

BARKELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Hancock Public Schools

1201 North Elevation Street

Karen Eddy, Principal

Emily Cavis and Genivieve Nordmark, Assistants to the Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

- February 13th
Classroom Valentine's Day Parties
- February 14th
No School
Area Wide Inservice Day
- March 5th
PTO meeting at 5:30 at Barkell
- March 12th
Teacher Inservice
Students dismissed at 11:50
- March 21st - March 28th
No School
Spring Break



We are collecting receipts from Tadych's MarketPlace. Please save your receipts and send them to school. Thank you!



February is a great time to focus on spreading kindness. Whether it's a smile, a helping hand, or a kind word, every little act makes a difference. Let's make our school brighter by being kind to everyone!

REMINDERS

Students in first through fifth grades will be going outside to cross country ski during gym class. Please remember to dress in snow pants, boots, hat, gloves, and a winter jacket. The outdoors is great fun when you are dressed warmly!

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Today's Menu

WELCOME TO Hancock Public School District

Events
District

Apr 22 - Apr 26

Apr 22
K55 Trip to Holland Park Ecology Centre

Apr 26
Robotics Tryouts

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Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just one or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

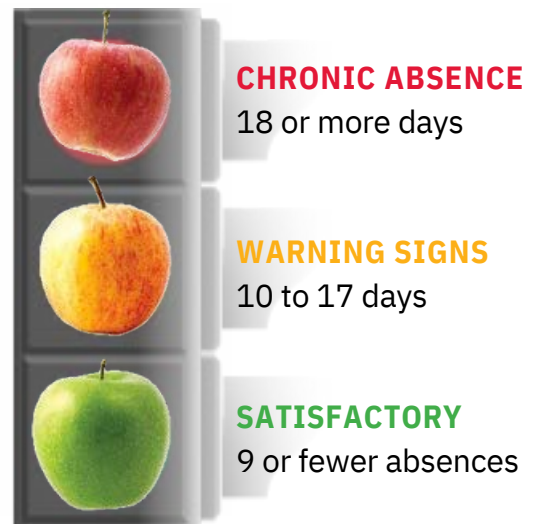
Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-urgent related medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned that your child may have a contagious illness, call your school or health care provider for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

Revised April 2024

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

COUNSELOR CONNECTION



Michael Garrison, Social Worker



DID YOU KNOW THAT THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO CONNECT WITH YOUR CHILD AND SUPPORT THEIR EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING? AS THEY GROW AND DEVELOP, IT'S ESSENTIAL TO ENCOURAGE A POSITIVE MINDSET, HELP THEM NAVIGATE CHALLENGES, AND PROMOTE HEALTHY HABITS.



Let's make February a month of meaningful connections for our Barkell Bulldogs!



BULLDOG BONDS: BUILDING BONDS ALL MONTH LONG



Here are five helpful tips for parents to support their child's emotional growth this month:

1. Spend Quality Time Together

Whether it's playing a game or reading a book, the time you spend together strengthens your bond. Little moments make a big difference!

2. Practice Positive Communication

Listen actively and respond with understanding to show your child they're heard. This builds trust and helps them express themselves.

3. Encourage Empathy and Kindness

Help your child recognize others' feelings and practice kindness every day. Empathy creates strong friendships and a positive community.

4. Set a Routine of Appreciation

End each day by sharing one thing you're grateful for. This simple act builds a habit of gratitude and brings you closer together.

5. Be Their Emotional Coach

Guide your child through tough emotions by helping them label their feelings. This shows them how to manage their emotions in healthy ways.

Building bonds and strengthening relationships takes time, but these moments of connection will create lasting support for your child's emotional and social growth.

JANUARY BARK STUDENTS



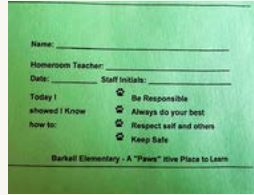
Every week our school recognizes a student or students from each grade level that models our school BARK goals.



- B** - Be responsible
- A** - Always do your best
- R** - Respect self and others
- K** - Keep safe



JANUARY'S GREEN TICKET AWARD WINNERS



Kindergarten: Kimber Terry, Isaac Jeannotte First Grade: Name withheld Second Grade: Elliot Rashleigh Third Grade: Mariella Paoli Fourth Grade: Walter Johnson Fifth Grade: Mallory Pietila	Kindergarten: Nora Walli, Lily Ohtonen First Grade: Rosa Erickson Second Grade: Leland LaPointe Third Grade: Thomas Spelich Fourth Grade: Name withheld Fifth Grade: Isabelle Pennala
Kindergarten: Anna Sturos, Micah Kaura First Grade: Remi Cavis Second Grade: Lavinia Bastion Third Grade: Naomi Cline Fourth Grade: Marcus Turnquist Fifth Grade: Charlotte Kerry	Kindergarten: Oliver LaPointe, Mick Osborne First Grade: Ryleigh Johnson Second Grade: Allison Osborne Third Grade: Lola Meyette Fourth Grade: Name withheld Fifth Grade: Andy Hammerstrom

WHAT IS YOUR GOOD THING FOR TODAY?

Here at Barkell Elementary we practice sharing our "good things" as part of our Capturing Kids Hearts Program. This program is designed to help our teachers and staff create a strong, positive relationship with students. Every day, students are asked to share their good things that are happening in their lives. Here are some good things from some of our students.

GOOD THINGS



I PLAYED FOXES AT INDOOR RECESS. MALCOLM, 2ND GRADE

I'M EXCITED FOR GYMNASTICS. ELLIE, 3RD GRADE

My mom bought me a new sweater. Thea, Kindergarten

I learned how to drive a snowmobile. I drove it around and around the house. Ella, 1st grade

My dad just came home from working on a big boat. Dawson, 2nd grade

My birthday! Violet, Young 5's

I fed the deer with my auntie and grandma and Uncle Kevin. Peyton, Kindergarten

Wing Ding is this Friday and I'm looking forward to going. - Kylie, 4th grade

We finally got to go skiing today. CJ, 4th grade



NEWS FROM THE PTO



March 5th at 5:30

Mark your calendars for an important PTO meeting at Barkell, March 5th at 5:30. Your support and attendance would be greatly appreciated.

Topics: start planning for Teacher Appreciation week and continue discussion on the future of the PTO.

ROBOTICS COMPETITION NEWS

On Saturday, January 18 we hosted our final VEX IQ Elementary/Middle School League Event day. On this final day, Hancock Public Schools had three teams awarded with State Qualifying Invites!

The Middle School team consists of Jonathon Eikenberry, Cathy Farrell, and Perrin Nordmark.

The two elementary teams going to the State Championship are made of the following students: Caleb Jeannotte, Merrick Pierce, and Aaron Savela; James Eikenberry, Walter Johnson, Matthew Perez, and Addi Vizanko.

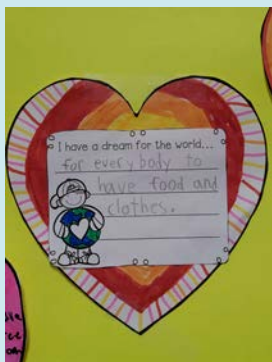
The Michigan State VEX IQ Elementary Tournament will be in Monroe, MI on March 7-8. The Michigan State VEX IQ Middle School Tournament will be in Monroe, MI on March 8-9.



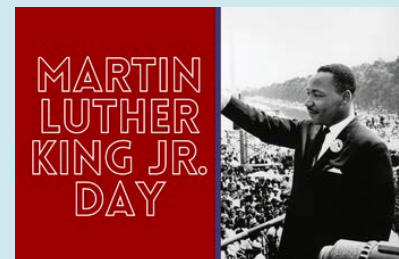
JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS



Martin Luther King Jr. Day



We enjoyed having Michigan Tech students come into the school to read a Martin Luther King Jr. book to all of our classes. Students also worked on other projects to help them understand the importance of this day.



JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS



Outdoor Recess Fun in the Snow



JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS



Skiing during gym class

Thank you to Ms. Murphy and all of our volunteers for making this fun, winter activity happen for our students!



JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS



Congratulations! We are so proud of you!

2025 Third Grade Heikinpaiva Essay Winners, Tad and Raelynn got to ride in the parade and have their essays displayed at the Tori Market. All the 3rd graders worked so hard to research Heikinpaiva and write very nice, persuasive essays. We celebrated in school by playing outside in the snow, enjoying hot chocolate, and some Finnish milk chocolates.



2025 Fifth Grade Spelling Bee
 Congratulations to Elin Stromer for winning the spelling bee and Mallory Pietila for coming in second place.
 Nice work!

