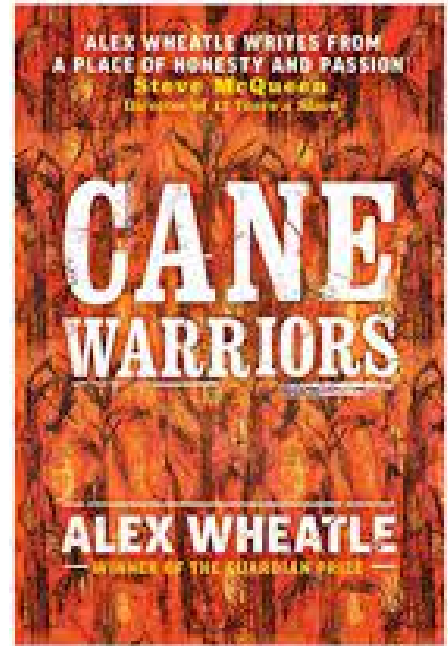


On Thursday 16th June, a group of 7 year nine students visited Tor Bridge High to take part in a Carnegie Shadowing event which was attended by 9 schools from across Plymouth and South East Cornwall. Each school presented on a book that was shortlisted for the Carnegie Book Award. We were presenting on Alex Wheatle's 'Cane Warriors' and our presentation ranked third overall! You can see the presentation [here](#).



'Cane Warriors' is a book for young adult readers, and is based on the true story of an eighteenth-century slave uprising. Wheatle's novel centres on the teenage Moa and the challenging decisions he must make as a 'cane warrior' fighting for freedom from the Jamaican plantations.





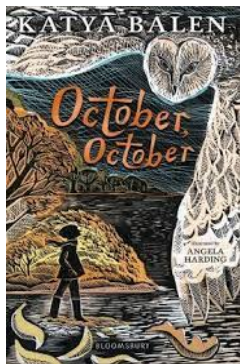
Alex Wheatle is the best-selling author of several books including the modern classic *Brixton Rock*, and the multi-award winning Crongton series. He was awarded an MBE for his services to literature in 2008, has been twice nominated for the Carnegie Medal, and has won numerous awards including Guardian Children's Fiction Prize. He lives in London.



We feel privileged to have shadowed again this year and to hear the winning author and illustrator speak when we linked up live to the national ceremony.

We were also blessed by a visit from a published author: Anthony McGowan talked to everyone who took part in the Carnegie Shadowing Event about what it was like being an author, why he became one and why he wrote stories about and for young people. He is the winner of the Carnegie Award in 2020 for his book 'Lark'.





The winning book was called 'October, October' by Katya Balen. It is an evocative exploration of what it means to be truly alive and wholly human. The captivating story features exquisite descriptions of the natural world and relationships that develop and heal, all told through a natural language and style. Wild, clever and caring October's relationship with the forest sets the tone for her relationship with others in her life.

Torbridge High presented to us a teaser/recommendation for a book called, 'Punching the Air: following a Black teenager who is sent to prison for a crime he didn't commit, this deeply affecting verse novel explores systemic racism in today's America and the power of art to transform lives.

If you would like to take part in the Carnegie Shadowing event next year, please get in touch with Mrs Johnson for more information. Throughout the year, Mrs Johnson also participates in the Children's Book Awards, which is a fantastic opportunity to read a wide range of newly published books.

