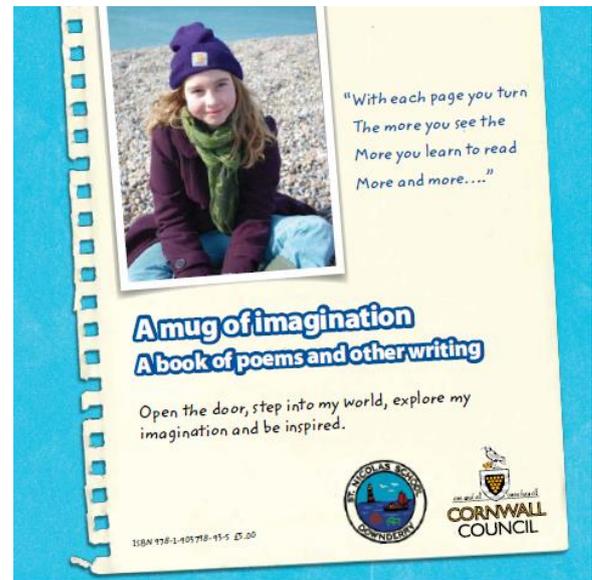
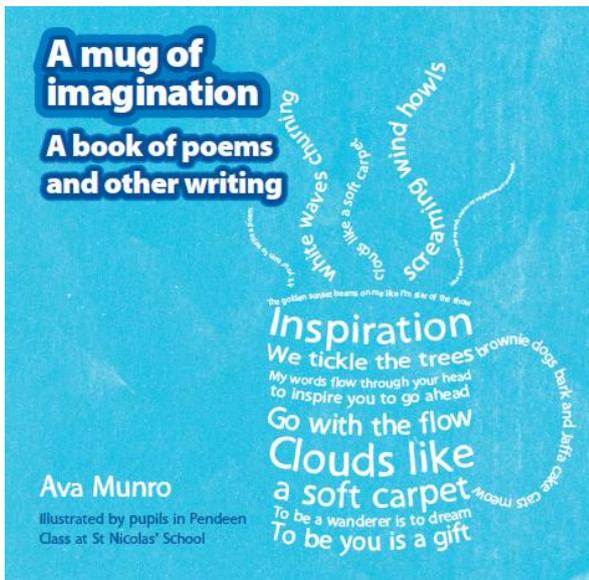


Cornwall Dyslexia Service : Book Writing Project :

Jane Trapmore (Cornwall Dyslexia Adviser)



On Friday 18th July this year, Ava Munro, a talented Year 6 pupil at St Nicolas' School, Downderry, launched her poetry book at a special book launch event.

As part of the Cornwall Dyslexia Service Book Writing Project, Ava is the 6th pupil to become a published author, following in the footsteps of five other young writers, who have all experienced some literacy or dyslexic difficulties and who have had the opportunity to write their own books in this way.

For Ava this book has enabled her to share her love of words "It was so much fun writing this book because there were no boundaries. I enjoyed working with my class and being able to choose what went in the book. I chose poetry and creative writing because I LOVE words. I love writing poetry because I don't have to think about the rules because there are no rules. Before knowing I was dyslexic I had a hard time doing literacy and did not feel equal. I don't feel like that anymore."

She has worked incredibly hard on this project, both with the poetry and also with the ideas and designs to accompany her written work. In fact, the whole class became involved in this book project, contributing to one of the pieces of work, where they chose their best bits from their own writing, which were then woven into a story by Ava; the whole class then created a patchwork of art to accompany the story-it's all in the book!

Cath Hayes, Ava's class teacher explained how this project has had an impact on Ava's learning. "The book project has done wonders for her in many ways - she has become more confident in her abilities as an author which is great but also she has had to organise

herself by gathering the poems, take responsibility for getting the photos together, delegate jobs to her classmates and lead them in the project. We have seen their respect and admiration for Ava increase too which has been fantastic for helping her feel like a leader not just part of the crowd.”

This book is a little different from the other books in the series, as Ava is the first girl to be involved and the book. ‘A mug of imagination’ is a collection of poetry and other fictional writing demonstrating her love of words.

Ava’s mum explained “Writing this book has been a fantastic experience for Ava and her school. Ava has crawled out of her small tight chrysalis and spread her wings. It is a delight to see and I cannot thank the School and the Cornwall Dyslexia Service enough for this opportunity...Ava has had a lot of fun writing this book of poetry. She has loved sharing the journey with her teachers, her classmates and the school. Most importantly Ava has enjoyed being able to share her love of poetry and words with all of you”

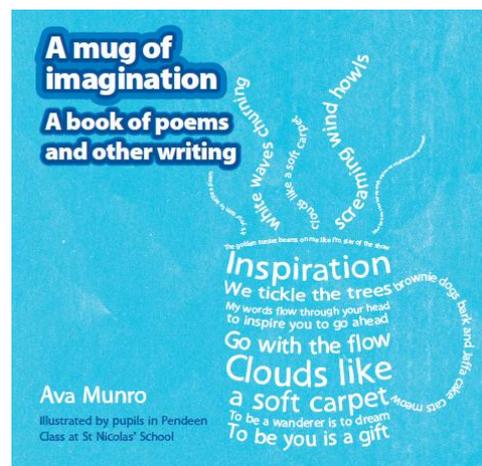
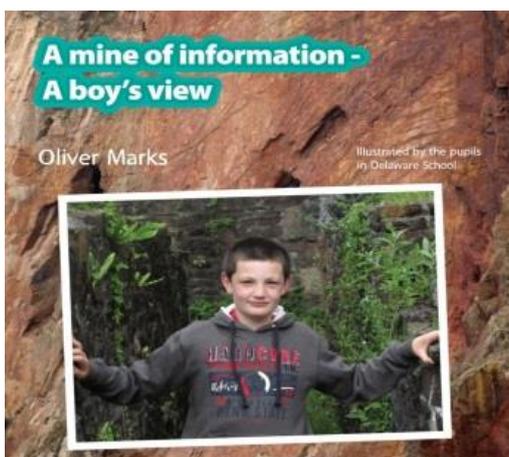
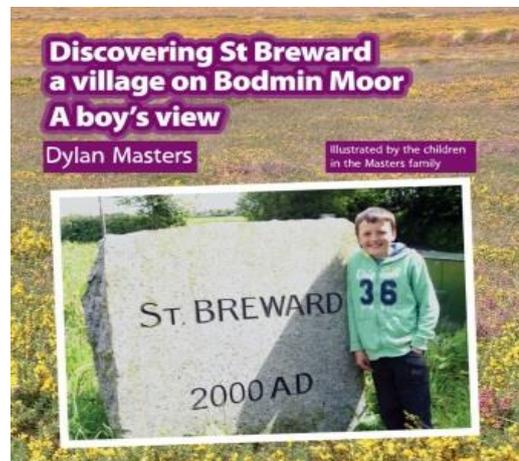
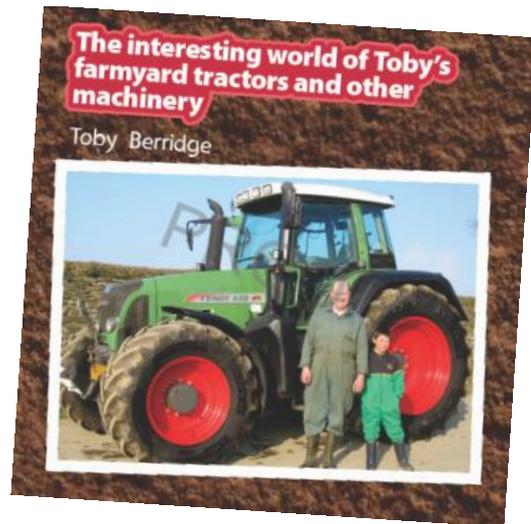
Jane Trapmore, Dyslexia Adviser for Cornwall reflected “ Every pupil involved in writing their own book have brought many rewards, in particular watching a young person grow in confidence and stature as a learner, and this project has been no exception. It has been a pleasure to work with Ava and her teachers at school.”

Ava’s book **A mug of imagination** is the 6th book in the series. The other five books have been written in a similar pattern; working with young people who have all experienced some literacy/ dyslexic difficulties and who might not have been expected to write their own books. However, the impact for each individual has been evident both in their approach to learning and in academic progress, but more importantly, in an increase in a range of other skills- in their confidence in themselves as learners and in their attitude and approach to work. Each child has enjoyed and been fully engaged in the experience of choosing the content of their books; researching ,planning and organising the different sections , as well as working to deadlines ,collecting information ,editing and drafting and interviewing others..

It has made a difference to each of these young people who have had this opportunity. This is a project that could be replicated in other areas of the country in a similar way.

For more information or to purchase any of these books, please contact Jane on dyslexia@cornwall.gov.uk , (Each book costs £5 plus P&P)

The 6 books in the series...



An example of Ava's Poetry :

Poem of the Day by Ava Munro (printed by kind permission of the author)

"I wrote this poem because it is about me and about being dyslexic."

The B's and D's don't' help with bed,

I can't seem to get them in my head

The oohs and aaahs I need to discard

I end up with umms and errs because
they don't fit the word.

Five! -oor-or-ore-aw and au-5!

There's saw, snore, poor, for and Paul

It surely should be against the law?

Which witch is which?

With each sound I learn, they take it in turns

To climb the stairs to my memory box.

Their bones begin to groan, and one by one

They whoosh, they're gone

They disappear out of my ear!