Wednesday Newsletter

Care-Respect-Cooperate-Strive
Kaitiakitanga-Manaakitanga-Mahi Tahi-Takakawe

MT. BIGGS SCHOOL
707 Sandon Rd, RD9, Feilding
Phone 06 329 3646
office@mountbiggs.school.nz

14th October 2026 - Term 4 Week 1

Kia ora koutou e te whānau,

Welcome back to Term 4! It has been great to have everyone back at school after the term break. We hope our tamariki had an enjoyable break and were able to recharge before another busy term. The weather has been kind to us this week, and it has been fantastic to see our tamariki back outside enjoying the sunshine, catching up with friends, and getting straight back into school life. On Tuesday, we held our mihi whakatau to welcome new tamariki and whānau to our kura. It is always a special way to begin the term and officially welcome people into the Mount Biggs family. We will be supporting our new tamariki and whānau to feel at home and part of our kura. E waka eke noa - we are all in this together.

Teacher Only Day

A reminder that we have a Teacher Only Day this Friday. Our staff will be spending the day continuing our work with the refreshed curriculum and looking closely at our assessment tools and practices. This is important mahi as we continue to strengthen teaching and learning across our kura and prepare for the curriculum changes ahead. Thank you to our parents and caregivers for your support and understanding.

Holiday Property Work

There has also been plenty happening around the school during the holidays. Our office area has received some attention, and there is still more to come. Mine and Mr Gilbert's is undergoing extensive work over the next two weeks, so please bear with us while this is completed. We have also had some exterior work completed on the hall. A huge thank you to Dave K for his mahi and for continuing to support our kura. These improvements all contribute to making Mount Biggs a welcoming and enjoyable place for our tamariki, staff, and community.

A Fantastic New Picnic Table

You may have noticed a fantastic new addition to our lunch eating area. Jack K and his grandad have built a picnic table as part of Jack's William Pike Challenge passion project. What an awesome contribution to our school! The table looks amazing and is something that our tamariki and community will be able to enjoy for many years to come. Thank you, Jack, and thank you to your grandad for supporting you with the project. We hope our parents and caregivers are also enjoying having another place to sit while waiting for school to finish in the afternoons!

Ag Day - Next Week

Next week is Ag Day, a major event in our calendar and one of the long-standing traditions of Mount Biggs School. It is always a fantastic day for our tamariki and a wonderful opportunity for our wider community to come together. There is plenty that

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goes into making Ag Day happen, so if you are able to help out in any way, please let us know. Your support is always greatly appreciated, and we are looking forward to another great day. Please see the flyers in the newsletter.

Celebration Afternoon - August, Hugo and Goldie

The Board, in consultation with Chelsey, has planned a special Celebration Afternoon to remember and celebrate the lives of August, Hugo and Goldie. This will be a positive afternoon that reflects the fun, energy, and enjoyment these beautiful tamariki brought to our kura and community. There will be games and activities run by our senior students, a free sausage sizzle, free ice creams, face painting, inflatables, and much more. Parents, caregivers, and whānau are warmly invited to join us for the afternoon from 1.00 pm onwards. We would love to see you there if you can make it, spending time together as a community and celebrating three much-loved children.

Stay Connected! For event updates and reminders, please keep an eye on:

- ✅ **Newsletter & Emails**
- ✅ **Skool Loop App and Website**
- ✅ **School Facebook Page**

We are also a School Docs school. You can view the school policies and procedures via the School Docs website (link below). You can also give feedback on policies that are up for review.

https://www.schooldocs.co.nz/

User Name: mountbiggs
Password: empowering

Plenty is happening over the coming weeks, and Term 4 always seems to fly by. It will be another busy but fun term, with lots of opportunities for our tamariki to learn, participate, challenge themselves, and enjoy everything that comes with being part of Mount Biggs School.

We are looking forward to working alongside all of you throughout the term. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support of our tamariki, staff, and kura. Here's to a fantastic Term 4!

Ngā mihi nui,
Kyle Harris,
Tumuaki/Principal – Mount Biggs School.

Payments for school accounts & lunches

12 - 3143 - 0188518 - 00 *Reference: Surname & Stationery etc*

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IMPORTANT NOTICES - PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING are *DUE BACK*

- **Photo notices back by Tuesday 20th Oct**
- **William Pike notices back by 22 Oct**

IN BRIEF

SCHOOL PHOTOS - Thursday 29th October
See below

CELEBRATION AFTERNOON for August, Hugo & Goldie - Wednesday 11th November
See below

AG DAY CUPS - Please return these by THIS Monday 19th October. Thank you

CALENDAR DATES

Term 4 (12 October - 15 December)
10 weeks

October
Monday 12th - *Term 4 starts*
Tuesday 13th - *Welcome Pōwhiri for all students starting in Term 4*
Wednesday 14th - *Kainui Speech Winners Competition @ night*
Friday 16th - TEACHER ONLY DAY
Monday 19th - *AG Day Week*
Tuesday 20th - *ALL pet diaries by 9am*
Thursday 22nd - *ALL Indoor Exhibits into the hall by 9am / Floral arrangement flowers etc to classrooms.*
Friday 23rd - AG DAY
Monday 26th - Labour Day Holiday
Tuesday 27th - *BOT meeting (Week 3)*
Thursday 29th *- School Photos*
Friday 30th - *Room 4 William Pike Challenge*

November
Wednesday 11th - Fun *Celebration Afternoon*
Friday 13th - *School Athletics*
Thursday 19th *- Kainui Senior Athletics*
Wednesday 25th - *Kainui Junior Athletics*
Friday 27th - *Kainui Year 8 Day Out*

December
Tuesday 1st - *BOT Meeting (Week 8)*
Wednesday 2nd - *Home & School AGM*
Tuesday 15th - Final Assembly / Finish Term

TERM 4 - SUNHATS



Remember sunhats this term….please let Louise know if you need a new one.
If you don't have a school hat yet, you may use your own until you get the school one.
I am organising sunhats this week.

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Mt Biggs School
Ag Day 2026



Ag Week Schedule

Tuesday 20th

- ALL Pet Diaries into the Office by 9am
Sorry no exceptions as I deliver them to the Judge that morning

Thursday 22nd

- ALL Indoor Exhibits into the hall by 9am
- Floral arrangement flowers, greenery, containers etc.. to the classrooms. *Floral arrangements will be made in class and then taken to the hall.*
- **The Hall will be closed for judging from 10am onwards**

NEW **"FLORAL" CUP**
We have a new cup this year for the Floral section (includes the junior sand saucers and the floral arrangements)
It will be judged on the BEST use of florals including greenery (can use some props as well) along the year's theme of ***"Around the World"*** so put your thinking caps on.

Friday 23rd

Ag Day Timetable of Day - this will be sent out next week, I am working out on Friday

PLEASE RETURN ALL AG DAY CUPS BY MONDAY 19TH OCTOBER

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Mt Biggs School Ag Day - Fri 23rd Oct 2026

Our committee are busy organizing for Ag Day and need some help!

It's going to be a great day with something for everyone – Man vs Cake silent auction, Sausage sizzle, Pick-a-duck, Guess the Lollie's in the Jar. Coffee on the Go will be there for the much-needed caffeine fix!

Baking

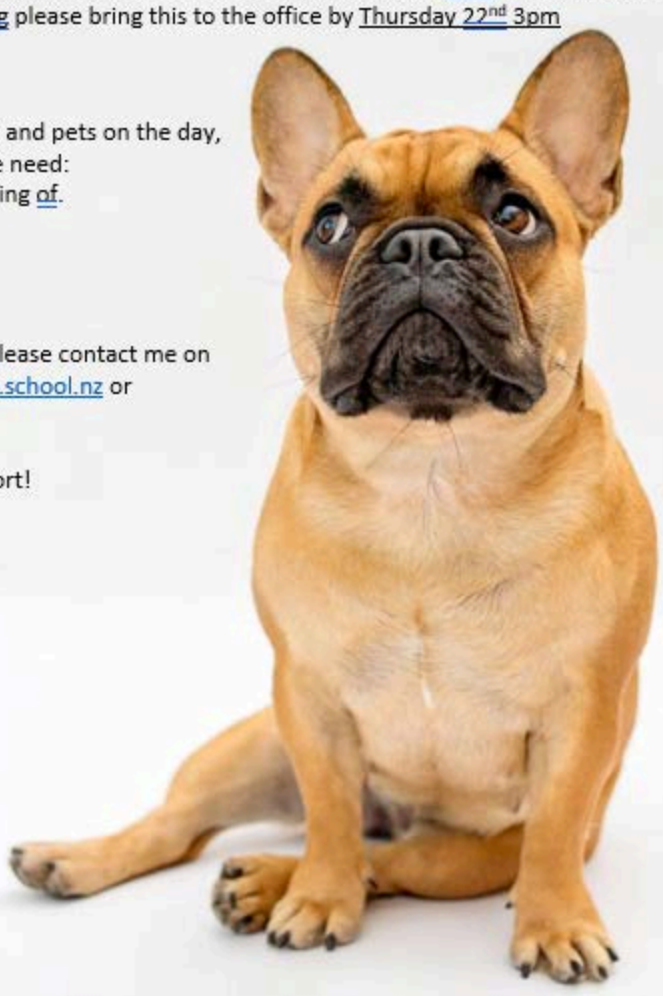
Our kids love a bikkie or slice on the day and we like to thank our judges with morning tea so if you're able to help with baking please bring this to the office by Thursday 22nd 3pm

Helpers

We're all busy sorting out kids and pets on the day, but if you are keen to help, we need:
Help with setting up the morning of.
Morning Tea Host.
Food stall helpers.
Pick a duck helpers.
Pets Host.
We'd love to hear from you. Please contact me on homeandschool@mountbiggs.school.nz or 021 181 6411 if interested.

Always grateful for your support!

Fiona Thompson



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VS



MAN vs. CAKE silent auction 2026

Who? Any male in your household / family
(Dad, step-dad, uncle, granddad, cousin, brother, son....)

Task? To bake / decorate a cake to be auctioned off at AG Day

When? Cakes to be at school by 9am Friday 23rd October

Why? To support Mt Biggs Home and School committee in its pursuit to raise money to help buy resources for the school and our children (and it's a heap of fun!)

Prize? The cake that sells for the most money at auction wins the COVETED winner's apron!

The winner's circle

2017: Darryl Currie
2018: Doug Hogan
2019: Gareth Edwards
2020: Paul Brown
2022: Jason Whale
2023: Ted Keenan
2024: Ted Keenan
2025: Steve Teikamata

The more cakes the more money we raise for our school!

Good luck and thanks in advance for your support.

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Lunches this term

There will be 8 weeks of lunches this term
(I am away at the end of term)

$2 sausage 

$2 baking 

2027 Term Dates

Term	Start	Finish	Public Holidays
Term 1 10 Weeks	Feb 2	April 9	Waitangi Day - Observed Monday, Feb 8 Staff only day: Friday, March 19 Easter: Friday, March 26 to Tues, March 30
Term 1 Break	April 10	April 26	
Term 2 10 weeks	April 27 (Tues)	July 2	ANZAC Day Monday, April 26 King's Birthday - June 7 Matariki - July 25
Term 2 Break	3 July	18 July	
Term 3 10 Weeks	July 19	Sept 24	
Term 3 Break	Sept 25	Oct 10	
Term 4 10 Weeks	Oct 11	Dec 16	Labour Day - Oct 25

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Every Day Matters – Term 3 Attendance Update

Kia ora koutou e te whānau,

Regular attendance is essential for our tamariki to make progress, build positive relationships, develop confidence, and feel connected to their learning and our kura. Every day at school provides valuable opportunities that can be difficult to replace.

As many of you know, our data took a bit of a hit in Term 3 as our school community was affected by the widespread seasonal illness that impacted the whole country. Despite these winter bugs, **54% of our students maintained Regular Attendance** by attending school more than 90% of the time.

The Ministry of Education considers regular attendance to be attending school more than 90% of the time. Missing just one week each term adds up to a whole year of lost learning by the time a child turns 16.

We completely understand that children need to stay home when they are unwell to recover and keep others safe. However, whenever your child is well enough, it is vital that they attend school every day and arrive on time so we can rebuild momentum into the rest of the year.

If your child is going to be absent, please let the school office know and provide a reason. If attendance is becoming challenging for your child or whānau, please reach out to us. We are always here to listen, work alongside you, and help identify any support that may be needed.

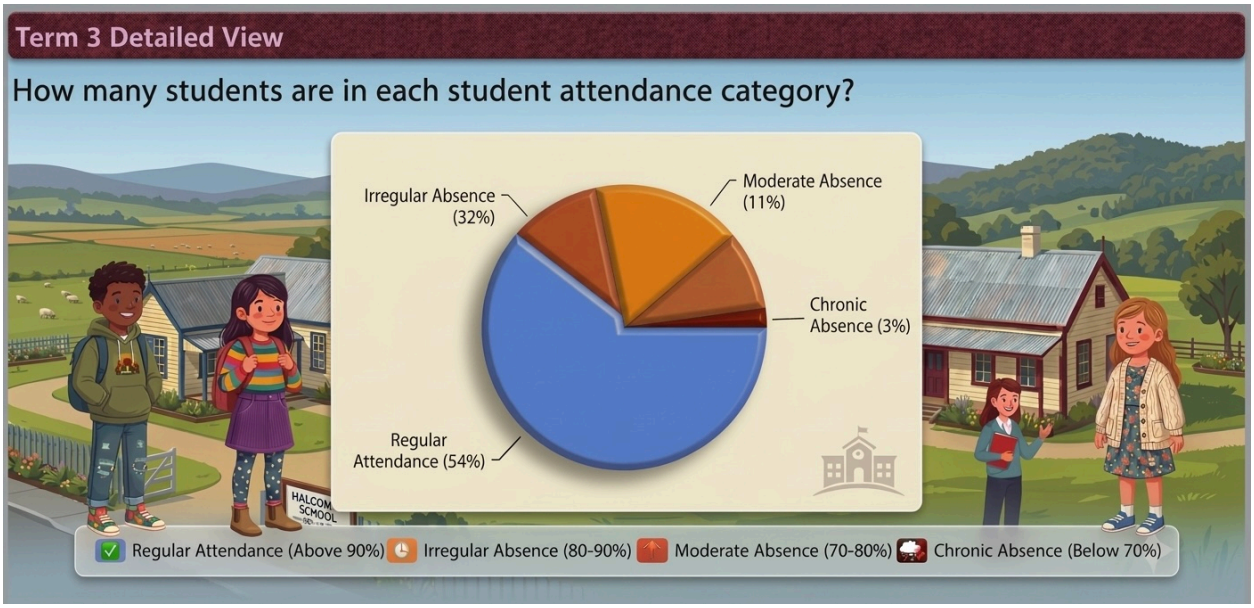
Thank you for working in partnership with us to give every tamariki the best possible opportunity to learn, thrive, and succeed.

Ngā mihi nui,

Kyle Harris

Principal | Tumuaki

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School Photos
Thursday 29th October (Week 3)



Notices will be coming home today with regards to having individual/family student photos.
PLEASE only send notice back if you would like individual/family photos (including any preschool children you have)

Note: Class photos, sports photos etc… will be taken after individual photos. Thanks
Please have notices back by next Tuesday 20th October

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Home & School Fundraising

Bacon Fundraiser - Order forms went home on Monday
It's a great deal on bacon!

Mt Biggs School Bacon Fundraiser

Name	Phone number	Number of packets	Total cost

We are selling Thin Sliced Streaky Bacon 250g pack for $5 each.

Stock up for all those yummy salads and Sunday breakfasts! This product can be brought in bulk and frozen for 6 months past the best before date.
Please return forms to School Office by **10th November** and collection will be **27th November.**
If paying direct, use account **Mount Biggs Home & School 03-0626-0620703-00** 'Bacon' as reference.
Funds raised are going towards Games & Outdoor Playground Equipment.
Many thanks for your support!



I have extra printouts if you need.

There will be a box in the office for orders…please make sure you either include the correct money or pay online to the HOME & SCHOOL account as per order form
All orders in by 10th November, thanks.

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GET YOUR TICKETS - THIS IS ON 31st OCTOBER



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