

It's been lovely to meet so many of you at the school gate recently. Do feel free to come and say hello if you see me out and about.

I have been so impressed with the children's learning this week, I have asked some of the year 6 pupils to type up some extracts from their recent writing, inspired by the novel "Oranges in no man's land".

The children have written a recount as a witness at the check point.

Have a read below.

**Ms Claire Redwood**  
**Acting Head Teacher**

#### **Extract 1 – Cameron**

Groaning as the sweltering shafts of light danced across my damp forehead, I glanced over the battered city of Beirut and shook off the mental weight of living in a place of anarchy. It was time I prepared my starved body for the lengthy journey across the shell-ridden border. Cresting over a neglected, barren hill-top, my dry eyes noticed a vantage point atop a towering assortment of flats.

Peeking through a ruined window, I had attempted to prevent my aged, thread-bare tunic from giving away my spying position; I was worried I had, once again, arrived at the wrong checkpoint. I watched a skinny, moth-eaten girl- who was roughly ten years old- carrying what looked to be her baby brother. She observed the flag on the checkpoint. It must have been her flag, for she then tentatively ventured toward the untrained militiamen.

#### **Extract 2 – Dylan**

The girl (who looked somewhere around ten years old) and a baby, tentatively approached the towering militiaman. Remains of war flooded the checkpoint: bullets scattered the floor, carcasses of buildings lined the street and cracked pavements surrounded the shell filled road. Trying not to stand out, I hid by a broken lamppost. Trying not to shout in pain I held my breath and looked up again to see what was happening. The militiaman asked the little girl what she was doing. The small child bravely explained to the intimidating soldier that she (like me) was looking for cooking oil; the people of Beirut were becoming especially desperate. I thought about stepping out of my hiding spot, but decided to wait a few more minutes. Another militiaman said to come back tomorrow when they had cleared the road. My heart sank. I thought about going back. The baby reached out to touch one of their guns, then the girl snatched his hand back. The man thought he was a fighter already, and asked the girl to hand him over. I felt worried but when I looked up again the militiaman was playing with him. He said he reminded him of his own son.

#### **Extract 3 – Harriet**

As my knuckles turned white and my breath became shallow, I eavesdropped on the conversation. The militiaman asked the little girl if she was lost. With a jolt, I realised she lived opposite me. The girl, when the soldier requested, handed over the baby grudgingly. He proceeded to tickle the boy's tummy and a shiver ran down my spine. Did he really care?

Pessimism overriding my conscious, I abandoned my task and retreated around the corner out of sight as the realisation dawned on me that the truck would fail to arrive. Yet again it had been another withering experience. For most of us we had established a home, a family; none of us wanted to move out in search of supplies. After last night's bombardments, I was thoroughly shaken even more so after this conversation. It has taught me to be more wary but also to not judge soldiers by their stripes.

#### **School Improvement**

Mrs Matthews has been working with staff around the quality of education for children with Special Educational Needs.

The leadership team have been looking at the school curriculum and have started to plan for the next academic year.

This week, children from KS1 and KS2 have been lucky enough to have a virtual visit from the fabulous poet, author and hip-hop artist Karl Nova. The children enjoyed listening to poetry and creating their own beats and sounds. We look forward to seeing how the sessions have inspired our children to create their own poems! You can read about Karl Nova, and watch some of his poetry on his website <https://karlnovaworld.wordpress.com/>

Dear Parent/Guardian

We are thrilled to tell you that rap poet Karl Nova will be holding a virtual visit in school to inspire the students about poetry, reading, writing and books, and to help develop their skills and enthusiasm.

Books will be available to purchase at the website below for 2 weeks after the event, and have signed and personalised!

Reading is vitally important for children, and on this occasion the school may benefit from the book sales, so please visit the site below to place your orders.

See right for prices and titles.

You can order and pay for books online at

<https://authors-abroad.square.site/>

Authors  
Abroad



## Karl Nova

Karl Nova is one of the UK's leading poets and hip hop artists delivering his work in his own unique, witty and energetic style.

Born and raised in London, as well as Lagos, Karl always found it difficult to fit in. This reflects in his music because he speaks as one who knows what it is like to be on the margins, in a world where conformity seems to be the key in gaining acceptance. He has always been one to defy expectations and go against the grain. Karl has also recently won the CLIPPA 2018 Award, and one of the UK's most prestigious literary awards "The Ruth Rendell Award 2020"



### Rhythm & Poetry £5.99

In Rhythm and Poetry by Hip Hop artist and poet Karl Nova the beauty of rap lyricism and Hip Hop influenced poetry is displayed with wit, humour and positivity. His approach is to meet young people where they are and engage them with the style and attitude they are familiar with.

This collection reflects on his journey of growth from childhood to adulthood through the lens of hip hop culture. A lot of the verses have already impacted many lives as he travels and delivers them with his unique and energetic style.



### The Curious Case of Karl Nova £6.99

Karl's second anthology is a collection of very personal poetry and is based on his own unique story. From the UK to Nigeria, and back again, Karl seeks to share his life journey, and explain how it has shaped who he has become today.

What would you do and how would you feel if you were suddenly taken away from all that you know? Read on, and you will find out how Karl responded, in this very particular and curious case....



Well done to Alfred (Torrige Class) and Herbie Powlesland (Dart Class) who came 1st and 2nd at the junior Torbay park run on Sunday. It must have been all the practise around our school track during DPA that helped.

Please could we ask that pupils do not come to school wearing smart watches.



These can be distracting to pupils in class and are a safeguarding issue.



Please could all pupils who come to school on their scooters or bikes ensure that they are wearing a safety helmet.

Please could we remind parent/carers that dogs are not permitted on the school site.



A huge well done to Corey Wiles in Torrige class who has recently won "Man of the match" for Buckland Athletic under 11's.





★ **Tavy and Exe class both had 99.3% attendance for the period of 19th April - 23rd April 2021.**

★ **Bovey class had 98.6% attendance for the period of 26th April - 30th April 2021.**

★ **A huge well done to you all !!!!**

★ Remember our whole school attendance target for the year.

★ We are working towards is **96.2%**.

★ It is essential for children to attend as much school as possible if they are to get the most from their education and achieve their full potential.

★ **Every day counts.....**

★ We expect all children on roll to attend every day, when the school is in session, as long as they are fit and healthy enough to do so. There is a clear link between achievement and attendance and you can keep up with date with your child's attendance via the School Gateway app. We work closely with the Education Welfare Officer (EWO) and review attendance on a monthly basis, any pupils falling below our 96.2% target may receive a letter home highlighting this. We will continue to monitor their attendance and if there is no improvement we will invite parents into school to discuss how we are able to work actively together ensure a regular pattern is maintained. If you have any queries or concerns about your child's attendance please contact school, a copy of our attendance policy can be found on the school website.

Class	W/C 19th April	W/C 26th April
Tamar	98.6%	91.4%
Teign	98.3%	93.7%
Torrige	94.5%	95.5%
Ashburn	97%	96.8%
Plym	98.3%	95.8%
Dart	97.5%	98.3%
Exe	<b>99.3%</b>	96.3%
Tavy	<b>99.3%</b>	97.2%
Mardle	98.6%	97.4%
Bovey	98.6%	<b>98.6%</b>
Meavy	98.2%	95.9%
Mole	94.3%	92.9%
Taw	94.1%	98.4%

★ **Well done to our Friday Flyers.**

★ **Our Friday Flyers promote our work around developing Growth Mindset and a can do attitude.**

Theme	Able to examine mistakes		Embrace challenge	
Date	Weekending Friday 30th April		Weekending Friday 7th May	
<b>Ashburn</b>	Amelia Palla	Harry Lawrence	Lucas Ryan	Chelsea Sheppard
<b>Bovey</b>	Tony Lee	Betty Cartwright	Reuben Brock	Lexi-Mae Hodgson-Baylis
<b>Dart</b>	Thomas Hallett	Lexie Boddington	Darcie-Mai Bradley	Roydon Smaridge
<b>Exe</b>	Roman Plant	Eleanor Regan	Christian Vittery	Myles Mason
<b>Mardle</b>	Tommy Walton	Gustavo Heireles	Jessica Cirstian	Sky Lewis
<b>Plym</b>	May Williams	Lucas Reeve	Leonard Coleman	Bartosz Kiezun
<b>Tamar</b>	Libby Manning	Mya Woodward	Owen Messer	Amey Stickley
<b>Tavy</b>	Mason Edmundson	Bella Davies	Ethan Holdway	Scarlett Lloyd
<b>Teign</b>	Elise Darby	Evie Cameron-Davies	Pirez Lawrence	Klaudia Partyka
<b>Torrige</b>	Kye Burwood	Reece Collins	Isabelle Blackford-Ede	Dylan Wylie

## Well done to our Accelerated Readers

**50,000 words.**

Dylan Williams & Joshua Stansfield.

**100,000 words.**

Maci-Taylor Hamm, Riley Dale, Erin Perry, Evie Cameron-Davies, Eleanor Regan, Christian Vittery, Ebony Parker & Libby Michaels.

**250,000 words.**

Harry Lawrence, Jasmin Field, Imogen Brown, Kyla Powell & Lucas Nash.

**750,000 words.**

Libby Manning, Zoe Brazil & Elizabeth Brazil.

**2.5 million words.**

Chase Tuckett.



Well done to Lexie Boddington, Eli Brock and Eleanor Regan who have all gained their Pen Licences this week.



You can be active

You can be creative!

# Come and join Brownies

Girls age 7-10

Your nearest Brownie unit is  
5th Newton Abbot  
Abbotsbury Church  
Waverley Rd  
Mondays

Register your interest by visiting  
[www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus)  
or you can ring  
Girlguiding on 0800 169 5901

Do you want to learn new skills?

Do you want to have lots of fun?

You can make friends and have adventures

Royal Mail

# HEROES STAMP DESIGN COMPETITION

We're taking part in Royal Mail's Heroes Stamp Design Competition, to honour the heroes of the coronavirus pandemic.

We're entering the competition for the chance to see our heroes on a stamp!

[www.royalmail.com/stampcompetition](http://www.royalmail.com/stampcompetition)  
#HeroStamps

Contact us on 01626 216300 or email [admin@highweekprimary.co.uk](mailto:admin@highweekprimary.co.uk)

Website : [www.highweekprimary.co.uk](http://www.highweekprimary.co.uk)



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