

October 2016

Barkell Elementary

Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



Principal Announcements

- Conferences are on November 10th. A note will come home asking you to sign up for a preferred time. Please complete and return to school.
- Thank you for your help with our fundraiser.
- I 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:

- November 10th Elementary Conferences
- November 10th and 11th are half days for students.
- November 15th PTO meeting at 3:30
- November 24th and 25th—Thanksgiving break

Fire Safety Week



K-3rd grade students learn about fire prevention and fire safety



The "Jaws of Life" are being used to remove the front and rear doors in order to safely remove the occupants from a crash. Students are learning about teamwork between different departments in order to be effective in saving lives. They also learned about things they will see and hear, including commands they may given in the event of a crash to help ensure their safety. The Huron Township and Hancock fire departments are working together with the Hancock police in this demonstration



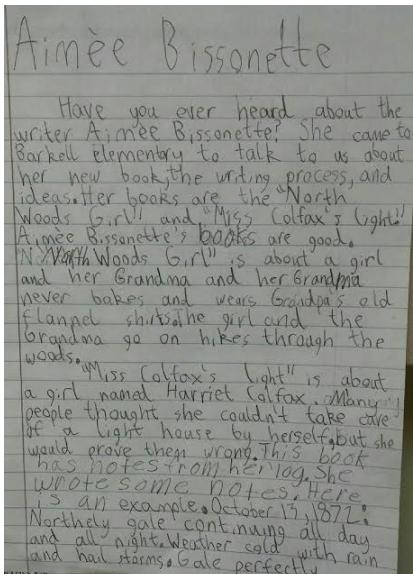
Fourth graders visit the fire hall.



Childrens' Author Visits Barkell



Children's author Ami Bissonette visited Barkell Elementary once again this year. She spoke with our students about the writing process and what it takes to be an author. She also helped to reinforce quality writing strategies that our staff teaches our students.

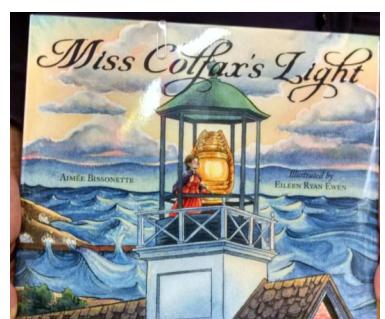
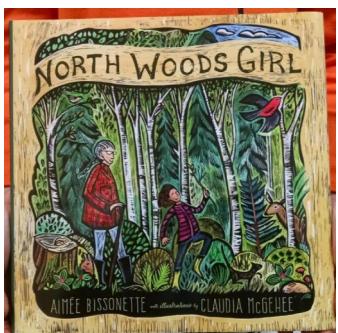


Ami Bissonette cont...



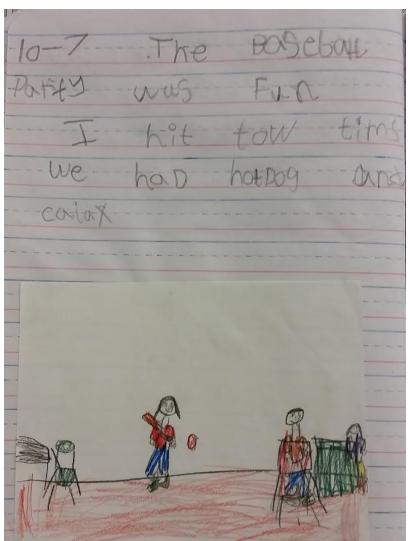
fearful by nightfall—waves dashed over the top of the beacon reached the beacon in imminent risk tonight as the waves ran over the elevated walk on October 8, 1909. Sold house-hold effects preparatory to vacating the dear old Lt. House. Wasn't that cool? Ami Bissonette is also a lawyer and a writer. We really like her books and if you never read Miss Colfax's Light or North Woods Girl you should. We hope you get to meet her someday.

—by Zaraima Gordon and Ava Pinnow
From Mrs. Davidson's Third Grade Class

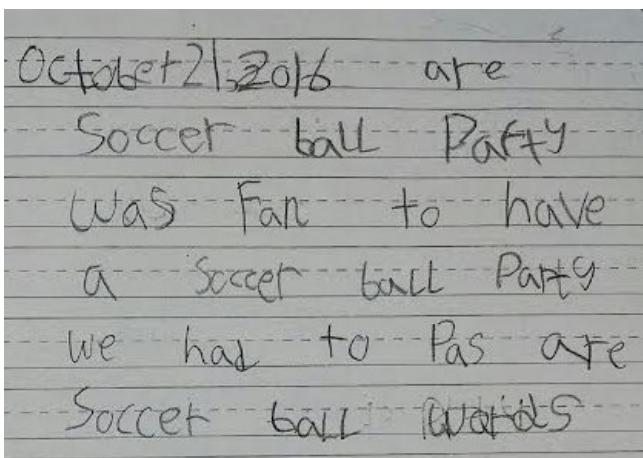
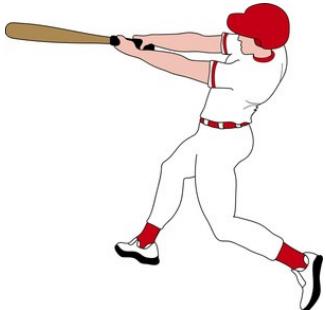
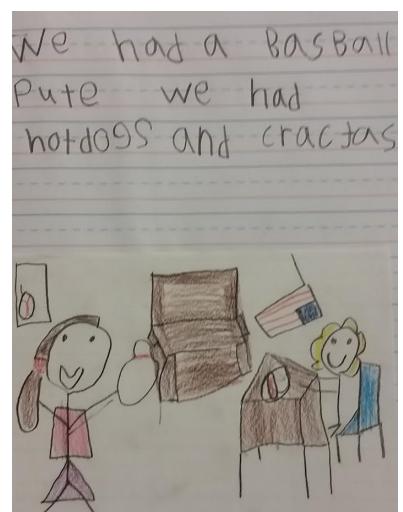




First Grade News



First graders in Mrs. Dupuis' class have been working hard learning their sight words. The students have all passed their "Baseball Words" as well as their "Soccer Words". Their work resulted in a baseball and soccer celebration.



Third Grade News



Third graders in Mrs. Davidson's class did a scientific experiment on structural adaptations. Students experimented to determine the best beak design for the various needs of birds.



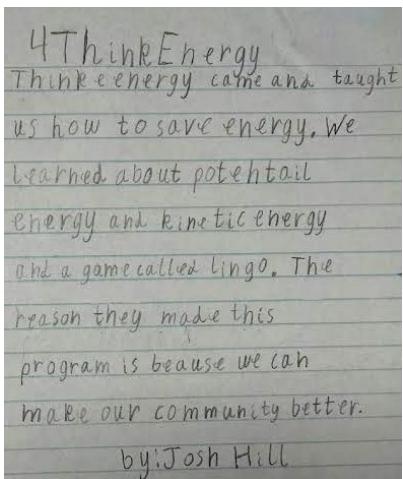
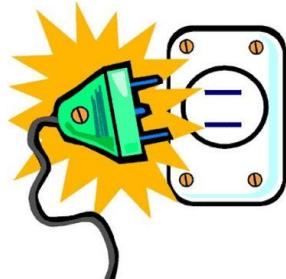
The bird experiment
Birds have different types of beaks that help them eat certain type of foods, so we did an experiment that will decide which are the best for getting food.
What we used. For the beaks were tweezers, straws, pliers, clothespins and a spoon. The foods we used were water, peanuts, plastic worms, toothpicks, rice and bird seed. We found out tweezers are best for picking up plastic worms, and toothpicks.
The spoon is the best to scoop up rice and water, the pliers are good for bird seed, and peanuts. The straw could suck up water.
Robins need a pointy beak so they can dig for worms. Humming birds need a straw like beak to get nectar. Birds that have spoon like beaks scoop up fish.
It was a lot of fun when we did the experiment!
Written by: Hailey Hayrynen and Tatum Chas



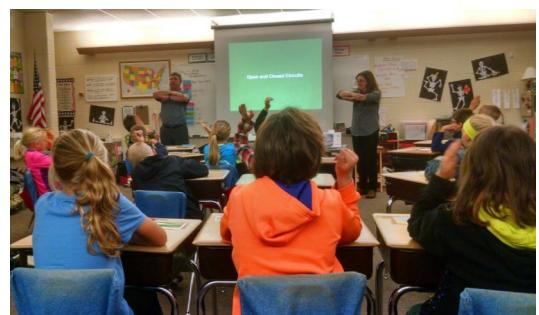
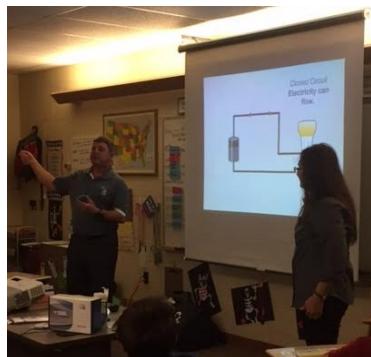
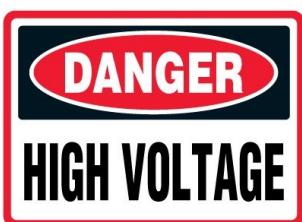
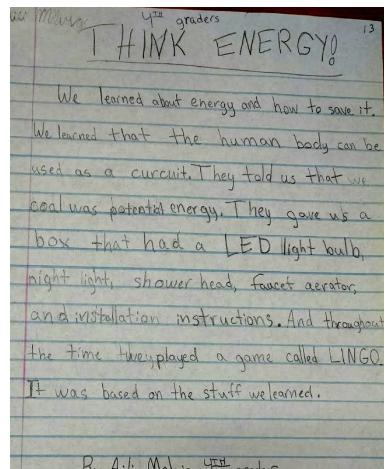
Energy Efficiency United



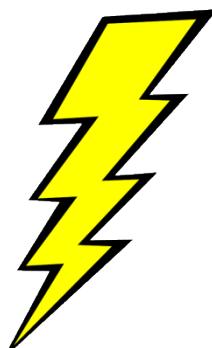
ELECTRICITY



Energy United visited Barkell 4th graders last week. Energy United is an organization that works in conjunction with Semco, UPPCO, and the MDE. They did presentations in each 4th grade room, teaching our kids about how energy is made, different types of energy, what energy is, how to conserve energy, energy safety, etc. Each student received an energy savings kit that included: low flow shower heads, faucet aerators, an LED light bulb, a timer, LED nightlight, an energy survey for kids to go over with their parents at home, and a few other items. It was an excellent program!



Barkell 4th graders learn about electrical circuits by creating a circuit by holding hands and using an energy stick.





Bulldog Foresters

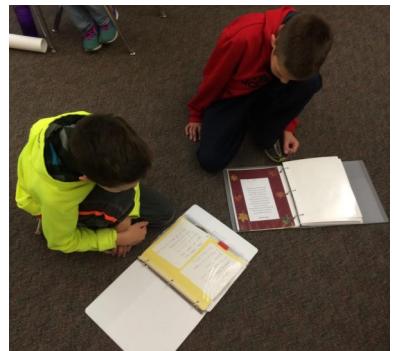


Students from left to right: Laura Levanen, Brielle Kero, Isabelle Erickson, and Killian McClellan.



The fifth grade culminated their study of biomes by completing a portfolio on our own Deciduous Forest biome. The students visited Fort Wilkins, the schoolyard, MTU and Maasto Hiihto trails as well as many other places to find leaves of different tree species. The objective was to identify coniferous and deciduous species, know the difference between the two groups, know the difference between simple and compound leaves and understand why our biome is considered a Deciduous Forest biome. The fifth graders wanted to extend a thank you to family members for helping them with this project. Great job everyone!!!

-Mr Pertile



Can you see the porcupine?



Students study resources to help identify their leaves.



We went on a field trip to Fort Wilkins. Mr. Pertile helped us identify almost 15 different types of leaves. Some of the leaves we identified are Quaking Aspen, Roundleaf Service Berry, White Birch and the Cedar. Lots of people use cedar for Sawas because it does not rot when it gets wet. Our state tree is the White Pine. The White Pine has five needles in a cluster. It is our state tree because when people first settled here they used it to build homes, because it is thick, straight, and tall. One cool way to remember how to identify the White Pine is White has 5 letters and there are 5 needles in a cluster. Another tree we identified is the Red Oak. The Red Oak has acorns. Lots of different animals love to eat acorns. It is almost like candy to them. Our favorite tree is the Quaking Aspen, also known as the trembling Aspen or the Big Tooth Aspen. It is our favorite of the ones we identified at Fort Wilkins because its amazing when you get a little gust of wind in the air and it just trembles or shakes a little. It was a great trip and it was fun learning and identifying different types of tree species.

Laura Levanen
Sara Neva 5B

AmeriCorps at Barkell

Barkell Welcomes: Mrs. Shannon



Beth Shannon is the new AmeriCorps member here at Barkell Elementary. She's a mom of four, a homegrown Yooper, and currently resides in Chassell. In her free time she enjoys hanging out with her family, reading, being active and getting outdoors. She is happy to be serving the school community in a variety of ways and looks forward to helping and interacting with the kids each day. If you see her in the halls, stop and say hello!



Mrs. Shannon plays a lead role in our recycling program.



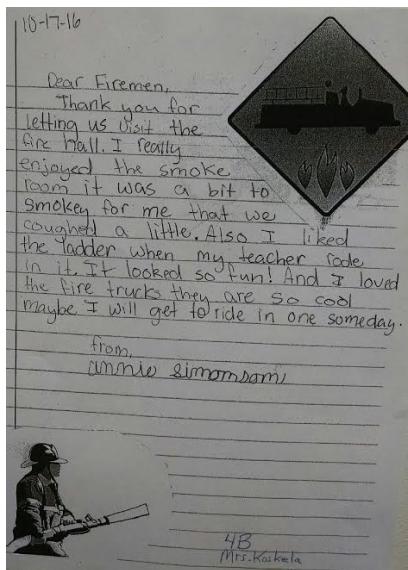
Thank you:

On behalf of AmeriCorps, I would like to extend a big THANK YOU to the community and Barkell Elementary for all the wonderful items donated to our Winter Clothing Drive! We received more than expected and it is greatly appreciated. Each year AmeriCorps collects a wide array of Winter clothing for local charities and organizations who then get the items to those in need. THANKS!!

-Mrs Shannon



Thank you and Congratulations



Thank you to the Gogebic Community College Nursing students for coming in and working with our young students.



Barkell elementary would like to thank the Hancock Fire Department and the Hurontown Fire Department for all that they taught our students during Fire Safety Week.



Congratulations!!!



Congratulations to Annie Simonson and Dietrich Rasner. They were the grand prize winner for our fundraiser drawing. Thank you to everyone who participated!





Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- * **Barkell Elementary PTO** for all they do for our school
- * **Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous donations and purchases
- * **Ruth Gill** for her generous donation to our school
- * **Riisto's Hardware** for their electric pencil sharpener donation
- * **Mr. and Mrs. Malik** for her help with our Healthy Schools grant
- * **Hancock Fire Department** and **Hurontown Fire Department** for teaching us about fire safety

School Reminders

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 Welcomes New Staff



Barkell Elementary welcomes Julie Meyette to our staff. Mrs. Meyette will be serving as our health care aide as well as in Title One. She has a nursing degree from Finlandia University. We are very excited to welcome her aboard.

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.

