

December 2017

# Barkell Elementary

## Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



## Principal Announcements

- Winter is here. Please send your 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:

- **January 17 & 18**      **Half days for students**
- **January 19th**      **No school**



# Barkell Elementary Christmas Concert



The first graders look sharp as they prepare to take the stage.



Barkell Elementary students perform in front of a packed house.



The Barkell Elementary Choir gets ready to take the stage and begin the concert.



Fourth grade is ready to go.



Barkell fifth graders perform Jolly Old St. Nicholas



Students perform on the Xylophones



Fifth graders wait for their performance.





# Christmas Canathon



Barkell Elementary had a special guest this year for the TV6 Canathon. Karl Bohnak, longtime TV6 meteorologist, visited Barkell Elementary to discuss the Canathon and what it means to the U.P. Students enjoyed listening to Mr. Bohnak at an all school assembly that also featured a special guest dressed in red with a large white beard. Barkell students and families shattered an old record for number of food items donated. Our school collected 1,421 items! Thank you to all Barkell families for their incredible support for this worthy cause!



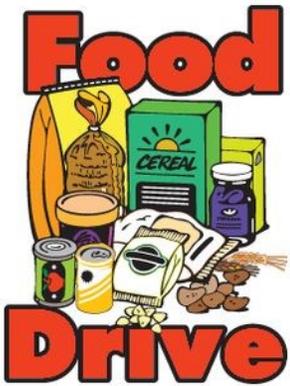
Josh, Brody, and Alexandra load the trailer.



Karl gives a Christmas Eve weather report to Santa.



Karl speaks to a packed house.



*Holiday*  
**FOOD DRIVE**





# Breakfast With Santa



Santa took a morning out of his busy schedule to visit Barkell Elementary and enjoy a nice breakfast with our students and families on December 19th. Students also had a chance to tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas.



Santa poses for a photo after signing in at the office.





# Bulldogs Study the World



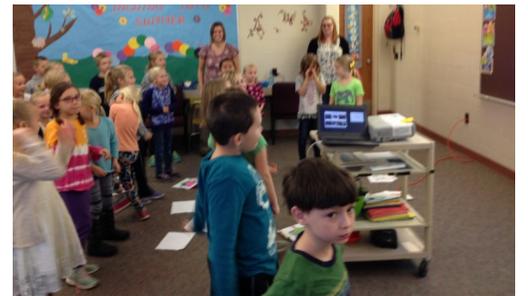
Students in kindergarten through second grade at Barkell Elementary have been learning about India from Indian students at Michigan Tech. Students have thoroughly enjoyed the hands on learning experiences provided by our MTU guests and have been able to teach their presenters a little about our area as well. I would like to thank MTU and Laura Givens for providing such a great opportunity .



Indian students from Michigan Tech teach Barkell students about their native country.



Barkell Young Fives students teach the Indian students how to build snowmen.



Barkell kindergartners teach the Indian students how to play in the snow





# Bulldogs Serving the Community/ Country



by Alex Schmitt  
 on Friday third grade went to Portage Point because we were going caring for the elderly. We sang and they were singing along with us and they clapped after we sang they did it every time. We helped them by making them very happy and we did make them happy and gave them Christmas cards.



Barkell first and third graders visited Portage Point prior to Christmas Break to sing for and spend some quality time with the residents. It was a fun experience enjoyed by all.



First graders practice before their performance at Portage Point.

Barkell Elementary students volunteered to stay in for recess to make Christmas Cards for U.S. soldiers stationed all over the world.



Vaada I hope you a Merry Christmas this year. be safe. We all love you so much for what you are doing for us. we are from hantok Elementary we in Shook in Barkell Elementary I am in 2nd grade.



Students in Mrs. Address' class wrote Christmas letters to former Barkell student Travis Bessner. Travis is a former Barkell student and is the son of Barkell secretary Mrs. Bessner. Travis received the letters in Iraq while serving in the Marines.





# Christmas Traditions



Fifth graders wrote about a Holiday Tradition and shared these traditions with their classmates. The final product was created during our craft day. The writing activity was developed over a week's time in which the students conferred with their classmates and teacher. Students made many revisions during the editing stage and created their final product during craft day. Students also made crystals, snowflakes and snow angels. A special thank you to Mrs. Pierce who came to help us. Merry Christmas.



Young 5s pose for a picture of their hand made ornaments...of their hands



Barkell Elementary students and staff gather in the gym on the last day of school before break to sing Christmas carols.

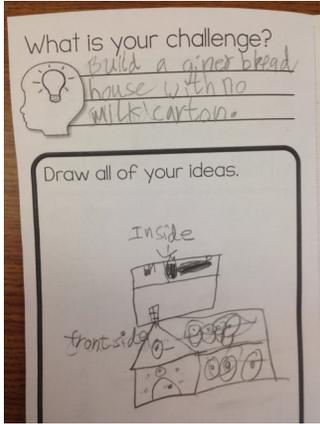


Zarianna and Anastaysia make macaroni trees.

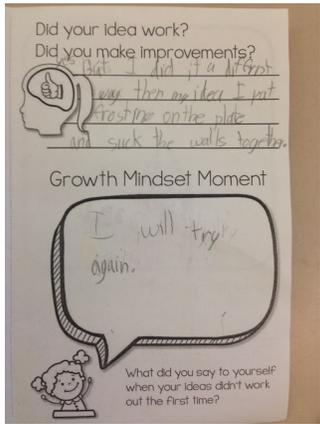
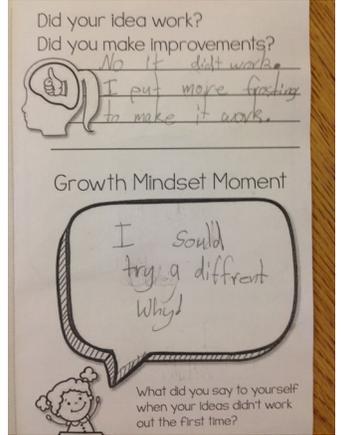




# Second Grade News



2nd grade (Nordmark) and Kindergarten (Blessing) students acted as engineers building gingerbread houses. They needed to design a house that would stay up on its own. The children worked through the engineering design process to design, build, and re-design the houses. At the end, they took them home to enjoy!



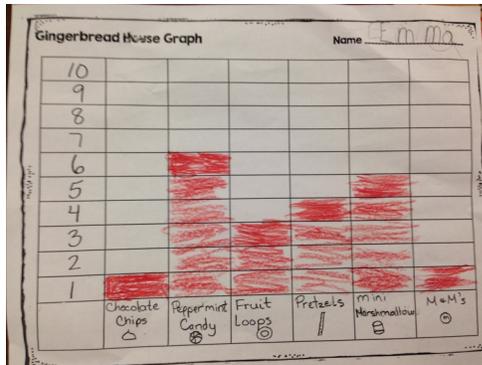
Emma and Samantha display their house.



Zoey and Finn put the finishing touches on.



Aubree and Aryan frost the walls of their house.



Students also got a chance to learn about graphing.



Viviana, Kaityln, and Adalynn are proud of their houses.



Samantha, Emma, Jordan, Andres, Mason, Aubree are hard workers.



# Third Grade News



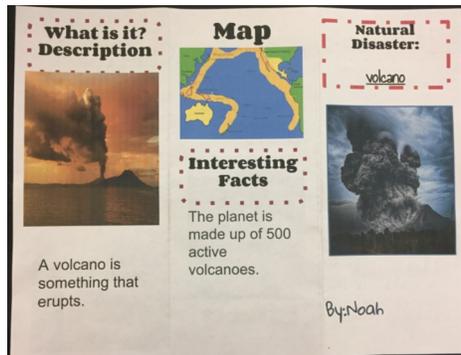
Students in Mrs. Knuuttila's class each chose a natural disaster to study. Students used a variety of sources to learn about the natural disaster of their choosing and then created an informational brochure and presented their findings to the class through the use of models and the creation of television-like news reports.



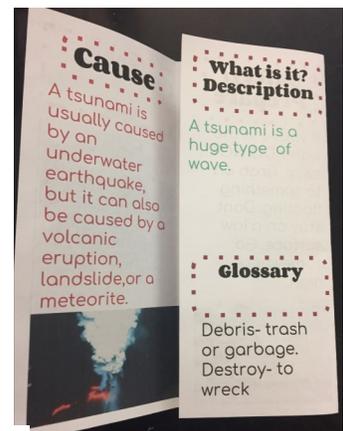
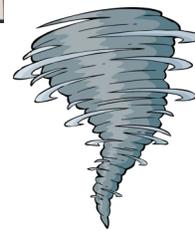
Students perform their news reports.



Isabel, Emily, Solomon, and Savannah are focused on their research.



Jared explains his model.

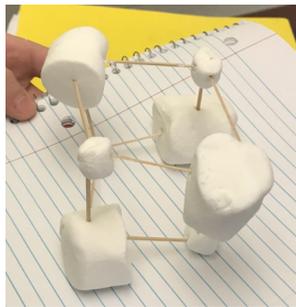
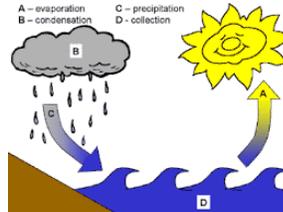
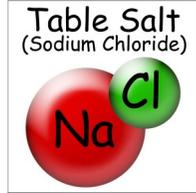




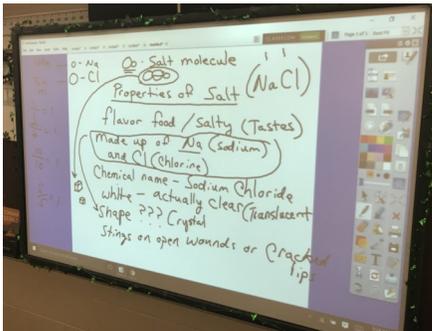
# Fifth Grade News



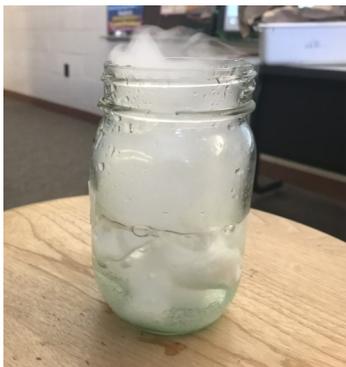
Fifth grade students are learning about cloud formation and forms of precipitation. Here, students are using wax to simulate how hailstones form within a cloud. Key concepts include: condensation nuclei, condensation and updrafts.



Students observe how salt molecules combine to form cubes due to the 1:1 ratio of sodium and chlorine atoms through an activity using large and small marshmallows to represent the sodium and chlorine atoms.



During science class, students were able to observe properties of dry ice (frozen carbon dioxide). We were able to take advantage of this opportunity due to our cookie dough delivery which used dry ice with our shipment.





# Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- \* **Barkell Elementary PTO** for all they do for our school
- \* **Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous donations and purchases
- \* **Ellie Alexander** for her generous donation of mittens
- \* **The Eks** for the generous donation of board games for indoor recess
- \* **The Silvolas, Turnquists, Halls, Ollankettos, Biekkolas, Peryams, Ojas, and anyone else we may have missed** for their donations to the Bulldog Christmas Shop.
- \* **The Rasners** for their donation of hats and mittens



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.

A BIG thank you to the Barrette family, Mrs. Dupuis & Mrs. Blessing (and anyone else we may have forgotten /didn't know about) for giving our elementary halls a "heep" of Hancock spirit! The paws look GREAT! - Mrs. Maki's 5th grade class



## 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

