

# KEVICC is Open for Primary Fun...



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"...my shadow looming against its jagged peaks, I'm surging forward, ascending, sailing through dark clouds, rising up, a fiery wind propelling me, and soon it's night and stars hang in the sky above the mountain, revolving as they burn. The stars are real. The future is that mountain." And so ends Bret Easton Ellis's enchantingly duplicitous 'Glamorama' (1998)—it is a conclusive image of elevated fantasy, of the ascent of one's spirit high beyond the constraints of mere reality. It is that upward progress, to strive beyond the edge of visibility, which defines the spirit of adventure; this was impressively paralleled by the creativity and imagination exhibited by the young students who visited KEVICC this month from their surrounding primary schools. In collaboration with staff from the college, local author Philip Reeve visited Class 5 of Blackawton Primary School to read his published story *Mortal Engines*, physically recreating one of its terrifying beasts, the 7 ft. "Shrike". Made by the resourceful students with a variety of collaging techniques and, no doubt, a lot of glue, the resulting monster was a fine piece of sculptural art. It was sure to have done Reeve proud.

Meanwhile, Year 6 Berry Pomeroy students showed off their inventive knack for design in participating in the Property Design Challenge with KEVICC's Design & Technology department. Tasked with designing sustainable and ethical housing, the challenge served as a fine means of preparing children for the evolution of 'green' housing they are likely to see developing in their lifetime.

To instil an understanding of the future is a valuable lesson to bestow, such is its incalculable unpredictability. To best attain comfort in actuality, it is wise to pay attention to the present; learn from what you see, and know.



## Warning...we have designs on Road Safety

Year 2 students from Berry Pomeroy Primary School have been participating in Design & Technology workshops at KEVICC.

They developed creative design concepts inspired by the work and conventions of Margaret Calvert and Jock Kinneir (designers of UK road sign system).

Students were asked to design signs for 'New hazards of modern day living!' looking at the characteristics of Calvert and Kinneir's system. Students improved problem solving skills, tenacity and ability to use design conventions in own work. Students used application techniques used in the real world of business to apply the vinyl stickers to their backing piece.



## It was just like the real thing...

Sixty Year 6 students from Berry Pomeroy, Stoke Gabriel and The Grove Primary schools participated in an exciting Property Design Challenge Day with the Design and Technology team at KEVICC.

Working alongside the students, who worked in teams of five, were Year 10 and Year 12 design and mathematics students. The students were set the challenge of developing ideas on meeting the housing needs of local people in a sustainable and ethical manner. The project was based on a real life site in the Totnes area that Transition Homes have plans to develop between Totnes and Dartington. Chris Bird and Nicola Lang, Members of the Totnes Transition Homes group, helped guide, advise and then judge the student presentations and concepts.

A few of the comments the students made about the event:

*I think the purpose of the challenge was to work in a team, to work out the costs in developing houses and to show us how important it is to work together.*

*I liked the reality and I would like to do it again.*



## A Stalker called Shrike

KEVICC staff and artists working with Class 5 from Blackawton Primary School.

The children of Class 5 have been reading the extraordinary tale of Tom and Hester in "*Mortal Engines*", a novel by local author Philip Reeve. The story is set in a post-apocalyptic world, where 'old tech' is salvaged and cobbled together by the Guild of Engineers to enhance London, a huge layered city set on caterpillar traction wheels that hunts smaller towns in the vast wastelands. One of the formidable characters is Shrike, (a Stalker), made from remnants of a dying soldier, from the infamous forty second war, and pieced together with bits of scrap technology.

The kids wanted to build Shrike in all his 7ft scariness. So we talked about the description in the novel and the features he might need.

After collaging from magazines, the children set about working on the highly ambitious project. While taking turns to sculpt a Stalker the rest used their engineering, tinkering brains to devise little 'Bots' made from junk.

*The art workshops were magnificent. The children were inspired, engaged and produced, not only excellent art-work, but some fabulous writing.*

Tina Rodwell-Lynn, Class 5 Teacher, Blackawton Primary School



and Class 5 commented:

*It was Amazing.*

*I've never made anything before and didn't know I could.*

*This has really made me want to go to KEVICC.*

*It really made the words from the book come to life.*



Produced by the Press Team

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