

## **Sparx Reader**

**Your child's homework will be set each week by the class teacher. Students will have a full week to complete the homework.**

How to login to Sparx Reader?

- Search for 'Sparx Reader student login' in the google search engine
- Click on Student Login
- Type Parkhall Integrated College into the select your school box
- Then click on Parkhall Integrated College and press continue
- Now select Log in to Sparx using Google
- The student's username and password are the same as they use to login into the computers in school

We know you want to support your child's reading progress, so we are sending this letter to explain how Sparx works and how you can help your child complete their homework each week.

### **What is Sparx Reader Homework?**

- Sparx provides personalised book recommendations based on your child's reading age.
- Each child will have undertaken a baseline assessment to determine their reading age.
- Students will be able to select from 4 books that have been selected to match their reading age.
- As students read, they will be asked simple multiple choice questions designed to check for understanding.
- The homework is solely online and can be accessed by any device with an internet connection.
- Students are asked to complete 300SRPs (Sparx Reader Points) This is around the equivalent of 30 minutes of careful reading. If a student keeps getting questions wrong, it will take longer for them to gain the 300 points. Careful and concentrated reading is vital.

### **How can you help your child with their homework?**

- Discuss the importance of good literacy skills. Literacy isn't just important in English. Without good literacy skills, research shows that students struggle in many other areas of school.
- Take an interest in the book which they are reading. Ask questions about the book. Are there any characters that they like or dislike? Where is the story set? What is happening in the story? What predications can they make?
- Build in a routine. Sparx Reader can be completed over a course of several days. 10 minutes a day will ensure that your child reaches the 300SRP (Sparx Reader Points)

- Create a quiet and distraction free environment.
- If it helps, ask them to read aloud to you.

#### **Why SPARX Reader?**

- Sparx is constantly updating their book selection which means there will be something there for even the most reluctant readers.
- Sparx has a large library of books which reflect the interests of students but presented in an accessible format. Traditionally, books with lower reading ages would be too immature for post-primary students.
- Sparx constantly assess your child's reading age and will ensure progression by suggesting more challenging texts as your child's reading age improves.
- Sparx has a number of accessibility tools which students can use including changing of background colours and the use of a line guide.