



NEWSTEAD WOOD SCHOOL

"creating opportunities for success"

10 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Sparx Reader

We're excited to let you know that we've partnered with Sparx Learning to start using their reading platform, Sparx Reader. It's really important to us that young people are able to practise careful, silent reading for an extended period.

From Friday 13 September your child will be using Sparx Reader to complete weekly homework. Your child's homework will be set every Friday and due by 8am on the following Friday.

Students can choose from an appropriate range of ebooks at their reading level and, as they read, they'll answer questions to check they're reading carefully. Careful readers earn points, which will prove they've been focusing and allow them, and their form to 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, after scanning its barcode and registering it on the Sparx Reader site.

How do they log in?

- Students log in at sparxreader.com. They will need to find their school and log in using the same details as for Sparx Maths.

Which devices are supported?

- Students 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 suggest books that are too difficult.
- You can help by providing a quiet space and a set amount of time 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; which aspects they're enjoying, which characters and events they've recently read about or what they think could happen next.

Headteacher: Mr Alan Blount, MA, BSc, QTS

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Newstead Wood School

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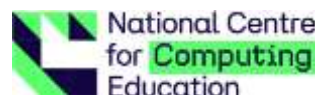
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How can I monitor the reading my child is doing?

- You are able to keep track of your child's reading 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 homeworks, and browse books that your child has been reading as part of their current homework.
- When your child finishes their book, we will send you an email celebrating their achievement.

What support is available at Newstead Wood School

- Students can access Sparx reader on the school computers in the library. The library is open from 7.30am – 6.00pm every day.
- Students will be reminded of their homework via Teams.

Incomplete Homework:

- Every Friday morning we will check that all classes have successfully completed their homework on time. If homework is incomplete, a behaviour point and detention will be put in place on Arbor.
- If a student is having problems with the site, and is unable to complete the homework, they **MUST** email me with a screen shot of the problem at least 24 hours before the homework is due.

Rewards

- Students who complete Extra Sparx Reader Points and those students who unlock a 'Gold Reader Pass' will be awarded achievement points.
- Every week, the names of the top 10 Sparx Readers will be published in the school newsletter.
- The students who gain the most Sparx Reader Points will be awarded a certificate.
- Bronze, silver and gold enamel lapel badges will be awarded when students achieve 50,000, 75,000 and 100,000 points

If you have any questions, please do contact me at cviggers@newsteadwood.co.uk.

Kind regards

C Viggers

Miss C Viggers
Literacy Lead