

February 2021

Barkell Elementary

Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



Principal Announcements

- I would like to thank our PTO for all that they do for our school including popcorn day, organizing our Rea-a-thon, and leading our fundraising drive for new playground equipment. All of your hard work helps make our school a better place!
- Please consider writing your child's name on their winter gear. We find many items every day and are able to return them if they have a name. When there is no name, it goes to lost and found and unfortunately, very few items are ever claimed.
- 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:

- 3/17 Early dismissal (1:46)
- 3/29-4/5 No School (Spring Break)



100th Day



Barkell Elementary Young Fives and kindergarten students celebrated the 100th day of school in style. Students dressed up as if they were 100 years old and paraded throughout the school. They also played 100 Day games and decorated 100 Day crowns and glasses. Students also did 100 exercises to reinforce their number sense. It was a fun day for all!



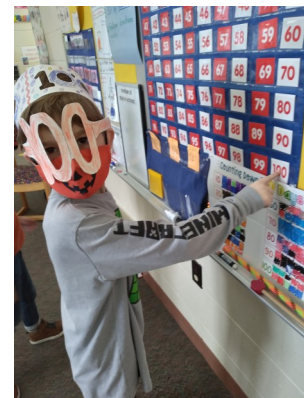
Mrs. Pihlaja's class dressed up for 100th day of School



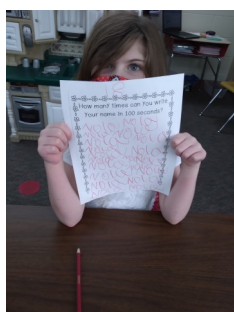
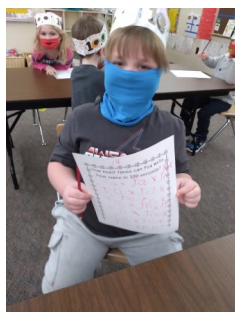
Bradley, Ellie, Landyn, and Everett are ready to start the parade



Liam, Cami, and Walter get ready for their parade



Phoenix points to the number 100 on the 100s chart



Claire, Jaxon, and Nola practice their names



Aryana, Scott, Harrison, and Isabelle pose for a pic



Addison and Anna focus on their 100 Day project



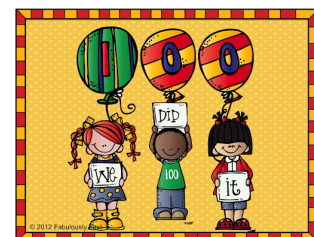
Students parade through the hallway on 100s Day



100 year old kindergartners pose for a pic



Students in Mrs. Blessing's class work on their projects





PE News



Barkell Elementary first through fifth graders enjoyed another year of cross country skiing for PE class. Students are able to get out five to seven times depending on the weather. This program is made possible with the help of the Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club who volunteer to help our students get on their skis and also help with proper technique. The students ski on groomed trails on school property also thanks to help of the KNSC, who regularly grooms the trails. We would like to thank the KNSC for all they do for our school!



Brenna, Brandi, and Kalia take a moment to rest



Tatum poses for a quick pic before skiing



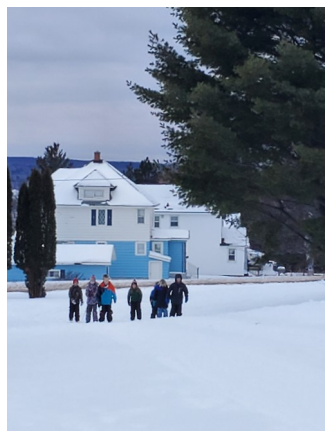
Perfect form!



Jordyn and Rowyn smile for a pic



Time to take a quick break

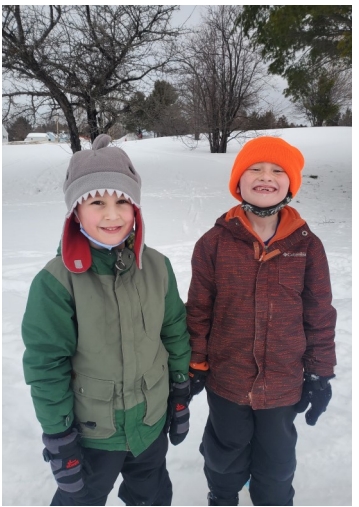


Students enjoy the trails on a nice February morning



Ready to ski!

Merrick and Jame-son enjoy a nice winter morning on the ski trails



Viera and Andy enjoy a nice day of skiing



Stephen waves to the camera



Young Fives News



Students in Mrs. Koskela's class have been having a fun time learning about numbers and letters. Students have also been enjoying movement activities and pajama parties.



Ramesse practices his letter U



Young Fivers enjoy a fun obstacle course during indoor recess



Young Fives students parade throughout the school on 100th Day



Students get a little exercise on a cold day



Students enjoy a pajama/ donut party



Jade poses with her STEM creation



Ari poses for a photo in front her artistic creation

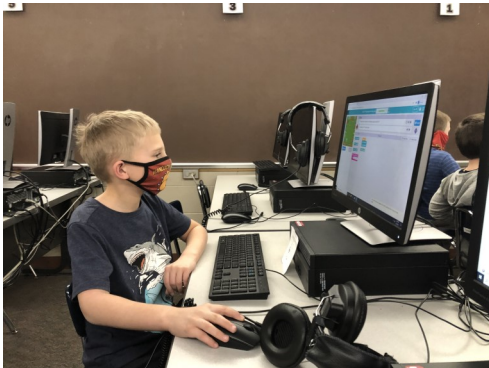




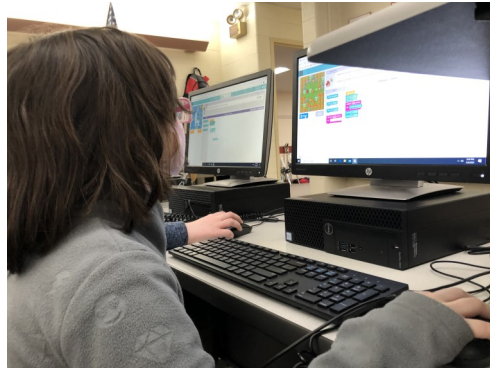
Second Grade News



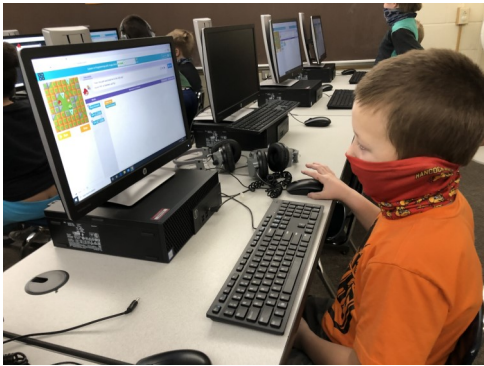
Second graders learn how to code using a program on code.org, a website created by the State of Michigan that helps children learn the basics of coding. They are learning to use block coding to program the movements of characters on their screen. Our second graders have also been very busy learning about matter. We learned about the water cycle and made our own water cycles. It has been really neat to see the water cycle happen right in our classroom! We also did an experiment to learn about melting and phases of matter. We had to decide which type of candy would be the best choice to bring to a hot summer camp. It was so fun getting a chance to play with candy!



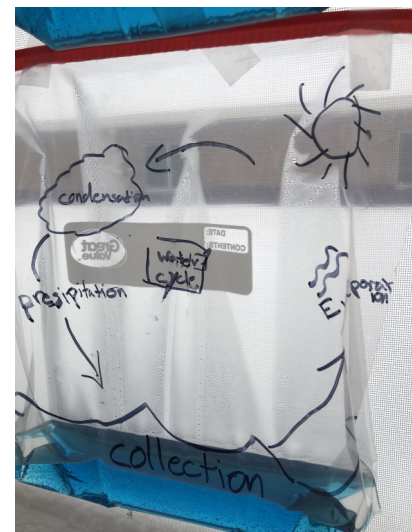
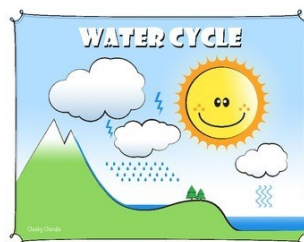
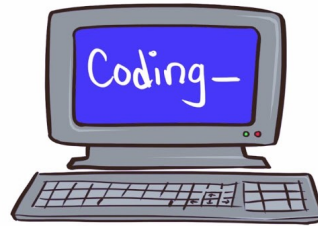
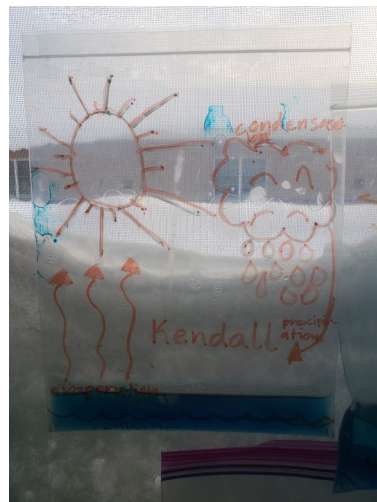
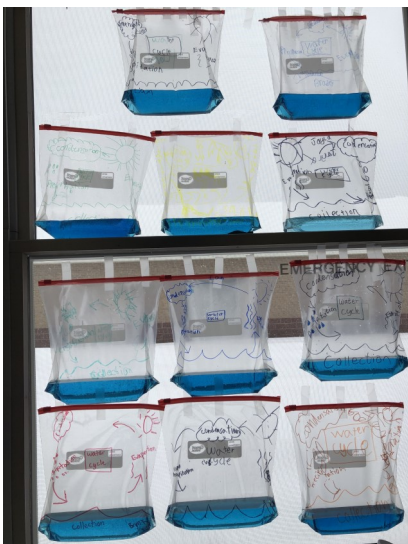
Ian works on his coding lesson



Kathy and Savannah enjoy learning about computer coding



Rudy and Alaina learn how to program a computer





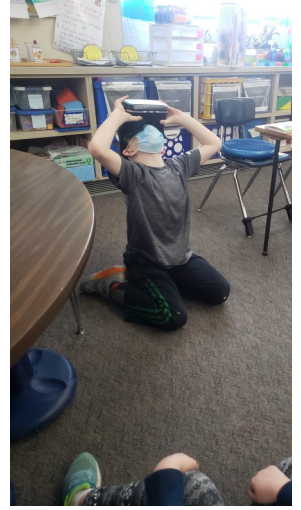
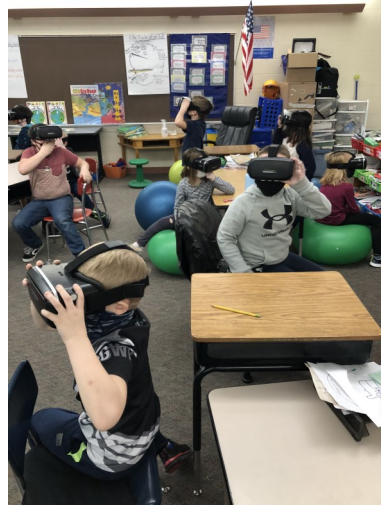
Second Grade News



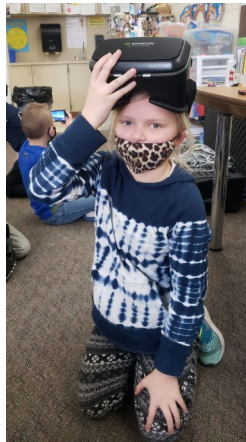
Second graders have been very busy learning about matter. We learned about the water cycle and made our own water cycles. It has been really neat to see the water cycle happen right in our class-room! We also did an experiment to learn about melting and phases of matter. We had to decide which type of candy would be the best choice to bring to a hot summer camp. It was so fun getting a chance to play with candy! Second graders have also had a blast working with the Virtual Reality goggles. We used these goggles to learn about landforms. We took tours all around the world and saw coral reefs, Mount Everest, and more! It was super fun and we are excited to learn more about landforms!



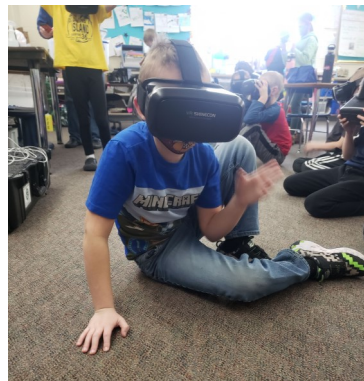
Barkell 2nd graders enjoy virtual reality learning



Students enjoy exploring new places from their classroom



Kit takes a quick break



Henry enjoys visiting a far away place



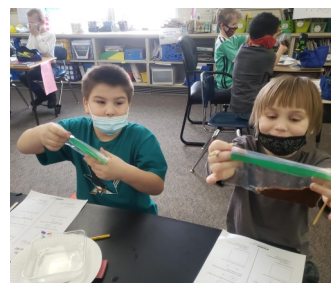
Bruce, Kendall, and Maggie learn about states of matter



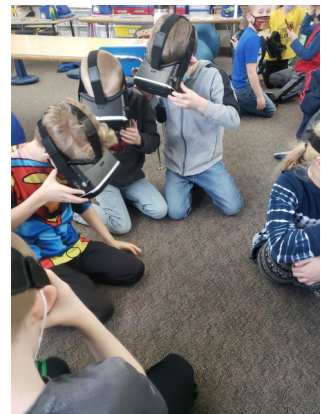
Jonathan, Lewis, Henry, and Jada work together



Gavin and Liam pose for a pic



Mason and Liam learn about the water cycle





Third Grade News



Students in Mrs. Cavis' 3rd grade have been enjoying doing reader's theater in the classroom. The students love to work in groups and have their own parts as they read a story together. This was also a fun way to incorporate our streaming learners as well. The class has also been outside a lot enjoying our mild winter and beautiful weather. The class has enjoyed hiking on our school trail while they learn more about nature and looking for signs of animal life in the winter. The class also earned a fun sledding party on our playground hill. This was a super fun way to enjoy winter, get outside, and have fun with each other.



Students practice their lines for Readers' Theater



Students from Mrs. Cavis' class take a quick break for a photo



Students enjoy a nice winter day on our nature trail



Austin poses for a quick pic before sledding



Roger rests after a run down the hill



Students line up to make a run down our playground hill



Third graders climb up the hill for another run



Barkell Elementary Thanks:

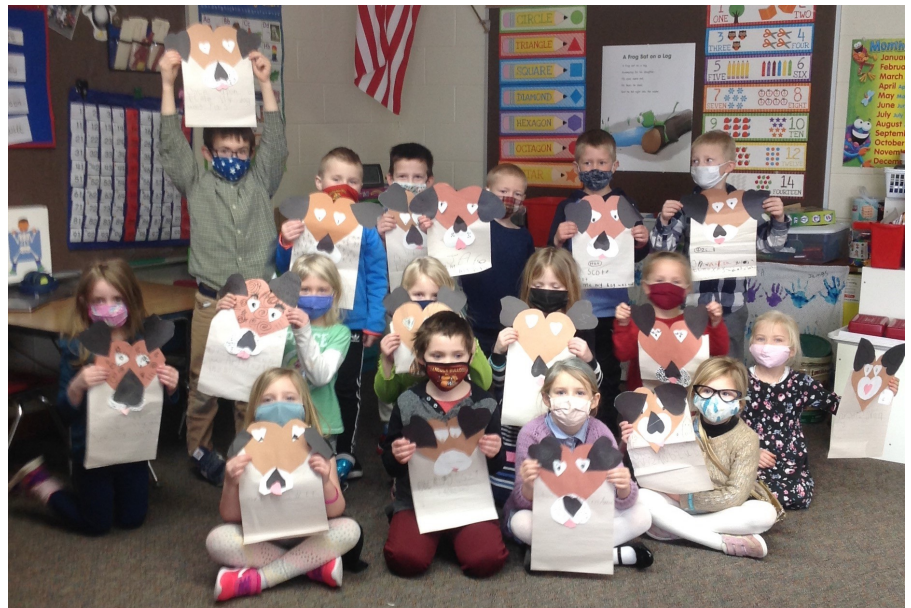


- **The Barkell PTO** for all that they do
- **The Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous grants
- **Shannon Arvon** for her generous donation of Legos
- **JoAnn Jouppe** for her generous gift of bakery for staff
- **The Johnston Family** for their generous donation of masks
- **Annie Klein** for her generous donation of socks
- **The Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club** for their help with our ski program
- **Patrick Brogan** for his generous donation of pencils



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.

Mrs. Pihlaja's class poses for a picture with their fun writing assignment



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