

**We Make A Difference****Headteacher**
Kam Grewal-Joy
Deputy Headteachers
Steve Bacon
*Tamsin Woodward*TWO/SGI
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Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Sparx Reader

We're excited to let you know that we've partnered with Sparx to start using their new reading platform, Sparx Reader. From now your child will be using Sparx Reader to complete weekly homework.

Your child's homework will be set on Monday and due on Monday every week.

Sparx Reader helps every student to achieve regular independent reading, which is incredibly important for building vital literacy skills.

Students can choose from a range of e-books at their appropriate level and as they read, they'll answer questions to check they're reading carefully. Careful readers earn points meaning they can track their progress and climb the league table!

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

How do they log in?

- Students log in at sparxreader.com using their Microsoft account (their school computer username and email e.g. JohnSmith-23@meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk)

What devices are supported?

- Your child can access Sparx Reader on any device that connects to the internet with a web browser.

How can I support my child with their reading?

- Sparx Reader adapts to each student'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.
- You can however help to provide a quiet space for your child to focus on their reading homework each week.
- 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.

How can I monitor the reading my child is doing?

- You are able to keep track of the reading your child is doing by clicking through the link to the Parent Portal in your Sparx Maths weekly homework email.
- On the Parent Portal, you can choose to view homework progress for any Sparx learning system your child is using. For Sparx Reader, you can see progress with the current and previous homework, and browse books that your child has been reading as part of their current homework.

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What support is available?

- Y8 homework club after school
- School library – each morning before registration and after school

After Christmas we will be sending out a short survey for parents to gather feedback. Meanwhile, if you have any questions, please contact *enquiries@meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk* and mark it FAO Mrs Key or Ms Woodward.

Yours faithfully,



Ms T Woodward
Deputy Headteacher