

All of the Year 6 (ages 10 to 11) children at Offwell School are currently undertaking a new challenge. We asked two of the children taking part to write a summary of this and what it means to them.

*The Torbay and Devon Civic Award was started 15 years ago by a teacher [Karen Thomson] from Torbay. She felt there was a gap in our learning, so she set up this award to inspire us to help the people around us, show respect and develop our characters to make us good citizens for the future.*

*The aim of the award is to prove your participation in five main areas. These are:*

- *Active Citizenship in our school community - reading buddies, school council, house captains.*
- *Active Citizenship in our home community - beach cleans, Brownies, Scouts*
- *An active hobby [ies]*
- *A non-active hobby [ies]*
- *A residential experience and adventure training. This can be back dated to year 5.*

*Finally, you are also required to adopt a cause or charity and find a way to raise money for it.*

*The Torbay and Devon Civic Award is a fun challenge to take part in and complete. When you have finished a section you feel good about yourself and feel that you have helped. It's an important award as you are helping charities, your local community and your school community. The Civic Award does a great deal to develop our characters. It is giving us an opportunity to learn about the wider world, show our compassion and take responsibility for positive change.*

*There is an assessment day in June, where assessors come into schools and look at our folders. They will talk to us about the work we have been doing to try to complete the award.*

*By Ella and Alana*

Some of our children have already achieved amazing things with many more in the pipeline. Aubrey swam 5km and raised around £300 for the RNLI; Rosie organised a cake stall and with the help of two other Year 6 children, Lilly-Grace and Layla raised nearly £150 for Cancer Research UK. We are immensely proud of them all.

