



Dear Parent/Carer,

7<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Following the success of Sparx Maths, we are excited to let you know that we've partnered with Sparx to start using their new reading platform, Sparx Reader. Sparx Reader helps every scholar to achieve regular independent reading, which is incredibly important for building vital literacy skills.

Scholars can choose from a range of eBooks. As they read, they'll answer quick questions to check they're reading carefully, these questions are adapted for each scholar. Careful readers earn points so that they can track their progress and climb the league table.

Motivated readers who demonstrate consistent, careful reading will unlock Gold Reader, meaning they can read any paper book from the library or from home by scanning in its barcode.

#### **When will Sparx Reader be launched?**

Sparx Reader will be launched on the week commencing the 3rd of July 2023 for scholars in Years 7 and 8. Scholars will receive support on getting started with Sparx Reader during their timetabled English lessons in this week. Once the first Sparx Reader homework is uploaded to Sparx, you will receive further notification to let you know it is live for scholars to complete their careful reading at home.

#### **What will scholars be asked to do on Sparx Reader?**

Scholars will be allocated 30 minutes of careful reading time each week. During this time, they will read an ability related novel online using Sparx Reader and be asked questions on the section of reading they have completed in this sitting. If scholars struggle to answer the questions, they will re-read the same section then attempt the questions again. Following this process allows scholars to increase their careful reading skills, as well as the ability to search and find information which is a crucial reading skill for all subjects across the curriculum.

#### **How do scholars log in?**

Scholars log in using their Sparx Maths username and password or by using the Microsoft Log in option and entering their Woodfields email address and password. Search 'Sparx Reader' to find the login page.

#### **What devices are supported?**

Any internet-connected device with a web browser can access Sparx Reader.

#### **How can I support my child with their reading?**

Sparx Reader adapts to each scholar's reading level, so it's important that you don't help by answering questions for them. If you help them, Sparx Reader might think they're a very strong reader and show them books that are too difficult.



The best way to support your child is to ask them about the book they're reading; what aspects they're enjoying, or what characters and events they've recently read about.

**What if my child does not have access to a computer or the internet at home?**

Homework club runs every lunch time from 13:00 to 13:25. Scholars line up outside the canteen then go to room 33 to use the computers. Homework club also runs after school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 15:10 to 16:10. Students can go straight to room 33 at the end of their afternoon Apollo. For scholars who have been unable to complete their homework, a Homework Support session will be booked for them to attend at 15:10 on the day the homework was due, where they can complete the work with support from staff in school.

We look forward to seeing the improvement Sparx Reader makes to your child's reading abilities and hope that they enjoy the wealth of virtual books they now have access too.

**Kind regards**

***N. Skill***

**Miss Nicole Skill**  
**Literacy Lead**

