

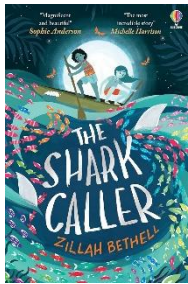
# Year 5 Newsletter

Summer 2024

As the sun starts to re-emerge and the weather warms up, we start some of our favourite units of learning in Year 5 – it's a fun-filled term!

In Summer 2 (after half term), we will be going on a trip to Nottingham Castle. More information about this trip will come out closer to the time.

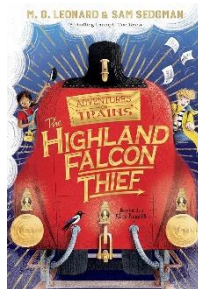
## What are we learning?



This term, we will be reading *The Shark Caller* by Zillah Bethell. It is a wonderful story set on the island of Papua New Guinea and one of mine and Miss Coutt's favourite books to read the children. We will then move on to read *The Highland Falcon Thief*, a mystery novel set on a royal train. We will be

using this book to inspire our own mystery stories that happen in school!

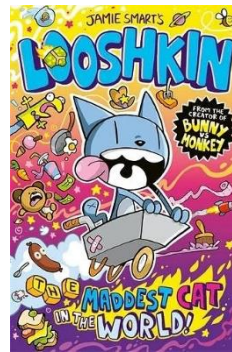
In maths, the children will be looking at graphs and interpreting data in statistics, learning about angles in shape as well as position and direction. They will also be continuing to learn about decimals – a lot of things to learn about before the end of the year!



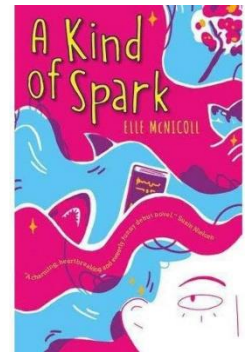
	Summer 1	Summer 2
Science	Life cycles of living things	Changes of materials
History	The burning of Nottingham Castle	
Geography	Weather and climate	
Art		Architecture
Music	Hip Hop	
DT	Structures	Moving CAM toys
Computing	Vector drawings	Databases
RE	Beliefs and Questions	Beliefs in Action

For information about the people we will be studying within each unit, please refer to our Class Dojo post.

## Reading Recommendations



**Looshkin**  
Jamie Smart  
Rated ★★★★★  
by Miss Coutts



**A Kind of Spark**  
Elle McNicoll  
Rated ★★★★★  
by Mr Payne

## Homework

Every Friday, we set the children their homework. This includes:











- Maths homework (a sheet)
- Writing homework (a sheet)
- Spellings (stuck into their diaries)
- Practising their times tables
- Daily independent reading

Occasionally, children will have the opportunity to earn additional points by completing tests on [maths.co.uk](https://maths.co.uk) and [spag.com](https://spag.com)

## Key dates

- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Class photo day
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June pm – Y5/6 Sports Day
- Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Summer Disco
- Early July – Trip to Nottingham Castle – Date to be confirmed
- Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July – School Gala
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July – Transition Day
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Y5/6 performance (afternoon and evening)

As we embark on another exciting term of learning, here's a sneak peek into the topics and activities we will be covering.

- Art – We will not be teaching art this half term. The children will continue with their art curriculum after May half term.
- Computing - Vector Drawings:  
 In computing, children will be crafting digital masterpieces using shapes. They will be learning about the world of vector drawings. We're excited to see what they create!
- DT – Bird hide shelters:  
 The children will be continuing with their bird-hide shelters this half term before moving on to a new unit of mechanised cam toys when they have completed their final products.
- English – Writing Mysteries and Descriptive Writing:  
 Inspired by our class book, "The Shark Caller" by Zillah Bethell, children will immerse themselves in narrative writing and reviews, drawing inspiration from the vibrant setting of Papua New Guinea.
- Geography – Weather and Climate:  
 Exploring the intricacies of weather and climate, children will investigate the UK and global weather patterns, with a special focus on extreme weather phenomena like hurricanes and the impact on places like Florida.
- History – Nottingham Castle's Burning:  
 Delving into Nottingham's tumultuous past, children will unravel the mystery behind why people danced at the sight of Nottingham Castle burning. From its origins under William the Conqueror to its transformation into a Garden City and later, the largest slum in Europe, we'll examine events like the Luddite movement and shifts in voting rights that culminated in the castle's fiery fate.
- Maths –Shape, Position and Direction, and Decimals:  
 Building upon their mathematical foundations, children will explore shape, position and direction, and delve further into the world of decimals.
- Music - Hip Hop:  
 Discovering the cultural phenomenon of Hip Hop, children will delve into the beats and rhymes of the iconic track 'The Fresh Prince Of Bel-Air' by Will Smith.
- RE – Beliefs and Questions:  
 Exploring diverse religious beliefs, including Hinduism, Islam, Atheism, and Agnosticism, children will delve into the practices, sacred texts, and philosophical inquiries that shape these worldviews.
- Reading – The Shark Caller  
 "The Shark Caller" by Zillah Bethell will be our class book for this half term.
- Science:  
 Investigating the wonders of the natural world, children will learn about the life cycle of different groups of animals: mammals, amphibians, insects and birds