



Dear Parents and Carers,

New Weekly Reading Tasks on Sparx Reader

We are writing to let you know about the continued development of an exciting new platform we are launching to support your child's literacy and learning. We believe that regular reading is essential—not only for improving literacy skills, but also for supporting academic achievement and overall wellbeing. As students move through school and into adulthood, strong reading skills play a critical role in helping them succeed across all subjects and in life beyond the classroom.

Starting tomorrow, all students will be set weekly reading tasks on Sparx Reader, an online platform that gives students access to a wide range of books suited to their reading level and interests. These tasks have been added to ePraise to support your child in managing their time and other commitments - however, completion will not be recorded on the ePraise platform. You will be able to check on your child's progress on Sparx's Parent Portal (the same way as you would for maths homework that has been set).

To help embed good reading habits, we are asking all students to complete the Sparx Reader homework tasks each week for the next three weeks. These tasks should last for no longer than 30 minutes and are designed to be engaging and manageable. We would appreciate your support in encouraging your child to take part. In order to recognise and reward effort, students who complete all 3 reading tasks that have been set between 30th April and 21st May will be invited for a hot chocolate celebration in the school refectory on the final day of term.

From next term, for those students whose reading age is already above their chronological age, rather than use the SparxReader platform, there is an opportunity for students to record their reading of physical books through the Sparx Gold Reader Pass. However, for this term we would like for all students to try the SparxReader platform so that they can make an informed decision about how effective it could be for them.

If you would like more information on Sparx Reader or how to support your child's reading at home, there is information from the parent carer launch evening that can be found [here](#). Additionally, there is a parent guide page on the SparxReader platform itself which can be found [here](#).

If you have any questions that are not covered in this email or the website links above, please feel free to reach out and contact me by emailing asymes@sheldonschool.co.uk.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Symes