

November 2021

Barkell Elementary

Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



Principal Announcements

- We are pleased to announce that our Pancake Breakfast is back on this year. The breakfast will take place on Saturday, December 4th here in the Barkell Elementary gym.
- Please remember that if you drop your child off at school in the mornings to do so at the main entrance doors.
- 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:

- 12/4 Pancake Breakfast (7:30-11:30)
- 12/7 Christmas Concert– Begins at 9:00
- 12/20 No School– Start of Christmas Break



STEM News



It has been another exciting month of learning in STEM class. The main focus has been on our recently purchased Vex Robots system. Students are learning about robots and how they work. They are building their own robots and having fun programming them to move and do basic functions.



Students set up their Vex Robots courses



Cami is focused on her work



Kiri and Payton plan their project



Tyler builds his robot



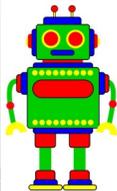
Students begin piecing together their robots



KariAnn takes a quick break for a pic



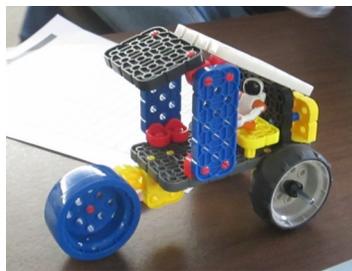
Rowan completes his robot



Bradley works with Keva Planks



Teamwork



3D Printed!



STEM



Ava programs her robot



Kindergartners design frames for buildings



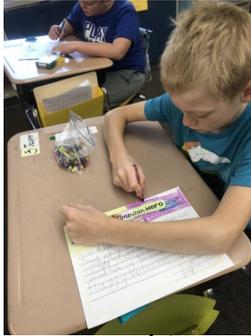
Ben concentrates



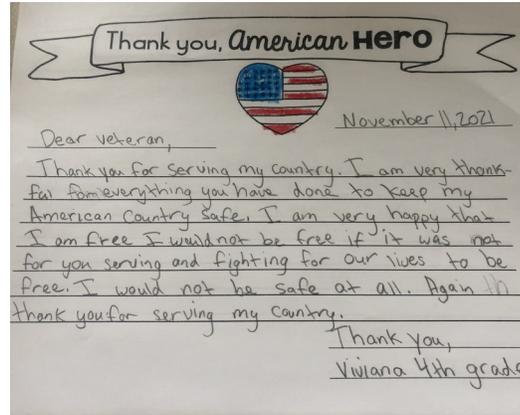
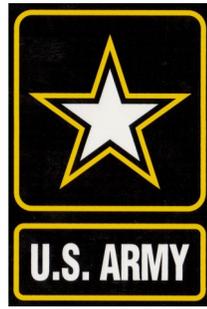
Veteran's Day



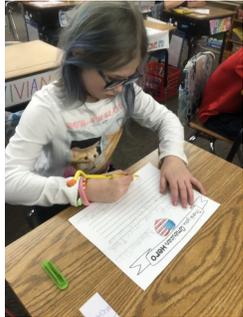
Barkell Elementary spent November 11th honoring our country's veterans. Students enjoyed watching movies and reading books about the sacrifices made by our veteran heroes. Students also enjoyed writing thank you letters for our veterans. Mrs. Johnson's 5th grade class made agamographs (2 pictures in one) and wrote thank you letters to veterans. They were delivered to the local VFW as a thank you.



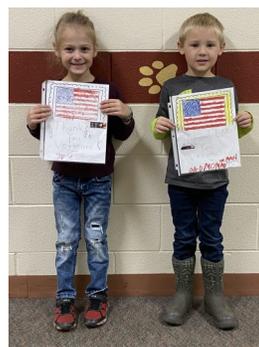
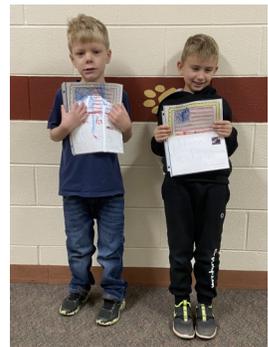
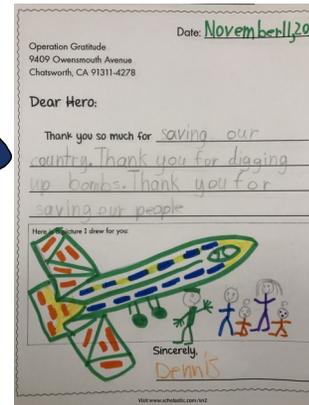
Stormy and Jasper write to veterans



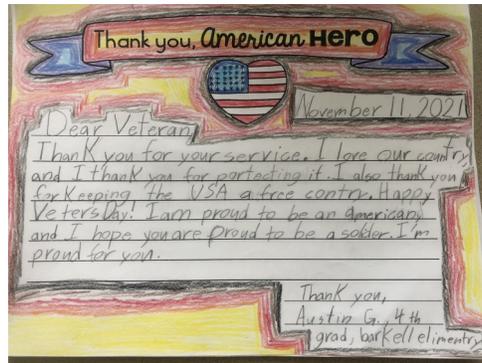
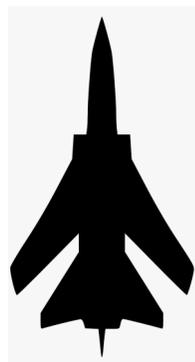
Marley and Letty show their appreciation for veterans



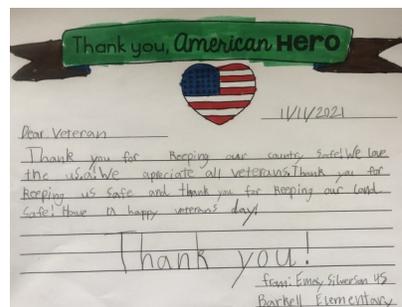
Mrs. Johnson's class poses with their projects for veterans



Lucas, Leland, Havok, and Matthew pose with their work



Colson works on his Veteran's Day project





Playground Fun



Young Fivers enjoy a nice fall day outside



Tyler drops back to pass



Holden, Easton, and Jameson pose for a pic



Students enjoy a ride on the new playground Jeep



Kindergartners shoot hoops on a sunny day



Will and James make a snow ball

First snow of the year



Kindergartners pose by their snowman



Hockey is back!



A nice day to relax



Kindergarten News



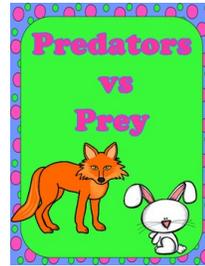
It has been an exciting fall of learning for Barkell Elementary kindergartners! Kindergarten classes learned about the 5 senses. They attended the Senses Detective field trip in our forest. Mrs. Pihlaja was a hungry wolf using her senses to find rabbits to capture. Kindergartners also had fun honoring our veterans with a neat Veteran's Day project.



Students enjoy learning about predator/ prey relationships on our school nature trail on a cold



Mrs. Pihlaja demonstrates a fox hunting it's prey



Tom, Raelynn, and Izabella finish coloring their military soldiers.



Cord, Thomas, and Lacey cut out words to glue to their Veteran's Day project. Students enjoyed honoring our country's heroes



Owen and Noelle glue the words onto their Veteran's page.



Macklyn and Dawson start to cut out words for their page.



Scott and Nora color their Soldiers.





First Grade News



Barkell Elementary first graders had fun learning about Isle Royale this fall. Students enjoyed a presentation from Susana Ausema of the National Park Service. Students learned about the plants and animals that are on the island, how they got there, and what makes Isle Royale so special. The kids were excited to each get their own copy of the I Spy Isle Royale book that was written and illustrated by Susanna Ausema.



Walter and Anna show their new books

Jessa and Alexis read their new books



Dear Mrs Ausema
Thank you for teaching
us about Isle Royale
and for the book. My
favorite part is when
you gave the books.

from
tylie



First graders listen to Mrs. Ausema



Students learn about the animals of Isle Royale

Dear Mrs. Ausema,
Thank you for teaching
us about Isle Royale
and for the book. My
favorite part is the
book

from
Haley



Dear Mrs. Ausema
Thank you for
teaching us about
Isle Royale
and for the book.
My favorite part
is reading the book.

from
Aryana

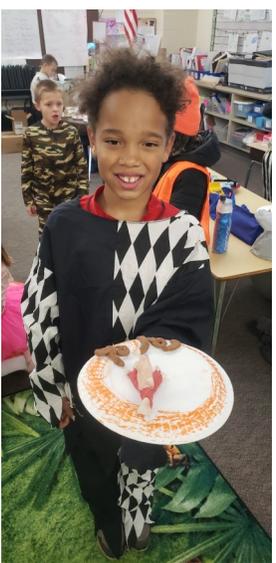




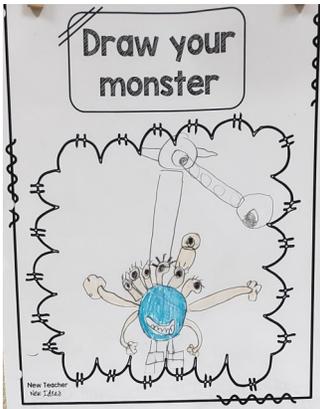
Second Grade News



We love monsters! Second graders learned all about adjectives and verbs in this hands-on STEAM activity. We read monster stories and listened for interesting monster words to add to our story. We drew our monster and used that as inspiration to write a story all about our very own monster. Finally, we used clay to bring our monsters to life!



Elin, Will, Vivienne, Caleb, and Mallory display their work



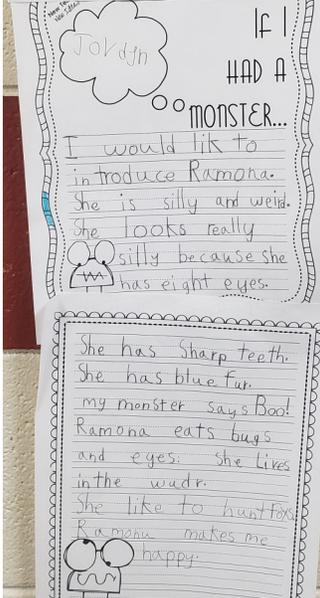
Caleb, and Layla focus on their work



Students enjoy a fun project on Halloween



Penny, Mallory, and Jordyn take a quick break to pose for a photo





Second Grade News



Second graders have been learning about nouns, verbs, and adjectives with pumpkins and monsters. They then used the writing process to create stories about their monsters. First, they brainstormed about the best monster for them. Next, they designed their monsters and created them with clay. Then, they used adjectives, nouns, and verbs to describe their monsters. These led to their first drafts. These drafts were edited and revised. Finally, the finished stories were published and hung in the hallway. Second grade also learned about how the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade started and how their balloons are made. They designed and decorated their own balloons to parade for preschool-1st grade.



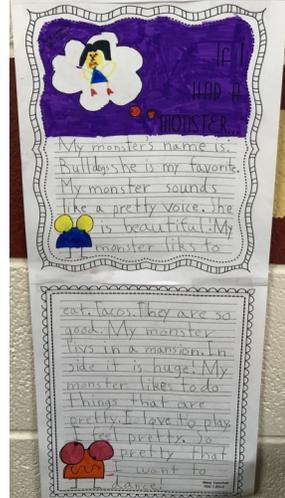
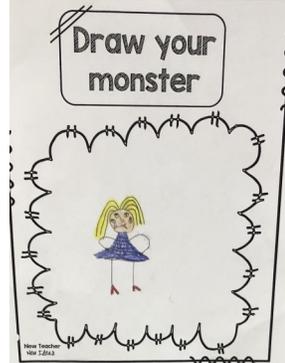
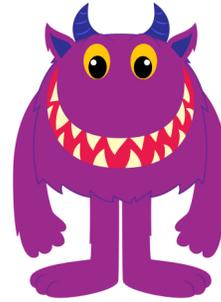
Second graders parade through the halls



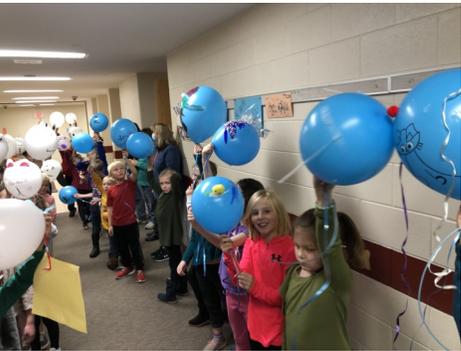
Briggs and Adara work on their monsters



Viera focuses on the creation of her monster



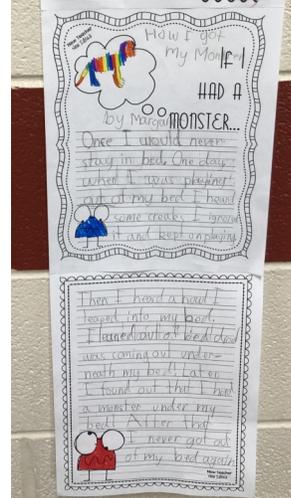
Student writing displayed in the hallway



Maverick and Gabe display their monsters



Alia and Charlotte work on their balloons



Holden poses for a quick photo in front of his monster

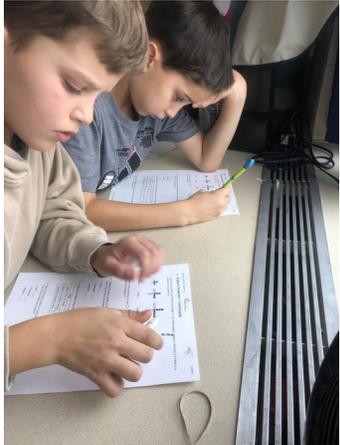




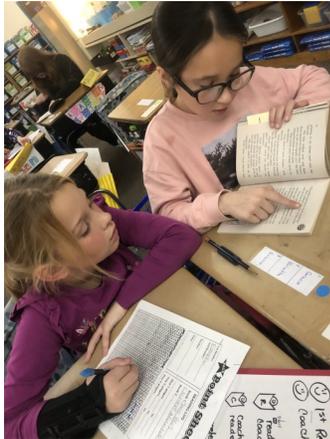
Fourth Grade News



Students in Mrs. Liimatta's fourth grade classroom spent time in November learning how to collaborate and solve problems. By working together they support each other, have to explain their mathematical thinking to each other, and analyze patterns and come up with answers as a team. These challenges serve to deepen their understanding of math concepts and are challenging. Students also sharpened their reading comprehension skills by reading stories together and practicing their retell.



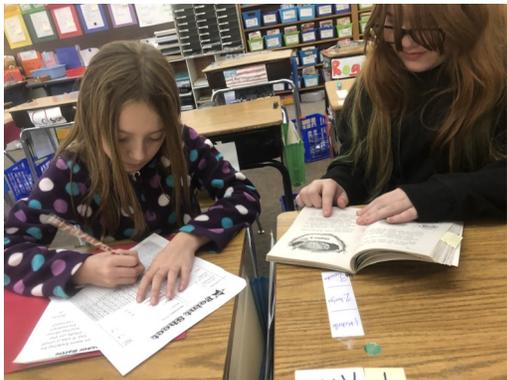
Rowan and Solomon are deeply focused



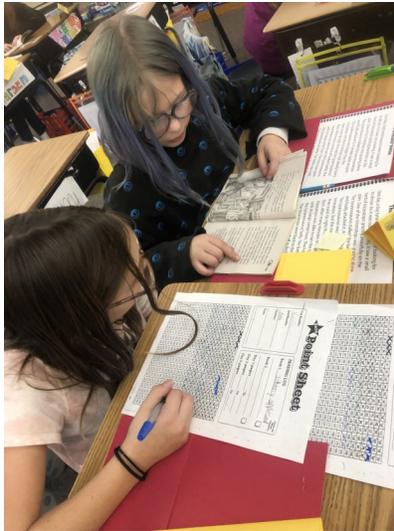
Emery shows Mallory something she found in the story



Students in Mrs. Liimatta's class work together to solve problems



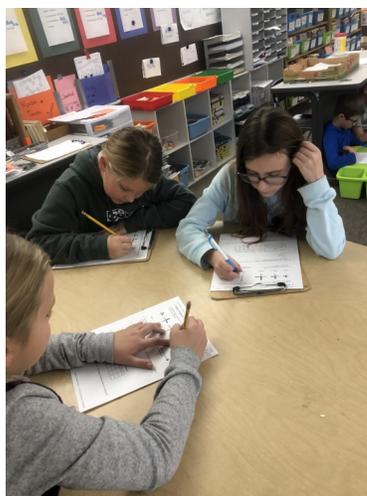
Taylor and Sophia solve problems together



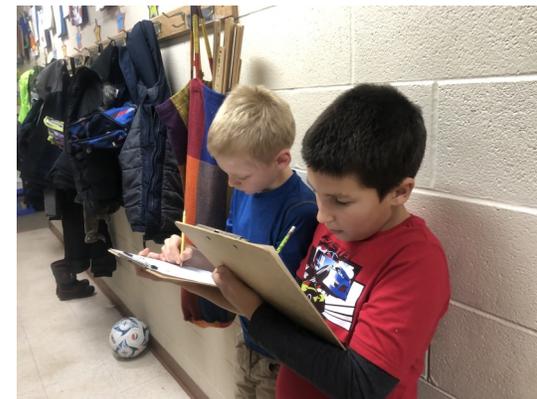
Students relax under a table while solving challenging problems



Students take a quick break from their challenging problems



Viviana and Natasha are deeply focused



Jasper and Myles work together





Fourth Grade News



It was an exciting month of learning for Barkell Elementary fourth graders. In science, fourth graders explored sound and vibrations by experiencing how sound travels through a paper cup telephone. Fourth graders also learned about the properties of sound waves. They put their knowledge to the test by creating a musical instrument that could make different pitches using the engineering design process.



Finn takes a quick break



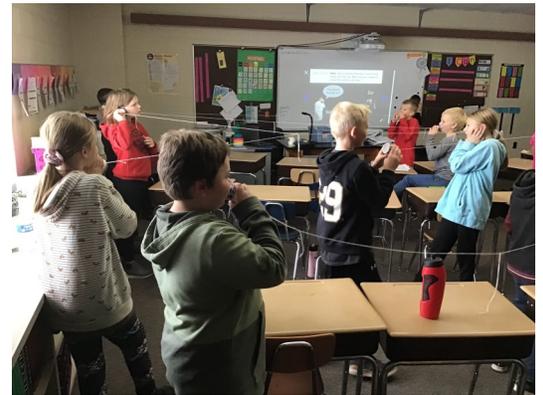
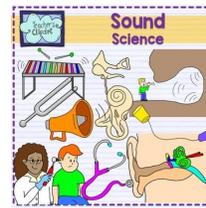
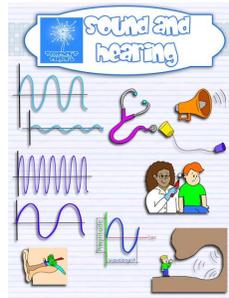
Deacon chats with his classmate



Students are allowed the rare privilege of using their phones in class



Kiri creates her musical instrument



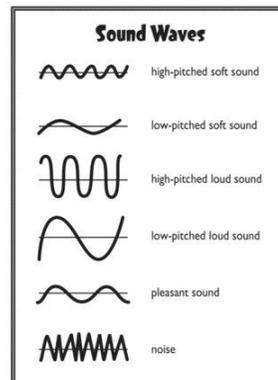
Students are amazed to hear voices travel through string



Students work on their instruments



Landon chats with his friend



Blake works with his partners





Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- **The Barkell PTO** for all that they do
- **The Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous grants
- **31 Backpacks** for all that they do for our kids
- **All Barkell families** who contributed to the Bulldog Shop and fundraiser
- **Everyone** who supported our Pancake Breakfast
- **Gayle Stromer** for her generous donation of money
- **Vicky Vichich** for her generous donation of Legos and socks



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.

ART NEWS



Barkell Elementary needs help with:



*We are in need of kid size socks for all of the wet feet that come off of the playground

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