23rd October 2023

Dear Parent / Carer

LAUNCH OF SPARX READER AT PHA

We're excited to let you know that following the success that our academy has experienced in using Sparx Maths, we are also partnering with Sparx to use their new reading platform, Sparx Reader. **Your child will now be using this platform to complete weekly reading homework that will support your child in achieving regular independent reading, which is incredibly important for building vital literacy skills.**

In line with the weekly maths homework, Sparx Reader tasks will **be set on Fridays and due on the following Wednesday evening by 9pm**. This routine will commence fully after the Half Term break, however there is an initial homework task that we would love for your child to complete prior to then.

Students are able to choose from a range of ebooks at their appropriate level and as they read they will answer questions to check that they are reading carefully. Careful readers earn Sparx Reader Points and climb the league table! We will be celebrating student successes and issuing positive points, certificates and other exciting rewards.

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

A parent user guide is included on page 2 of this letter, however please do not hesitate to contact me or Mrs Plimmer (anne.plimmer_@attrust.org.uk) should you have any queries.

Many thanks in advance for your support. We are excited to work with Sparx Reader to develop our students' reading abilities as we strongly believe that this is the key to success across the curriculum.

Kind regards,

Mrs B Brazier
Assistant Principal
Bev.Brazier@attrust.org.uk

SPARX READER AT PHA: A PARENT USER GUIDE

How does my child log in?
- Students log in at sparxreader.com

- They will need to type in the name of their school (POOL HAYES ACADEMY) and then select the blue "Log in to Sparx using Microsoft" option. They need to know their school email address. This will be in the following format:

  22SURNAMEINITIAL-PHA@attrust.org.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 **<u>don't</u>** 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.

Support is available at Pool Hayes Academy:
- Students can use school devices such as iPads, laptops and PCs in the library. The library is available to all students at break and lunchtime, and also after school, until 4pm Tuesday-Thursday.