

March 2020

Barkell Elementary

Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



Principal Announcements

- We would like to thank everyone for their patience as we work out how best to service our kids and community during these times. Packet pickup, as well as food pickup, have been a huge success thanks to the hard work of our staff and the patience and caring nature of our families. Communications will continue to come, notifying parents of any changes to our procedures as we get more and more guidance from the government and the MDE.
- We would like to thank everyone for helping with our Read-a-thon fundraiser.
- 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:

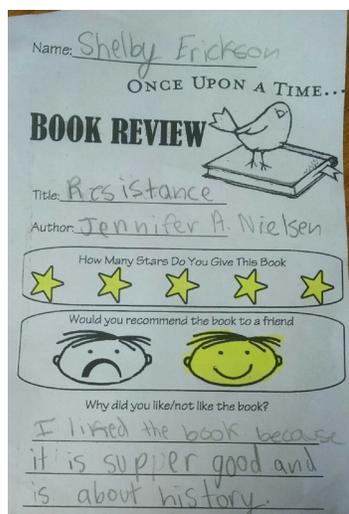
- Packet pickup and food pickup will continue on Wednesdays until further notified.
- You may register for K or Young 5s now. Simply print off an enrollment form from our website or call the office (487-9030). Once the lockdown is lifted, we will plan some sort of Y5s/ Kindergarten orientation activity similar to our original plan.



March is Reading Month



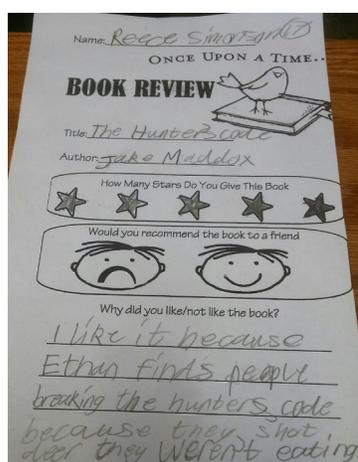
March is Reading Month kicked off with a bang at Barkell this spring. The theme this year as chosen by the students was: "Westerns". Students were treated to a kick off assembly featuring a presentation from a local veterinarian. Students spent the month celebrating reading by reading books and writing book reviews, participating in our Read-a-thon, along with a number of other fun activities designed to promote literacy.



Classrooms show off their March is Reading Month displays



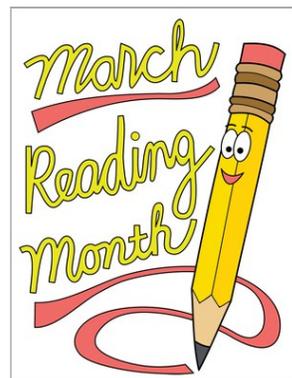
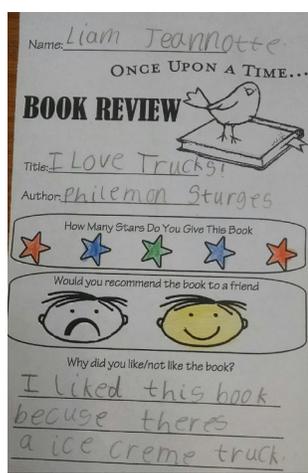
Students pack the bleachers in anticipation of the exciting March is Reading Month kickoff assembly



Students read books and wrote reviews to post on our Book Review Wall



Folks are greeted by this fancy Western display as they enter Barkell





MSU Science Theater



MSU Science Theater visited Barkell Elementary again this spring. The presenters wowed the audience with a wide variety of exciting demonstrations designed to teach them about difficult scientific concepts. Students learned about electricity, predator-prey relationships, the cosmos, and freezing points to name a few.



Presenter wows the audience with a Tesla Coil



Tyler and Samantha help with a demonstration teaching students about structural adaptations of birds



Presenters demonstrate how molecules are positioned in gases, liquids, and solids



The presenter prepares for a liquid nitrogen demonstration



The Tesla Coil



Jada assists in a demonstration



MSU students demonstrate how far the planets are from each other



Music News



Tia and Azura practice their ostinato on their string instruments



Students in Mrs. Delong's music class create ostinatos to Little Liza Jane.



Gage and Vaeda play their ostinato on the xylophone



Fourth Grade News

Fourth graders in Social study discussed Lake Superior. We used a huge floor map to label cities in Canada and the USA. Finally we used small paper maps to locate rivers. This was a wonderful way to talk about population and Lake Superior's watershed.





Outdoor Winter Fun



Students play a game of soccer with snow shoes during PE class.



Students enjoy a game of hockey on a sunny winter day.



Students battle for the ball as the sun rises on a cold winter morning



An unidentified player attempts to score on an unidentified goaltender



Students start out their day with PE



Some winter fun on the giant spider web



Art News



Barkell Elementary artists have completed many masterpieces throughout the year. Most of these are on display throughout the hallways of Barkell Elementary. However a select handful of students were fortunate enough to have their art on display at the Community Arts Center in Hancock.



Iriina and Les worked hard on their projects



Perrin's paper weaving project on display at the Arts Center



Mari's eagle and Lilly's design

Congratulations to the 2020 Barkell Artist Notecard winners:

Brooke Pakkala, Tyler Isaacson, Diem Kilpela, Noah Osborne & Silas Packard



Ani's clay panda, Kyler's turtle, and Jordan's bridge on display



Iriina's clay project



Keaton's ocean display





Second Grade News



Second graders have been learning a lot about Social Studies through these fun, hands-on activities. We traveled around the world looking at landforms with our Virtual Reality goggles. We shared our knowledge of landforms by making our own clay islands with several landforms. Also, we brought in a huge floor map of the Great Lakes region and worked to label the landforms and cities in our area. We have had so much fun learning about geography!



Second graders learn about Lake Superior with a giant map



Students display their finely crafted landforms



Students explore the world's landforms through the use of Virtual Reality



Second graders have been working hard to learn more about science. We learned more about matter by testing out mortar to make a safe house for the Three Little Pigs. Students had to test out several different types of mortar, such as: flour, sugar, cornstarch, and salt. Then, we made a house using tape, paper, straws and mortar. Finally, the Big Bad Wolf came and tried to huff and puff and blow our houses over. We were successful and the Wolf couldn't destroy our houses!

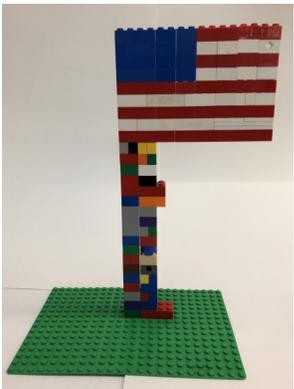




Lego Club



The Barkell Elementary Lego Club has had an exciting year! Anywhere from 50 to 80 students participated in the after school club on Thursdays throughout the school year. Students have created a wide variety of creative projects throughout the year. We look forward to the fall to continue all of the great work they have done!



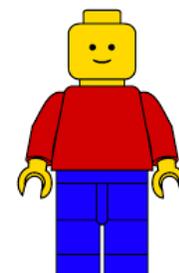
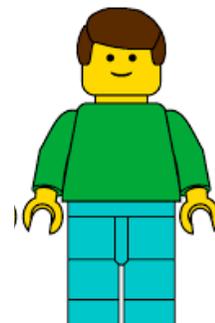
USA!



Lego hockey goalie



Lego Castle



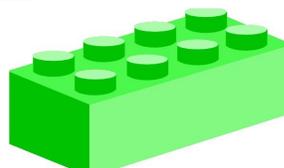
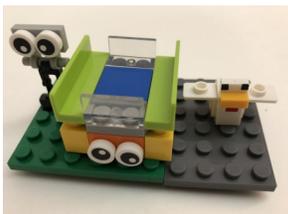
These Lego projects are from our early elementary students. Creating different types of "vehicles" was the theme the past couple of months.



Lego hockey rink



Lego bus





Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- * **Barkell Elementary PTO** for all they do for our school
- * **Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous donations and purchases
- **Dr. Rebecca Severn**, DVM from the Copper Country Vet Clinic for our Reading Month assembly
- **Pat's IGA** for their generous donation of paper grocery bags
- **U-Haul** for their generous donation of plastic bags
- **Ruth Gill** for her generous donation of board games



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

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Read-a-thon a huge success! As a school, we raised about \$5000. At this time I would like to recognize the top earners. A special thank you goes out to:

Jasper Ausema, Casper Carn, Mac Brogan, Jada Klein, Sam Klein, Liam Jeannotte, Emmett Levanen, Will Rouser, Rowan Erickson, Ishanvi Hatti, Perrin Nordmark, Gunner Lehtola, Lorelai Levanen, Liam Erickson, Les Simonson, Drew Oja

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

