

December 2022

Barkell Elementary

Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



Principal Announcements

- Breakfast and lunch are no longer free this year for all students. Please fill out a free and reduced lunch form if you have not already done so. Bills can be paid at this link: [hancock.familyportal.cloud](https:// Hancock.familyportal.cloud)
- Thank you to everyone for their generous Bulldog Shop donations.
- 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

- 1/4 School resumes– First day back after break
- 1/18 1/2 day for students (11:50 dismissal)



Christmas Concert



Fifth graders wait to take the stage



Third graders sing for the audience



First graders perform



Third graders are ready to go



First graders take the stage



Second graders on stage



Fourth graders play the xylophones



Fourth graders make their final preparations



Second graders wait for their turn to perform



Fifth graders are about to do their fifth and final Barkell Christmas Concert



A packed house awaits the performance



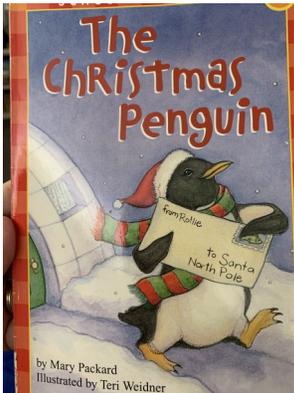
Third graders take the stage



STEM News



As always, it has been an exciting month of STEM class. First graders read the book, "The Christmas Penguin." In the story, a penguin is invited to ride on Santa's sleigh and saves Christmas by diving into the ocean to get the presents that spilled from the sleigh. The first graders used the VEX 123 robots to code them to pick up gifts and deliver them to houses. 4th and 5th Graders learned about the first Thanksgiving and made Wetu houses from the Wampanoag village and Pilgrim houses.



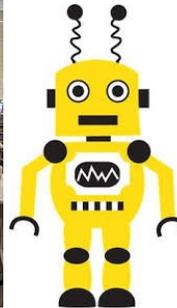
First graders program their Vex Robots to pick up Christmas presents



Evelyn and Naomi program their robot



Christopher and Liam build their house



Brynlee and Mariella watch their Vex Robot pick up gifts



Fifth graders put their STEM skills to work



Jayla takes a quick break to pose for a photo





Christmas Cheer



Mrs. Blessing's class shows their Christmas projects



Stormy and Natasha stand with their friend



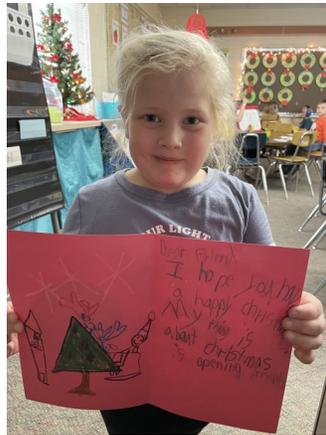
Students take advantage of good snowball weather



Macklyn works on a snowman



Mrs. Carlson's class with their Christmas cards



Geena shows her card for the elderly



Winter morning recess



A nice day for hockey



Students work on a snow fort

Merry Christmas

Kindergartners do their Christmas shopping



First graders work on Christmas cards



for residents of local assisted living centers



Students wrap gifts purchased at the Bulldog Shop



Safety Patroler Emery helps out some young students



Kindergartners relax by the fire





Young Fives News



Students in Mrs. Koskela's Young Fives class have had a fun and exciting December. Students have enjoyed learning about their letters and numbers. Students have also enjoyed making art projects and Christmas projects for their family.



A fun phonics lesson



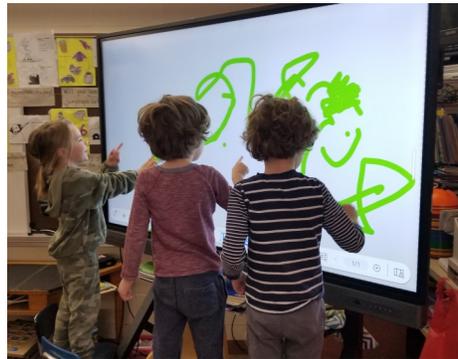
Young Fivers perform for their families



Ethan and Lane work on their projects



Cam and Colton smile for the camera



Students test out their Ben Q board



Young Fivers listen to a story



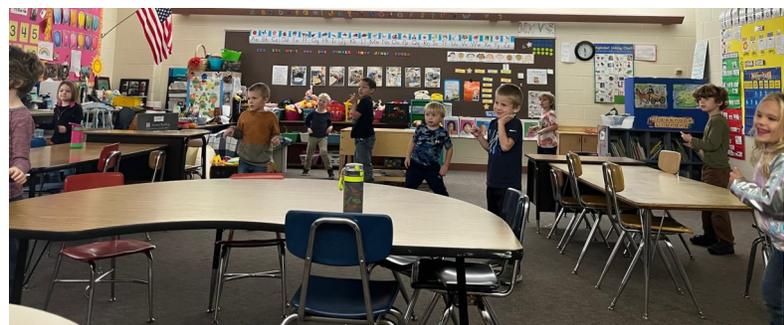
Alora and Peyton pose for a quick pic



Students take a movement break



Jayden works with Play-Doh



Young Fivers learn about art



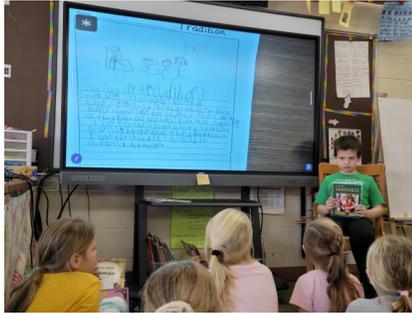
Second Grade News



Second graders are traveling around the world to learn more about traditions. We have traveled to Italy, Sweden, Jordan, China, India, Mexico, Uganda, and Israel. It has been so exciting to learn more about the unique traditions each country celebrates. We are also sharing our own special traditions. It has been exciting to hear about our special family traditions.



Alexis and Kaisa pose for a quick photo



CJ sits down to discuss his family tradition



Aryana and Brandt share their family traditions

Mehmet take a break from his work



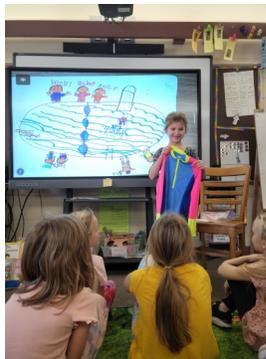
Second graders learn about China



Nadine shares her tradition



Second graders celebrate their trip to Sweden



Ellie explains a family tradition



Phoenix works hard on and then shows his project



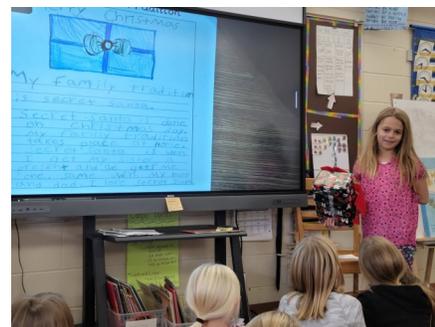
Claire presents to the class



Ryder gets ready to do his presentation



Cheyenne and Walter discuss their family traditions





Fourth Grade News



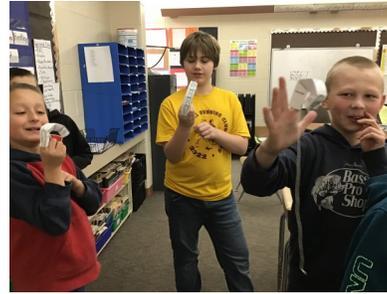
Fourth graders in Mrs. Liimatta's class and in Mrs. Smith's class have been learning about math in fun hands-on ways. Students have also been working hard to improved their writing skills. In Science, they have been learning about how the human eye works, and how our muscles, tendons, and bones allow for us to move.



Kit and Avery learn how joints work



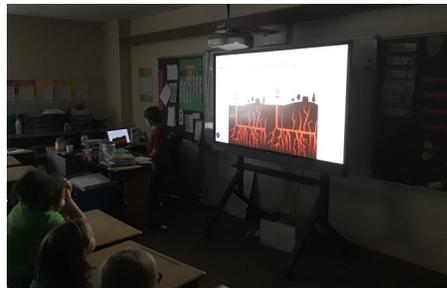
Students demonstrate their hand models



Bruce and Rudy work on their eye models



Christopher and Colter pause for a picture



Hunter explains how fracking works



Liana and Braylin get some work done



Tunahan works on his eye model



Caleb and Arvid work on their Chromebooks

Alaina, Jacie, and Jada take a break for a quick photo



Savannah and Jacie enjoy a game of Tivitz



Braylin and Jada practice division using Cheerios



Eli and Christopher play Tivitz



Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- **The Barkell PTO** for all that they do
- **The Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous grants
- **Gloria Dei Lutheran Church** for their generous donation
- **Mr. and Mrs. Johnson** for their generous donation of winter clothes
- **Robin Orr** for her generous donation
- **Ellie Alexander** for her generous donation of mittens
- **Bethany and Jonathon Pelto** for their generous donation
- **Kristy Erickson** for her generous donation of winter clothing
- **The Rousers** for their generous donation
- **Glad Tidings Church** for their generous donation



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.



Barkell Elementary first graders earned \$122.38 for the Salvation Army by doing chores around the home! Thank you to them all for their hard work and their kind gesture!

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 boys/girls pull-on pants size 5-7