited 4th grade and taught the fourth graders about electricity. The program was called "Don't be the path to ground". Did you know when an electric wire falls on your car you jump all the way home? Electricity always likes to find the easiest path to ground. So don't put anything by fallen wires. If you find anything by fallen wires call UPPCO. So now you know to stay away from power lines. Be safe and have fun!
 by: Zarianna Gordon + Anabryasia Stewart



THE UPPCO EXPERIMENT
 That UPPCO experiment was great! I already had some of those shocking surprises because my dad is an electrician. (Trav) We learned that you should never be a conductor for electricity to flow to the ground. We also learned that you shouldn't have a utensils from around the house too close to an outlet or you will become a conductor. Another thing is that if somehow a power line is in your yard, don't go and try to pick it up and put it somewhere else. You should call a company like Uppco. Remember, don't be a conductor for electricity!
 by: Trav Hammerstrom and Kurt Oja



Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- * **Barkell Elementary PTO** for all they do for our school
- * **Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous donations and purchases
- * **The Hall family** for their generous donation of Legos
- * **Angelica Wickstrom** for her generous donation of Legos
- * **Smitha Rao** for her generous donation of Legos
- * **Mrs. Ausema, Mrs. Wanhala, Mrs. Osborne**
and **Mrs. Williams** for helping with Lego Club



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.

Nine students from 5th grade participated in the annual Western UP Science Fair at MTU. Pictured from left to right are: Peyton Williams, Addie Hammerstrom, Sadie Biekkola, Emily Moore, Corbin Eikenberry, Mamie Korpela, Rayna Towles, Jackson Sintkowski, and Myles Mikkola. Corbin and Rayna earned "Gold" placing them first in the group project division with 96.5 points. Sadie earned "Silver" in the individual project division with 92.5 points. Congratulations! You all represented Barkell Elementary well. Thank you for your efforts.

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 Legos for our Lego club

