Care - Kaitiakitanga, Respect - Manaakitanga, Cooperate - Mahitahi, Strive - Takakawe

Te Kura o Whakamoetākapu

Mount Biggs Bulletin

Principal's Message

Kia ora koutou e te whānau,

Winter has officially arrived, and while the mornings are certainly feeling a little cooler, it has been wonderful to see our tamariki continuing to make the most of the many opportunities available both in and out of the classroom. Across the school, children have been working hard, staying focused on their learning, and showing great perseverance. It has been fantastic to see everyone settled, engaged, and getting the mahi done.

Last Friday, a group of our students proudly represented Mount Biggs School at the Inter-School Cross Country. It was great to see the amazing attitude of all of our runners as they gave their best effort in every race. We are incredibly proud of every student who competed and represented our kura so well. A special congratulations to Kate Cox, who finished in the top 10. Thank you also to all of the parents and whānau who provided transport and support on the day, and to Mr Gilbert and Louise for all of their organisation behind the scenes.

It has been fantastic to have Whaea Milana working with our tamariki and teaching kapa haka. The children have been thoroughly enjoying the sessions and developing their confidence and skills. We are excited about some opportunities coming up soon for our kapa haka group to perform, and we look forward to sharing more information with you in the near future.

One of the highlights of my day is getting out into the playground and joining in games with the children. Recently, colour tag has become a real favourite. It is always great fun, and it highlights just how wonderful our tamariki are. They are always keen to invite me into their games and make sure everyone is included. Of course, it may also have something to do with the fact that I am not quite fast enough to catch them!

Another exciting addition this term has been Mrs BB's Chess Club. This has been an instant hit with students across the school. It has been fantastic to see so many children giving chess a go, learning new skills, and enjoying the challenge. It is a wonderful way for students to spend part of their lunch break while developing strategic thinking and problem-solving skills. Our tamariki have said they are keen to learn new skills and more advanced strategies. If there are any parents, caregivers, or whānau who play chess and would like to join us at lunch times, please contact Mrs BB colleen@mountbiggs.school.nz

This week, our William Pike Challenge students will be heading out on their first adventure walk. We are excited to hear all about their experiences and the challenges they tackle as part of this fantastic programme.

Finally, we genuinely value your feedback and ideas. Our goal is always to make Mount Biggs School the very best it can be for our tamariki, whānau, and community. If you have any questions, suggestions, or would simply like to have a chat, please feel free to pop in and see me or send me an email. I always enjoy hearing from members of our school community.

Ngā mihi nui,

Kyle Harris
Principal

School Reminders	*School Dates*
Stay Connected! *For event updates and reminders, please keep an eye on:* *Newsletters & emails* *Skool Loop App* *School Facebook page*	*June* *11th - FAHS visit - yr 8* *12th - Rm 4 William Pike - Fern Walk* *19th - Rm 4 William Pike - Gorge Walk* *22nd - Rippa Skills & Drills (yr 5/6 Kainui team)* *24th - Kainui Rippa* *24th - Ki-o-rahi Tournament (Yrs 4-6)* *25th - Ki-o-rahi Tournament (Yrs 7-8)* *30th - Te reo kapa haka o Matariki*

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Te Kura o Whakamoetākapu

Room 1








We have been lucky enough to have Mr Harris teach us twice over the last few weeks. He creates STEM activities that allow us to be engineers and designers.

Our second session involved creating catapults. This involved a lot of creative thinking. We built these from popsicle sticks, cups, rubberbands, skewers and wooden cubes. Our goal was to see who could get the furthest with their catapult. We had to run a series of tests throughout the design process.

We discovered that the heavier the object, the further it would go. Some objects went 10m, while others went 32m!

The best parts of the day were using them, building them, firing them in class, decorating them and making changes to improve them. Thanks Mr Harris!!

Room 2






We loved welcoming our parents to the school assembly. The students were proud to show off their newly made poi and share their waiata and dance. We have been learning "Rona", a beautiful waiata based on the ancient story of Rona and the Moon.

Room 2 is getting ready for the football World Cup. This week, students randomly selected a country to support. They have been busy researching facts about their nation, including its population, currency, famous dishes, and neighbouring countries. When a team gets knocked out, that student joins the team that beat them. Because of this, everyone is secretly hoping to lose to **Argentina** so they can join (supposedly) the winning side! We can't wait for the first matches to begin.

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Room 3



Our brain food is always a colourful sight, and we're so grateful to our whānau for providing such an incredible variety of fresh fruit and vegetables to fuel our learning. . . and encourage others to try new things.



Our visiting Speech-Language Therapist loved seeing our students confidently demonstrate how we explicitly teach every step of articulatory mouth position when introducing a new sound—a process we use every single day in Room 3.



With low numbers last week, we were able to use magnetic letters for Sound Swap, giving everyone the chance to manipulate sounds and build their reading and spelling skills in a fun, hands-on way while reducing the cognitive load of handwriting.

Room 4











We've been putting our engineering skills to the test by making paper roller coasters, using loops, turns, and steep drops to figure out the physics of speed and momentum.

The groups are working hard on the final touches, using loops, turns, and steep drops to figure out the physics of speed and momentum before the big test runs.

We've also been getting creative by painting covers for the long jump pits. It's a great way to add some vibrant, student-made artwork to our school.

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Te Kura o Whakamoetākapu

School Certificates

Room 1

Week 6



Week 7



Room 2

Week 6



Week 7



Room 3

Week 6



Week 7



Room 4

Week 6



Week 7



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