

How to complete homework in each subject:

English: Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9

What is Sparx reader?

We are fortunate this year to be able to offer an exclusive new approach to our year 7 – 9 students, which will allow us to provide consistency and accountability in one of the most crucial aspects of their education - literacy. Each week, **they simply read a book online for one hour, and answer questions about what they have read.**

Why do we use this as homework?

There is an extensive body of research indicating that one of the most significant indicators in how successful a student will be, both academically and in later life, is their level of literacy, and that a regular habit of reading is one of the most important ways in which this crucial aspect of their education can be strengthened. Sparx reader provides that regular programme, at a level tailored to each student, in a way that is measurable, consistent, and effective.

To log in

Students will visit <https://sparxreader.com/>

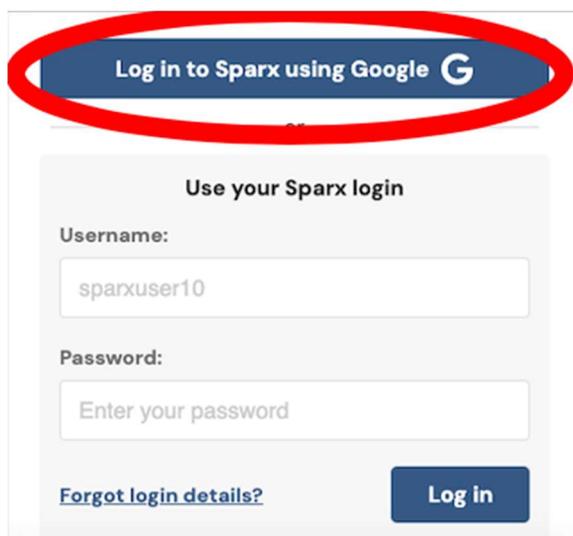
To log in:

- Type in their school name and selecting 'Henley Bank':

Select your school

Start typing the name of your school below.

- And logging in using their school google account



Log in to Sparx using Google 

Use your Sparx login

Username:

Password:

[Forgot login details?](#)

Your child will have received a full explanation of how to operate Sparx reader in lessons but, in essence, they are given a book:

The screenshot shows the 'My Library' page on the Sparx website. On the left is a navigation menu with icons for Home, Library, League, and Vocab. The main content area features a book card for 'Secrets of an Undercover Activist' by Nat Amoore. The card includes the book cover, the author's name, genres (Activism, Adventure, Friendship), a short synopsis, and a 'Start book' button.

They read the book online, through the Sparx website, and answer questions about what they've read.

The screenshot shows the start of a reading section. A purple bookmark icon is on the left of a grey bar that says 'Start reading here'. Below this is the title 'Green Peas Rule 1' and the subtitle 'THE FIRST RULE OF GREEN PEAS IS SHHHHHH!'. A simple line drawing of a pea pod with three peas is centered below the text. The first paragraph of the story begins: 'I try to hide my nerves as our sports teacher, Ms Mezher, explains how cross country day is going to work.' A quote follows: '“And next Friday, Years Five and Six will meet in their assigned groups on the bottom field at...”'

The screenshot shows a question box with a green header. The question is: 'Q1. What did Casey Wu do at home in preparation for the assembly prank?'. There are four answer options in buttons: 'Not in story', 'Cleaned the house to get on Grandpa's good side', 'Worked out the average time of Ms Mezher's sports speeches', and 'Test runs, adjusting the clocks for the right effect'.

For each correct answer, they score **Sparx Reader Points (SRPs)**. They get more points for answering questions correctly the first time, so careful reading is encouraged before they attempt the questions.

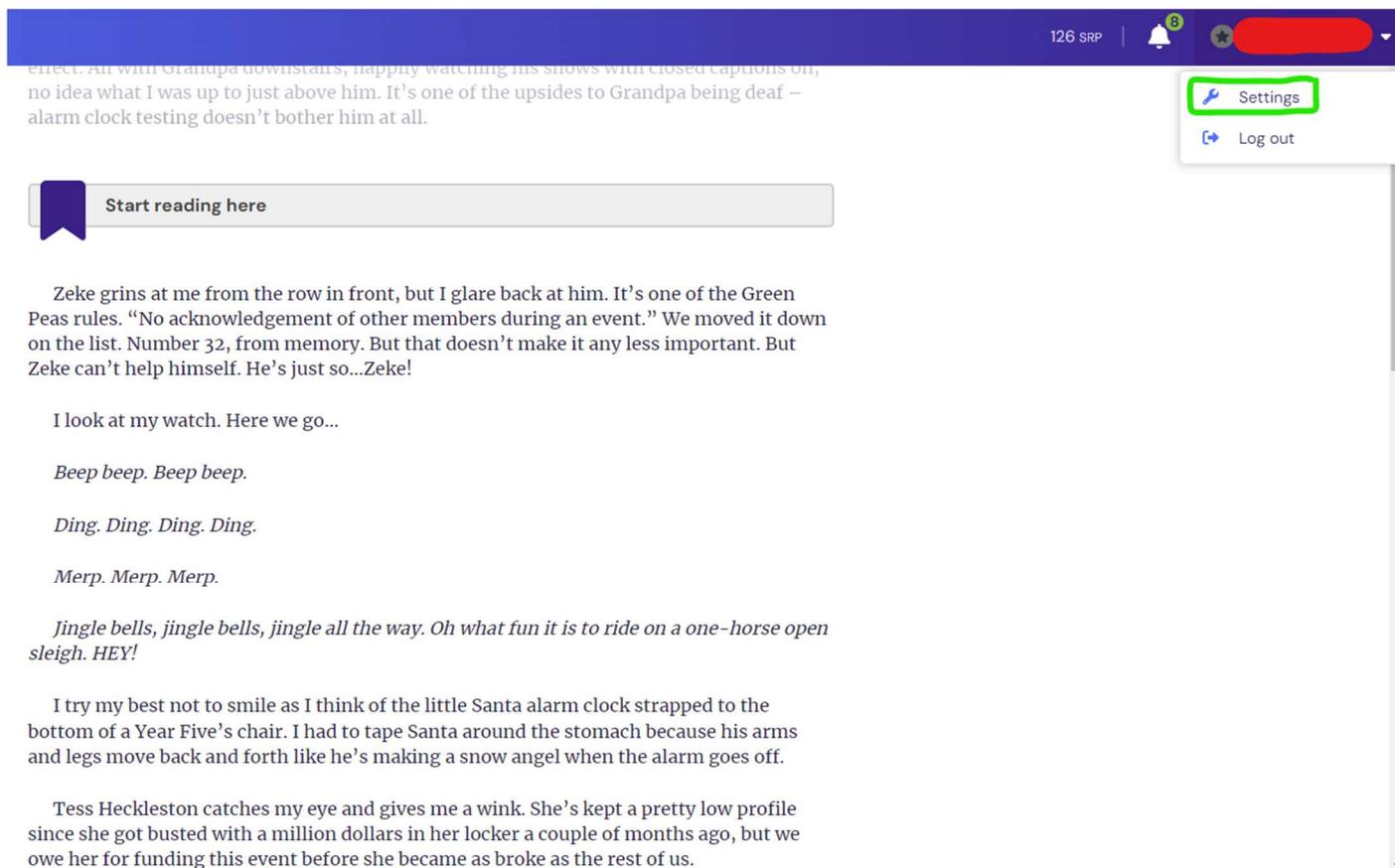
The homework each week is simple: **Get 300 SRPs**

(On average, it takes students 1 minute of careful reading to acquire 10 SRPs, so 300 SRPs = around 30 minutes of reading plus 30 minutes of questions, so 1 hour of homework).

This is logged from Tuesday morning (8am) to Tuesday morning (7am) - the week's SRPs must be acquired between these times to be considered valid.

If your student is struggling with their homework

1. On your students reading page, go to 'settings' in the top right



The screenshot shows a digital reading interface. At the top, a dark blue header contains the text '126 SRP' and a notification bell icon with the number '8'. A red profile picture is visible on the right. A dropdown menu is open, showing 'Settings' (highlighted with a green box) and 'Log out'. Below the header, a grey bar with a blue bookmark icon contains the text 'Start reading here'. The main text area contains several paragraphs of text, including a paragraph about Zeke and a paragraph about Tess Heckleston. The text is as follows:

effect. An with Grandpa downstairs, happily watching his shows with closed captions on, no idea what I was up to just above him. It's one of the upsides to Grandpa being deaf – alarm clock testing doesn't bother him at all.

Start reading here

Zeke grins at me from the row in front, but I glare back at him. It's one of the Green Peas rules. "No acknowledgement of other members during an event." We moved it down on the list. Number 32, from memory. But that doesn't make it any less important. But Zeke can't help himself. He's just so...Zeke!

I look at my watch. Here we go...

Beep beep. Beep beep.

Ding. Ding. Ding. Ding.

Merp. Merp. Merp.

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way. Oh what fun it is to ride on a one-horse open sleigh. HEY!

I try my best not to smile as I think of the little Santa alarm clock strapped to the bottom of a Year Five's chair. I had to tape Santa around the stomach because his arms and legs move back and forth like he's making a snow angel when the alarm goes off.

Tess Heckleston catches my eye and gives me a wink. She's kept a pretty low profile since she got busted with a million dollars in her locker a couple of months ago, but we owe her for funding this event before she became as broke as the rest of us.

2. Here, you can introduce a variety of measures designed to make the student’s reading more accessible/easier:

Settings

If you're having trouble reading the text, try changing some of the font settings to something that you find easier to read.

Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting by her sister on the bank, and of having nothing to do: once or twice she had peeped into the book her sister was reading, but it had no pictures or conversations in it, “and what is the use of a book,” thought Alice “without pictures or conversations?”

Font Scale **Normal** Large Larger Largest

Line Height **Normal** Large Larger Largest

Letter Spacing **0** 1 2 3

Font **Merriweather** Verdana Comic Sans Readable

Background **White** Blue Cream Yellow Green Purple Pink Orange

Reading Guide **None** Line Guide

Close

3. For more information, see [this help article](#)

For assistance, including login issues, accessibility, or use of the site, contact:

jecharters@henleybankhighschool.co.uk