

28 March 2024  
PSg/CGn

Dear Parent/Carer

We are excited to let you know that we've partnered with Sparx to start using their new reading platform, Sparx Reader. From 15 April 2024, your child will be using Sparx Reader to complete their weekly homework.

Having listened to, and taken on board, feedback from parents and carers of our Years 7, 8 and 9 students, we have made the decision that Sparx Reader will replace the current Knowledge Organiser based homework for English. This is still available for students to complete in their booklets but will not be monitored by English teachers any longer. If your student still wishes to complete the weekly questions in the Knowledge Organiser booklet, they will be advantaging themselves and will be rewarded by their teachers if they show it to them.

Your child's homework will be set on a Monday and due on the following 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 eBooks at their appropriate level and as they read, they will answer questions to check they are 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](https://sparxreader.com). They will need to find their school and log in using their Sparx Maths details.

#### 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 are reading; what aspects they are 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.



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- 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.

### What support is available at King's Oak Academy?

- Homework club in C18
- The library is open at break and lunchtime and has computers available.

If you have any questions, please contact me or your student's English teacher.

Kind regards



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King's Oak Academy