

December 2016

# Barkell Elementary

## Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



## Principal Announcements

- I would like to thank everyone that attended the annual Barkell Elementary **PTO Pancake Breakfast** here at Barkell Elementary on Saturday, December 3rd.
- Please remember that students cannot be dropped off before 7:30.
- I would like to thank everyone for their help with our TV6 Can-a-thon. Our school collected 774 canned goods for local families!
- 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. The PTO meets at 3:30 on the third Tuesday of the month.
- Please don't hesitate to contact me if there is anything I can do to help.

Sincerely,

Dan Vaara– Barkell Elementary Principal



### Upcoming Events:

- January 19th    Half day for students
- January 20th    Half day for students
- January 25th    Report cards come home

# 2016 Barkell Christmas Concert



A packed house for the 2016 Barkell Christmas Concert



Santa and his reindeer wait back-stage for their part in the show.



5th graders play recorders during their performance.



Sara Neva plays violin with the 5th grade.



The 5th grade is ready to go!



A little piñata fun for 3rd grade



The 3rd graders prepare to enter the stage



The 3rd grade performers take the stage.



# Breakfast with Santa Claus



Santa Claus visited Barkell Elementary School on December 20th to enjoy breakfast with Barkell Elementary students, families, and staff. Santa brought candy canes for all in attendance and also took some orders for Christmas presents for some of our young students and visitors.



A young Barkell family member meets with Santa.



Barkell families enjoy breakfast with Santa.



Students gather around Santa to tell them what they want for Christmas.





# TV 6 CANATHON



Barkell Elementary collected 774 non-perishable food items for the 2016 TV6 Canathon! Thank you to all of our families for contributing. I would also like to thank Mrs. Shannon for all of her help with this. Congratulations to our fourth graders for collecting more items than any other class.



Barkell Elementary Safety Patrollers pose in front of 774 food items. It was a nice rest before loading all of the items into the TV6 food trailer.



It was a lot of hard work by our students to organize and load all of the food!

Kea races back to grab another round of food items for the TV6 trailer.



# Thankful Bulldogs



## SO VERY THANKFUL

December 9, 2016  
 Dear mom,  
 Thank you for bring me to green bay have a merry Christmas.  
 Love,  
 Bria

Barkell 2nd and 3rd graders wrote about what they are thankful for over the holiday season. Here are a few of the many great samples.

December 9, 2016  
 Dear Catlin thank you for making a bracelet. Made of crochet. All see you On Christmas this year.  
 Love, Dakota  
 P.S. do you know how to sew?  
 P.S.S. how are you doing? Oh and Merry Christmas.

December 9, 2016  
 Dear Grandma,  
 I love the rainbow colored blanket that you got me and all the other things you got me. This year get me whatever you think I would like.  
 Love,  
 Savannah

December 9, 2016  
 Dear Santa,  
 Thank you for the Slippers. They are Pretty this year. I want a phone love Arianna Parell  
 P.S. Have a happy Christmas Santa

December 9, 2016  
 Dear Nana,  
 Thank you for all the presents. And the clothes. That I got last year This year I want a Christmas beek.  
 And spend time with my family.  
 Love, diem  
 p.s. merry Christmas.

December 9, 2016  
 Dear Katie and Stuart,  
 I hope you have a great Christmas. You are my best sister. I love you I love you Stuart Mitch and Kylie.  
 Love,  
 Mari Meyette  
 p.S. You are rilly cute.

## The Most Thankful Thing

By: Alecia Aho

You might think that my first day of school is my most thankful thing. It was exciting. I got to learn lots of things. However, going to my first day of school is not my most thankful thing.

It could have when I learned how to read. After I learned how to read I loved reading so much that I read and read and read. Though I liked learning how to read, it is still not my most thankful thing.

Sure, sure I bet you know now that my most thankful thing is going to my Aunt and Uncle's camp. We went fishing on the kayaks. We got to have a fire and roast marshmallows. Although it was fun, it is not my most thankful thing.

My most thankful thing could have been when I got my dog Sadie. She was big, and she was cute. I played with her all the time. I went on walks with her, and wrestled with her. I have so much fun with her, but she is not my most thankful thing.

Now you are probably dying to know what my most thankful thing is, so I will tell you. My most thankful thing is my family. They take me to Minnesota, and to lots of other places. That is why they are my most thankful thing. I love my family so much!

## The Most Thankful Thing

By: Caleb Isaacson

My most thankful thing could have been when I played on a baseball team for the first time. It was so fun. We ran and played for a long time. At the end we even got snacks but, it does not top my most thankful thing.

You might think reading a book for the first time was my most thankful thing. I read my first book in kindergarten. It was fabulous! However this is not as wonderful as my most thankful thing.

Now of course many people say going to Minnesota and going to the Boundary waters is a trip of a lifetime. We went fishing and caught huge fish, and we even canoed to Canada. It was awesome! Still it does not beat my most thankful thing.

Sure, sure everyone says going to a waterpark and going down long, twisting, dark waterslides; and splashing into pools is the best thing in the world. Nevertheless, it does not top my most thankful thing.

You might have been thinking my family is my most thankful thing. If you guessed it, you are right. I love my family so much. We play games, travel, and have fun. This is my most thankful thing because...it's my family.

I love all my brothers and sisters (Matthew, Brendan, Me, Tyler, Josie, Mia, Mom, and Dad). We play and work, and sometimes sit around and do nothing. Just spending time with them is the best. Now you know what my most thankful thing is.



# Second Graders Travel the World



Second grade students at Barkell Elementary learned about Christmas traditions around the world. The students learned about traditions in Israel, India, Mexico, Russia, Italy, and Germany.



Students learn about Israel by playing the Dreidel game.



Olivia and Necee proudly display their Rangoli— Indian folk art.

The students go through "immigration" and get their passports stamped as they enter a country.



Students record information in their travel journals.



Students put oil on a project to make stained glass Poinsettias after learning about Mexico and how they often decorate with them for Las Posadas.

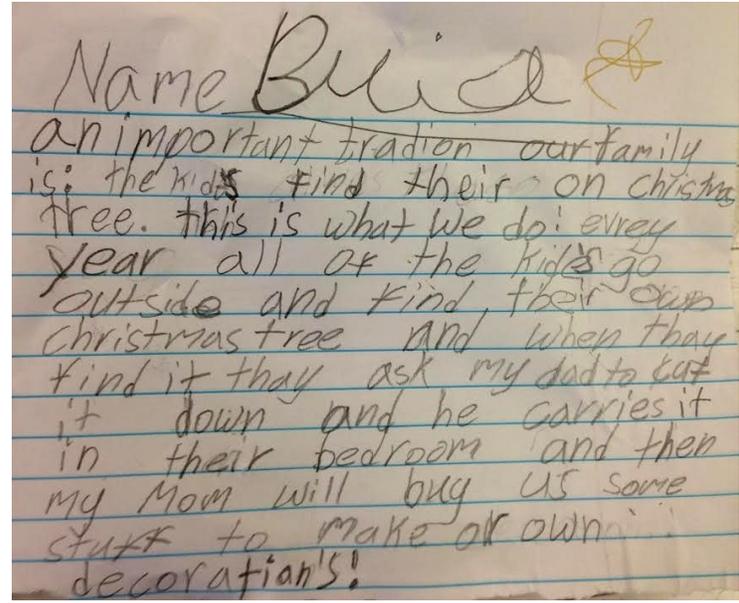




# Second Grade News



Every year 2nd grade has a special homework assignment in December. We write about a family tradition and bring it into the classroom to share with the class. The kids read their writing to the class and answer questions similar to Show and Tell.



## Charitable Bulldogs



Bulldog students and families donated dozens of books to be distributed to local families in need. Thank you to everyone!



Bulldog students and families provided nearly 20 winter coats to be donated to local families during this holiday season!



### First Grade Giving Jar

Our first graders participated in the Giving Jar Project. Each child was able to experience the true meaning of gift giving by giving a little bit of themselves to others through completing jobs. These jobs included shoveling for someone, helping do the dishes, cleaning up toys, making their bed, or playing with a sibling. For each job that was completed, each child would bring in a small donation for the classroom Giving Jar. The first graders were very excited to know that they donated a total of \$95.69 to the Salvation Army's Cheer Club this year!

-Mrs. Branz





# Fifth Grade News



As part of the fifth grade's Christmas Crafts Day, we incorporated a little Chemistry to grow "Snowflake Crystals". The fifth graders wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Josie displays her crystal ornament.



Mr. Pertile's students learn about the chemistry behind crystallization, as well as procedures for their project.



Isabelle displays her crystal ornament.



Fifth grade students are proudly displaying their hard work.



The structures sit as they slowly crystalize.



Fifth graders work on their Christmas crafts.



# Healthy School



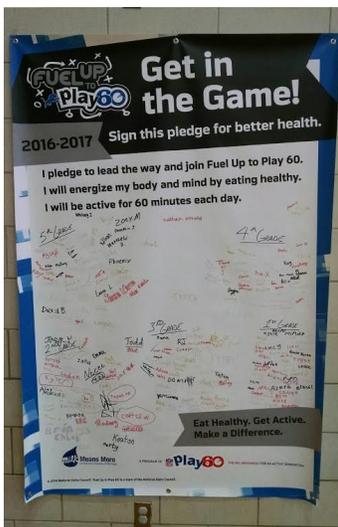
Earlier in the year I mentioned that Barkell was awarded a Healthy Schools Grant through BCBS and Wayne State University. Our staff and students have been working hard throughout the year to make our school even more healthy than it already was. Monthly classroom lessons, Play 60 club, Healthy Kids Club, healthy tip of the day, and healthy snacks are just a few examples of the many things we have implemented.



Amanda Malik, RN, teaching our 2nd graders and 4th graders about healthy living.



It was a very healthy, yet very delicious Christmas party in Mrs. Eddy's class.





# Barkell Indoor Recess



## Recess

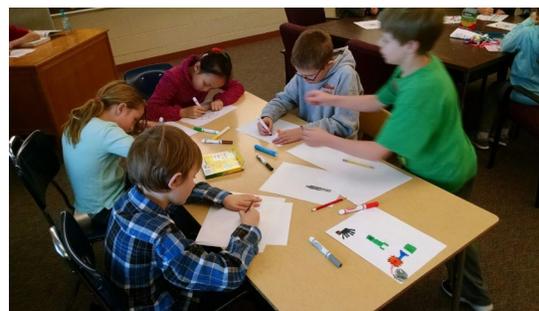


Students enjoy hula hooping, jumping rope, playing tag, etc. in the gymnasium.



Students can also relax with a good book or science video in the library.

Students play Monopoly, Uno, Hangman, Twister, and a whole bunch of other games in the Game Room.



Students enjoy working on arts and crafts in our Arts and Crafts Room.



Students enjoy some academic games on the computer.





# Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- \* **Barkell Elementary PTO** for all they do for our school
- \* **Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous donations and purchases
- \* **Ellie Alexandria** for her donation of mittens
- \* **Santa Claus** for visiting our Breakfast with Santa Claus on December 20th
- \* **Kirkish Furniture** for their kind donation to our art program
- \* **Amanda Malik** for her help with our Healthy Schools Grant



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.

## Math Jam



**Congratulations to:**

**Jadon Packard and Matthew Lancour**



## 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 educational DVDs or VHS tapes for our indoor recesses.
- \*We are need of extra art supplies for our indoor recess arts and crafts program.
- \*We are in need yarn and crochet hooks for our Crocheting Club

