

November 2015

Barkell Elementary

Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



Principal Announcements

- I would to thank everyone for their participation in Parent-Teacher Conferences. The turnout was phenomenal! The relationship between families and the school are essential for student success. We truly appreciate your involvement.
- Please remember that the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade Christmas Concert is at 1:30 on December 16th.
- Please remember to always report to the office for a visitor sticker.
- Winter Break begins on 12/23. We have no school this day.
- Book Fair is 12/1—12/5.
- I am here to help. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,

Dan Vaara– Barkell Elementary Principal



Upcoming Events:

*11/25 and 11/26 Thanksgiving recess

*12/1-12/5 Book Fair

*12/5 Barkell Elementary Pancake Breakfast

*12/16 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade Christmas Concert @ 1:30

Bulldogs serving the community

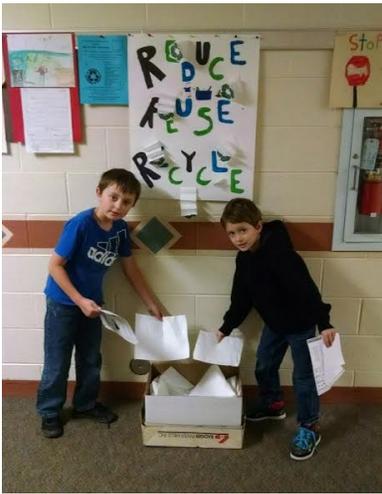


Barkell second graders sing for the folks at Cypress Manor.

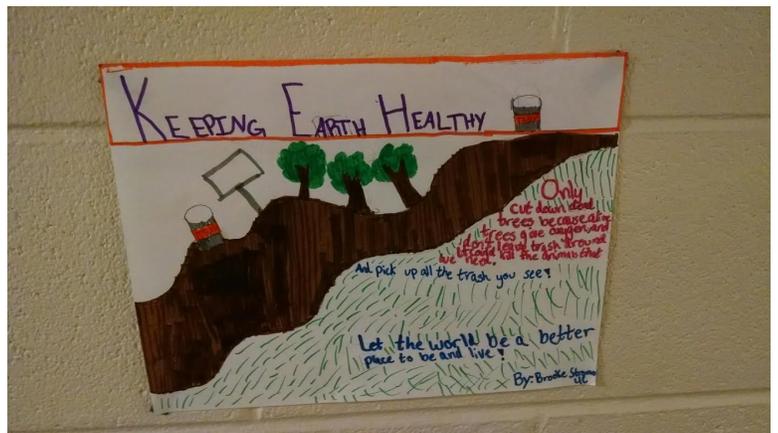


Barkell first graders sing for the folks at Portage Pointe.

Barkell Recycling Program



The Barkell recycling program has been up and running for a month now. Students are working hard to ensure that we limit our waste and recycle paper, cardboard, etc. Davin and RJ do their part to help keep our school and community clean.





Barkell Bird Identification Program

The Barkell Birding Club is a weekly recess option for students looking to step outside of the playground and experience nature first hand. Learning to identify different birds, trees, and mammals give students a different perspective on the world around us in a fun and interactive way.

- Miss Emma



Bird List:

So far the students have identified:

1. Dark-Eyed Juncos
2. Black Capped Chickadees
3. Blue Jays
4. Common Redpolls



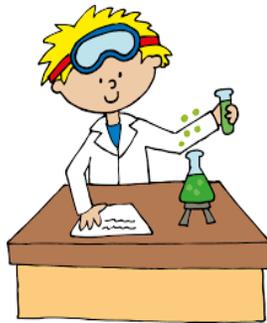
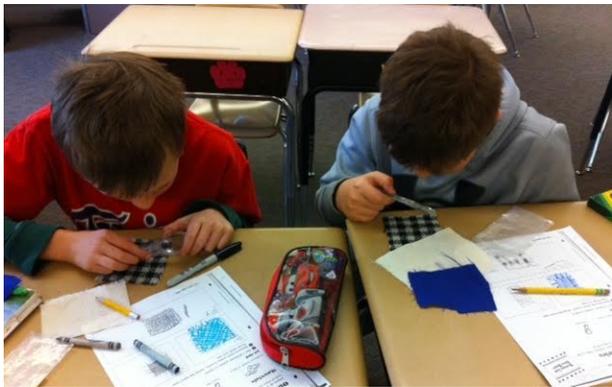


$$E = mc^2$$

Bulldog Scientists



Mrs. Eddy's students examine bat specimens with hand lenses



Mrs. Olson's students study various fibers as part of their plant unit.

5th graders show off the weather vanes they made.



5th graders learn about how hail forms during their weather unit.

Keweenaw National Historical Park VISITS BARKELL ELEMENTARY



The Keweenaw National Historical Park visited Barkell Elementary in November. 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students learned about the great history of our area. They also learned how they can become Jr. Park Rangers.



Children's Author Visits Barkell



Children's author Amy Bissonette visited Barkell Elementary in November. Students learned about the process for writing and illustrating a book. They also learned about hard work and that if you strive towards a goal, you can achieve that goal.





The Science of Pirates



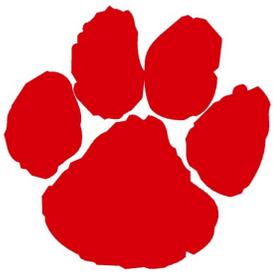
Barkell students attend show at the Rosza Center



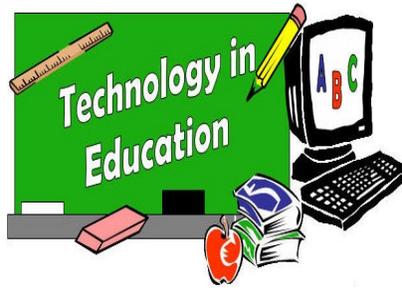
What I learned at pirate school By: Emire Pierrer
At pirate school I learned that pulleys help you pull stuff. When a sailboat's sail gets pushed by the wind it also gets pulled too. When you shoot a canon it curves when the wind blows. It was so much fun! He spelled the word stem. Do you know what it means? I will tell you.

Science
Technology
Engineering
Math





Technology



4th graders typing on their Chromebooks



October 21, 2015

Dear Hancock Schools Foundation,

Thank you for the Chromebooks and the Chromebook cart. We can learn a lot of things. All of us can go on games like Sheppard-software, Raz kids, Moby Max, and Cool Math Games. We will do typing assignments and learn how to do e-mails. Thank you for supporting our school. I will enjoy the Chromebooks.

Sincerely,

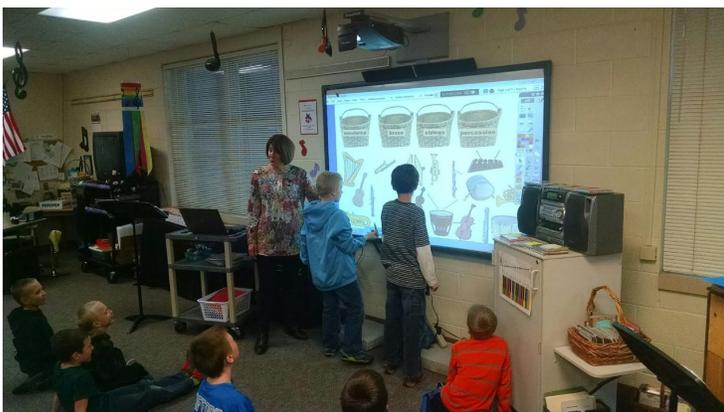
Rylie Erickson



Mrs. Olson's students working hard on their Chromebooks



2nd grader learning about social studies



Mrs. Delong teaches 3rd graders about the instrument groups using her Promethean Board.



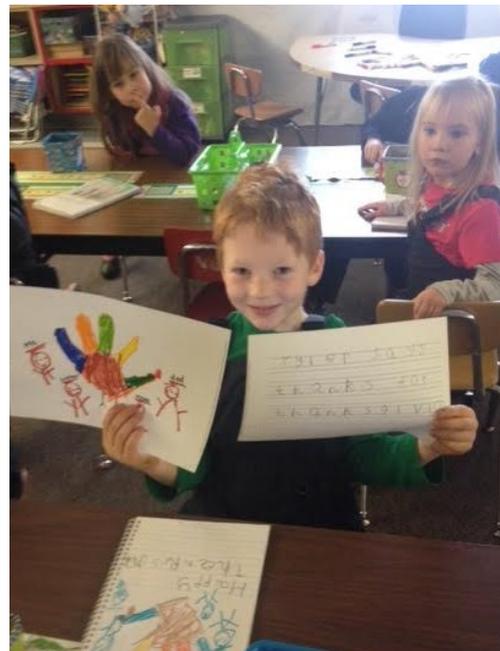
Mrs. Dupuis' students enjoy learning on the Chromebooks.

Kindergarten News



The Young 5's are very thankful students and I am very thankful to have them in my classroom. We have been working hard on becoming authors and illustrators. We are working on publishing a book called Thankful Little Young 5's. The class is so excited to take ownership in this wonderful book that they created. We will be sending our final copies to the publishing company called Student Treasures. The students really thought hard about things that they are thankful for and they came up with some great ideas. Happy Thanksgiving!

Mrs. Cavis



Young Bulldog Authors

Third Grade News

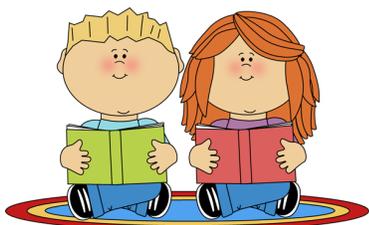


Students in Ms. Gades' class learn about classification. Students are sorting objects into various categories based on their characteristics.

Fifth Grade News



5th grade students from Mrs. Pierce's class work together with their reading buddies from Mrs. Parmentier's class.



Reading Buddies
Friday morning is, Reading Buddies for Mrs. Parmentier and Mrs. Pierce's class. First we pair up with our buddies. Then we pick out a book and practice reading it together. Once we are done with the book, we practice spelling words by using a variety of fun games. We look forward to it every week!
By: Ellie Heinonen & Amelie Olach



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

by Risa Williamson



One of the best parts about my profession is providing classroom guidance lessons to each classroom K-5. Guidance lessons in elementary are used with the end in mind: providing a framework in which students will be an active and productive member of the community. Most of my classroom lessons focus on Character Education principles or foundations of life, and other lessons focus on friendship and resolving conflict.



So far this year, some students learned about the Golden Rule, caring, trustworthiness, and good citizenship. The following are the upcoming lessons for December:

Grades K, 1, 2 = Compassion/Courtesy - Students will learn what Compassion and Courtesy mean through various stories.

Grade 3 = Role Play and Problem Solving - Students will learn about how to solve problems using an ABC model and act out situations and resolve those situations.

Grade 4 = Conflict Resolution - Continue with Talking with TJ video series and learn a few more Trouble Stoppers. Students should be learning Power Phrase #2 - If we both say how we feel, we'll work out a better deal.

Grade 5 = Personal Bank Accounts - Learn what it means to have a positive balance based on their own life principles.



Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- * **Barkell Elementary PTO** for all they do for our school
- * **Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous donations and purchases.
- * **Mrs. Klein** for making our yarn balls for indoor recess.
- * **Keweenaw National Historical Park** for visiting our school and speaking with our students about their programs
- * **Simple Kindness for Youth** for their generous donations to our students.
- * **Everyone** for helping to make our school such a great place to learn.



1. Please remember that students need warm jackets, hats and mittens for recess. Please write your child's name on these items so that if we find them we can return them to their owner.
2. All visitors must report to the office. Please do not go to the classroom once the day has begun.
3. Please remember to call the attendance line when your child is absent.



December 16th @1:30



@ Barkell Elementary Gym

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 bird seed for our new science club/ bird identification program.
- *We need yarn and hooks for our Crochet Club.
- *We are need of extra art supplies for our indoor recess arts and crafts program.





Great Explorations News



The start of session two is upon us and new things are about to begin. During the beginning of the year, children worked on getting their school routine down. Now that it's set, we can begin to look at where each child needs improving.

With changes made to the program this year, our tutoring time is structured differently than in the past. We no longer have a focused tutor time; instead we have "Academic Time". This is a thirty minute time period where children can work on homework, study for tests, or engage in educational activities. As children need help with subjects, we will be sure to focus in on helping them.

Part of restructuring our program here at Barkell is ensuring your children are surrounded by mentors and in a positive environment for learning. Our Great Explorations staff works extremely hard at getting to know your children at individual levels. To improve upon mentorship, I have invited the National Honors Society students from the high school, to help tutor their young peers. The excitement in your children's voices upon having older high school students coming to help was hard not to smile at. NHS students tutoring are providing an example for your children on how they can make a difference in their school and community.

This session will have a vendor from MTU teaching about different winter games your children can participate in. Kimberly Newman is an outside art vendor coming to teach children more advanced techniques in art. Soap carving, woodworking, and inventions are a few clubs we will also be presenting to the children.

Stories are an important part of a child's upbringing; we can learn valuable lessons through stories. This session will have a club designed around helping children understand the power of reading and storytelling. By joining in a, choose your own adventure club, children will be able to actively guide characters through a story adventure they help build. By doing this, we help with social issues within the school such as bullying, self-image, and building relationships with other people.

Finally, to help children gain a sense of community, hard work, and a drive to succeed, we will be introducing GE City. The idea of teaching children how a city works will give them a sense of duty and help maintain behavior issues, plus many more benefits. The concept of GE City will expand into their school days as well. As children progress positively through school, they can earn extra money to spend in the GE City Store. However, just as they can earn more money, they can earn tickets and fines with poor behavior that they will need to pay with their paycheck money. Overall, it gives them a sense of how we act as people within the real world. See you in session two!

-Heather McGee



Even second graders can be mentors to younger students. Here, one student reads to three of his younger peers as they listen with wondering ears.



Children gain a lot of skill from using their hands. Here, a parent can't help but sit and show the children simple knitting techniques.



A mission impossible activity where students maneuver their way through a 'laser maze' and the older kids are timing everyone's skills and charting it.