

September 2021

Barkell Elementary

Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



Principal Announcements

- We are pleased to announce that our Pancake Breakfast is back on this year. More information will be coming out soon.
- Our fall fundraiser starts Thursday, October 7th. This is the same fundraiser that we have been doing for years. Materials will come home on Thursday.
- 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:

- Oct 8th No School– Teacher PD Day
- Oct 20th Early Dismissal @ 1:46
- Oct 21st 1/2 Day– Parent Teacher Conferences



STEM Class



Barkell is excited to announce that we have created a new special for students to attend along with the usual specials of art, gym, music, and library. The class is being taught by Mr. Knewtson and Mrs. Kuntzelman. Students attend STEM class once or twice per week depending upon their grade level. Students have had a lot of fun so far doing exciting projects including bottle rockets, catapults, and bridge designing to name a few.



Holden works with Mrs. Kuntzelman on his bottle rocket



Students craft their bottle rockets



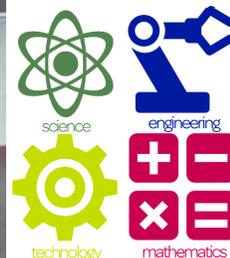
Tally, Adalyn, Brooke, and Keila test how many pennies their boats will hold



Carter and Perrin work together



Elin and Caleb prepare their catapults for launch



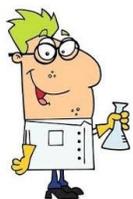
Quinn, Adara, and Aliea work together



Students construct their catapults



Mrs. Nordmark's students wait for lift off



Students listen to Mrs. Kuntzelman before beginning their project





Fire Safety Week



Barkell Elementary participated in Fire Safety and Prevention Week during the week of October 4th. Members of the Hancock Fire Department, The Quincy-Franklin Fire Department, and the Ripley Fire Department put on programs and demonstrations for our students. Students learned about how to call 911, what to do in the event of the fire, and how to prevent fires. They also learned about the gear fireman use, not to be afraid of fireman, and also how firemen fight fires in rural parts of our community. A special thank you goes out to all three fire departments!



A Hancock Fire Department fire engine sits outside of Barkell



Students learn about the various gear fire-fighters use



Students learn to not fear firemen



First through third graders gather in the gym to learn about fire safety



Students learn about firefighter equipment



Firefighter Deuweke speaks with our kindergartners and preschoolers about fire safety



Students in Young Fives, kindergarten and preschool await their presentation



Fourth and fifth graders enjoy a demonstration on rural fire fighting



Young Fives News



It has been an exciting start to the school year for Young Five students in Mrs. Koskela's classroom. Students have enjoyed numerous trips to our school nature trail as well as numerous trips to our apple trees. Students enjoyed learning about apples and life cycles but they especially enjoyed eating the delicious apples!



Young Fivers enjoy a game of croquet on a nice fall day



Mrs. Koskela's students pose for a class photo in front of our new Bulldog



Leo and Malcolm pose for their birthday photo



Young Fivers learn about and then eat apples



Students enjoy the nature trail



Students show their art projects





Kindergarten News



Mrs. Carlson's kindergarten class and Mrs. Smith's fourth grade class are Reading Buddies. The two classes meet weekly and the fourth graders help our kindergartners with their reading. Both classrooms look forward to this activity each week.



Levi and Chase read a story



Blake and Damien read to kindergartners



Mrs. Blessing's class poses for a picture while out looking for apples



Nora listens to a story from Mallory



Kiri and Jade share a story together



Mrs. Smith's fourth graders help teach kindergarten students in Mrs. Carlson's class how to use the playground equipment safely and correctly. They also talked about playground rules and expectations.



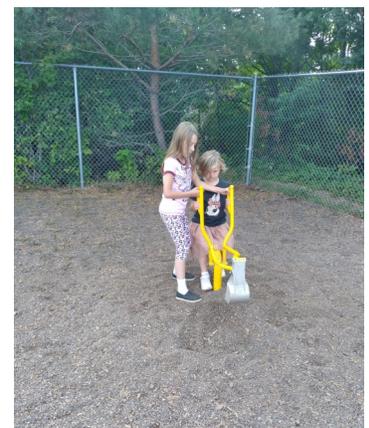
Ella learns from Cami



Fun on the web



Students also learned to safely use the slide



Taylor teaches Ivy to dig



Kindergarten News

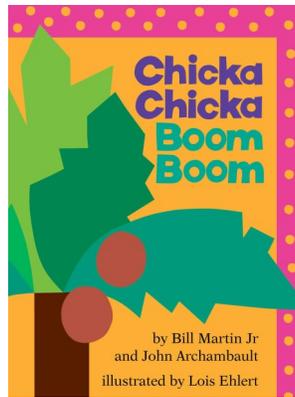


It has been an exciting start to the school year for Mrs. Carlson's kindergarten classroom. Students enjoyed listening to the story Chicka Chicka Boom Boom and using alphabet stickers to place on coconut trees. Students have also been having a fun time getting to know their fourth grade Reading Buddies from Mrs. Smith's classroom, who have been mentoring and reading with them since the start of the school year.



Kindergartners enjoy a nice fall day outside

Gabe, Gage , and Bennett work on their letters



Mrs. Carlson teaches her students letters and letter sounds

Ella focuses on her work Soraya learns her letters



Kindergartners enjoy a snack after working hard on their letters





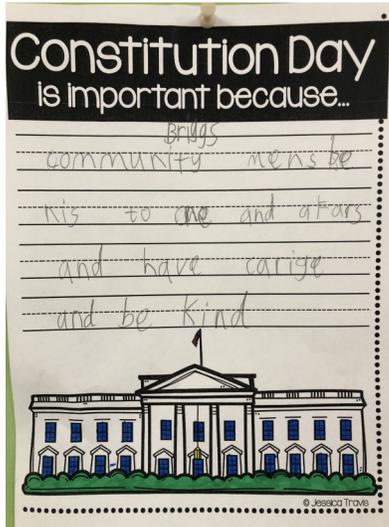
Second Grade News



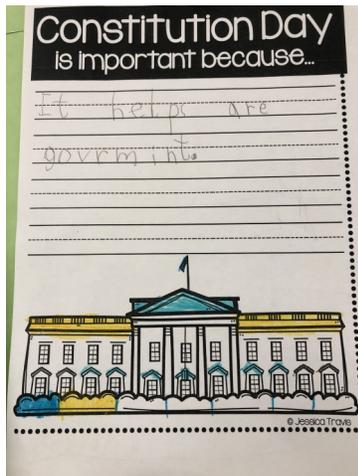
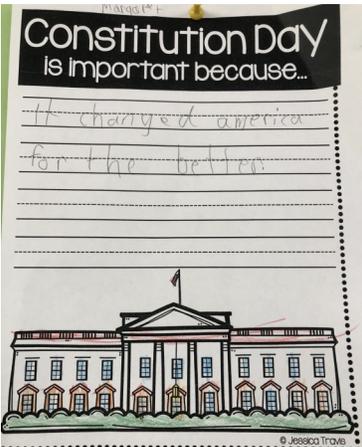
Second graders in Mrs. Nordmark's classroom learned all about our Constitution on Constitution Day. They read the book, "We the People" and learned what all of the fancy words in the Constitution mean. Then, they watched a video that taught more about the Constitution. Finally, the kids wrote about why they think Constitution Day is important for our country.



Justus works on his writing



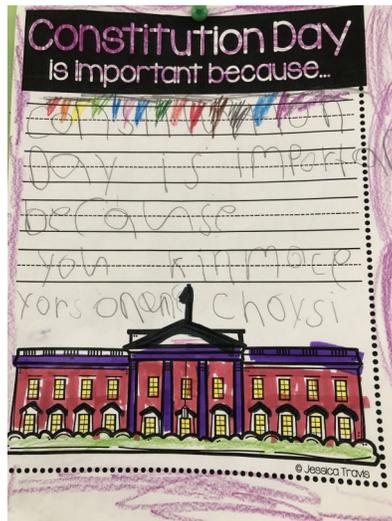
Bailey and Quinn think about the Constitution



Andy focuses on the Constitution



Aila and Viera write about the Constitution





Playground Fun!



Students enjoy the slide on a nice fall day



Footballers pose for a photo before the game



Maverick gets ready to play basketball



Students enjoy hanging out



Eviona gets some work done with the digger



Delia takes a break



Liam avoids the ball in the Gaga Pit



Students enjoy the new Gaga Ball Pit



It's a great day for some Hula Hooping and for posing for a picture in the pavilion!





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
- **Upper Great Lakes Family Health Center** for their generous donation of school supplies
- **Mr. and Mrs. Loonsfoot** for their generous donation of \$20
- **UPS** for their generous donation of hand sanitizer
- **Bethany Baptist Church** for their generous donation of 15 cases of water
- **Charlie and Amanda Klein** for their generous donation of board games
- **Carol Waisanen** for her generous donation of clothing
- **Ruth Croze** for her generous donation of art supplies



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 special thank you to:

Tom Melvig, Travis Ek, Joel Levanen, Landon Levanen, Jax Levanen, and Emmett Levanen for installing our new playground equipment. We would also like to thank Erico and McGann's for donating the materials!



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