2023 JC1 Parents' Dialogue Session – Q&A (collated)

Question Type: Academic (General)	
Questions	Responses
Will the subject grade be awarded based on the raw marks as scored in the exam or will the marks be normalised prior to the grade award?	The subject grade will be awarded based on the raw marks in percentage.
My child did not take Literature at O Level but is taking H2 Literature as a H2 subject. Is there extra guidance rendered to such students?	Generally, subjects in the Humanities do not have prerequisites at the O-level. These subjects are designed such that there is no major disadvantage to students without the O-level experience. The basics to do well will be taught by the teachers to all students. For students who find themselves a little behind in catching up, teachers will certainly provide the extra guidance.
My child's timetable looks very light. Is she at a disadvantage?	The current timetable immediately after Orientation is based largely on the lecture timetable where there are no practicals and tutorials incorporated yet. From week 9, students will be given another timetable which would incorporate both tutorials and practicals, where applicable. Some key features of the timetable are (1) Self-study slots when students have extended breaks to encourage them to make good use of their breaks and (2) Online lecture slots where students are given the autonomy to plan their schedule and develop the discipline of watching the online lectures for each subject. Students have also been briefed of a suggested online lecture schedule that they could incorporate in their routine.
Do subject tutors offer consultations for students who need help?	Consultations are offered for every subject. SAJC practices an open culture where students are given the autonomy and encouraged to seek their tutors for remediation or to clarify their doubts.
How did SAJC perform at the recent A Levels?	SAJC has performed better than the national average in terms of the national indicator of percentage of students with passes in 3H2 and GP. A good number of students have also gotten 85 or more rank points. Beyond the statistics, we

should also bear in mind individual students' abilities and circumstances when assessing a student's performance.

Our students' academic performance remains a priority for us and we analyse the results to improve our processes so that every child can excel and succeed.

Question Type: Project Work	
Questions	Responses
What is Project Work (PW) about and how is it taught?	For PW, students work on a project in groups of 4-5. It is taught via lectures and tutorials, supported by consultations. Students will be guided to prepare a written report, an individual reflection and to make an oral presentation. The assessment is based on a mix of individual and group components.
Is PW marking internal by JC teachers?	PW is assessed internally and moderated by Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board.
How are PW groups formed?	PW groups are formed by the school, based on guidelines and parameters set by the Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board.
How are the students supported for their PW?	Students will be guided by their PW tutors who are drawn from different departments, bringing with them a range of expertise and experience. Both internal and external trainings are put in place to ensure that PW tutors are trained for the role to guide their students.
How can parents support their child for PW?	Parents can encourage their child to keep abreast with current affairs by reading or watching the news. Having knowledge of current affairs is useful especially when deciding on a topic to work on. Parents can also help their child by recommending friends for their child to survey or interview for their primary research.
	However, parents should refrain from intervening in the group project so as to allow students the opportunity to take ownership of their project and to manage the various aspects of collaborative learning.

Question Type: Mother Tongue	
Questions	Responses
What's the minimum score for MTL?	For local university admission, students will need to fulfil the minimum requirement of a S grade.
How does Secondary Higher MT count in the computation of Rank Points?	Secondary Higher MT is equivalent to JC H1MT. As such, an A1 or A2 will be regarded as an A and thus would contribute 10 Rank Points.
Can students who did Higher MT opt to take H1 MT at JC?	Yes, students can opt to take JC1 H1MT.

Question Type: Blended Learning	
Questions	Responses
How are lectures conducted?	Lectures are recorded for online viewing, which makes it easier for students to revisit and revise. Students are to view the lectures before tutorials so that they can apply and consolidate their learning, through discussions with teachers and students. Assignments, as well as other forms of assessment (such as class tests, presentations, etc) will be given periodically as part of our collection of evidence of learning.
	These videos will be made available online in advance. These videos are placed in shared Google Drive, on Google Sites, on SLS, etc. Students are given clear instructions where to obtain them.
	H1 lectures may however be conducted live, depending on subjects.
Will there be more tutorials to allow for discussions and clarifications with the tutors?	Every week, time is set aside for tutorials to follow-up on the lectures. Typically, there will be two tutorials per week per subject.
	During tutorials, the teachers will guide students in applying the concepts covered in the lecture videos in exam-style questions. Students will also be encouraged to seek consultation with their teachers. If students do their part in completing the online lectures, and attempt the tutorial questions before coming to class, seek clarifications actively with their teachers, their learning will not be compromised.
How does the school monitor or ensure that the students are actually viewing and understanding the lectures?	Teachers adopt a range of measures to monitor whether the lectures are viewed. These can range from including short quizzes at the end of the videos which they must answer in a separate platform, to the more conventional way of checking on students' learning during tutorials as well as assignments.
Where can students view the online lectures in school?	Students may choose to view the online lectures using their own devices at different parts of the college, ranging from classroom, library, designated study areas or benches along the corridor, depending on where they find conducive. They could also view it using the computers available in the Library or Computer Labs.

Question Type: Personal Learning Device	
Questions	Responses
Does my child need to bring his/her own PLD, or does the school have computers for my child to access the online lectures?	Students have the option to access the online lectures on their PLD or at the 4 (free access) computer labs and library that are open during school hours.
Does the school offer any subsidised rates for the purchase of PLDs?	The school does not have any tie-up with vendors to provide subsidised rates for PLD purchases. Students could continue to use their existing PLDs purchased in secondary school, which should still be under service warranty. Should students need temporary access to computers, the school has free-access laptops in the computer labs and library for use during school hours and loan out for the day, subject to availability.
Will the school IT install any device management like secondary school?	Device Management Application is not part of the IT policy in JC.Students are expected to abide by the college rules and code of conduct relating to the use of computers spelt out on page 18-19 of the student handbook
What type of PLD would be suitable for JC?	The PLD purchased in secondary school are sufficient for use in JC. Any suitable laptop or tablet that can run typical applications like Microsoft Office, Internet Browser and can support watching online videos will suffice.

Question Type: CCA	
Questions	Responses
Is it a must to join CCAs?	CCA is an integral part of the holistic education of a child and we expect every Saint to participate actively to a CCA. Further, the universities are moving towards Holistic Admission. Besides academic grades, the universities are keen to know the student's non-academic achievements and how they have prepared themselves for their chosen degree programme outside the school curriculum.
How does CCA at JC impact university admission as compared to Sec Sch where the student can enjoy a maximum bonus of 2 points off the raw scoring?	Universities do consider CCA achievement and contributions under certain circumstances, but beyond this, students are urged to think of CCA as a key part of their holistic development. Increasingly, being 'educated' is not just about being knowledgeable or qualified in a certain field. Employers are looking for college graduates who can, among other things, display leadership, solve problems and work well in teams. Students gain these competencies through experiences such as organising Service Learning projects, taking on responsibilities in their CCA or Class. This is an integral part of the educational experience at SAJC and we believe it prepares students for life.
What if they fail in the selection phase? What can they do?	If they are unsuccessful in the trials/auditions, the Teacher- in-charge will inform your child as soon as possible so that your child can join another CCA. Should your child miss the trial/audition, he/she should approach the Teacher-in-charge to arrange for a separate trial/audition.
Can the students drop the CCA if they are unable to cope with the schoolwork?	Involvement in CCA need not be seen as time taken away from school work. There should be a balance between the two. CCAs differ in terms of frequency and intensity. As such, your child should consider joining a CCA that best allows your child to cope.
Not all CCAs have competitions, how then to identify one's strengths or contributions to their CCAs?	At the JC level, students are empowered to lead the CCA with the guidance of CCA teachers. Students can the lead by taking on positions in the executive committee or step-up to oversee CCA projects in order to develop themselves and build a portfolio of their contributions. CCA teachers will

	also nominate deserving students for the College Colours or Service Awards, which recognise students for their contributions to their CCA.
Is CCA intake based on capability instead of interest?	While some CCAs select students based on capabilities, there are also many CCAs who welcome students based on their interests. Examples include AVA Club, Photographic Society and Environment Club.

Question Type: ECG and Talent Development	
Questions	Responses
How would I know if my child is eligible for the various courses at the University level e.g. Medicine and Engineering?	The subject requirements for medical programmes are H2 Chemistry and another H2 Science subject. For the subject requirements for the various engineering or other degree programmes, please refer to the college prospectus which is available on the college website: https://standrewsjc.moe.edu.sg/about-us/admission-information/college-prospectus
What is the Engineering and Tech Programme and Scholarship (ETPS) about?	ETPS is a new scholarship offered by MOE starting from this year. For awardees of ETPS, they are expected to attend a 1-week STEM workshop and attachment/internship as part of the award. Besides these, awardees are encouraged to participate in a hands-on engineering related project or learning activity of students' choice within the duration of the scholarship. It is not mandatory for awardees of ETPS to opt for STEM courses in university. Nevertheless, it is hoped that through ETPS, awardees are encouraged to consider an undergraduate study and a career in STEM.
Where can I find out more about scholarships?	You may wish to refer to the Student Handbook to find out about the scholarships/awards which are offered by SAJC. The students will also be notified about them in early Term 2 during cohort assembly. For scholarships offered by MOE, you may wish to refer to the following website: https://www.moe.gov.sg/financial-matters/awards-scholarships
How does the school support students who want to apply for an overseas Uni course?	The school has a full-time Education & Career Guidance Counsellor, Ms Kathena Lim. She is available every weekday from 8.30am – 5.30pm. Students applying for overseas uni courses can approach her to discuss about motivational issues, goal setting, aspirations and coming up with concrete plans to achieve them.
What is the criteria and application process for the International Summer	According to MOE, students should have strong interest and aptitude for Physics, in particular theoretical and Modern

School for Young Physicists under the MOE Overseas Student Attachment Programme?	Physics, as well as Mathematics. The deadline for application is 17 March 2023. For more information, please visit
	http://www.perimeterinstitute.ca/outreach/students/programs/international-summer-school-young-physicists
	Interested students may apply for it directly. If they are successful in their application, they are to inform MOE via schools so that MOE can centrally manage the logistics and funding.
	Do note that students who are selected for this programme will be away in Canada from 17 July to 28 July and students should think about their other school commitments (eg. PW) before applying.
When you talk about eligibility to local university was high, do you have the data of actual admissions to local university?	We do not have the complete admission data as students may choose to enroll at different points. Some may also choose to enroll in overseas universities.
Where can I find more information about Talent Development Programme? How often are the meetings? What are the activities for this year?	For TDP, the activities are of different nature. They can be organised either by external organisations or teachers involved in TDP. As such, the nature of these activities may be ad-hoc nature.
	You may wish to find out more at the following link: https://standrewsjc.moe.edu.sg/e-open-house- 2023/curriculum/talent-development-programme-tdp

Question Type: Student Life	
Questions	Responses
What kind of support is provided for students who are struggling academically?	Students are encouraged to proactively seek help from their tutors if they need to clarify their doubts. Teachers may also arrange for additional consultation sessions for students who may be weak academically. Further to this, students are also encouraged to seek consultation with their peers to build a culture of learning with and from one another.
Are there any exchange programs or overseas trips during their JC journey?	Planning for overseas trips has commenced since the lifting of SMMs. However, we are still exercising caution and thus there would not be as many opportunities as Pre-Covid.
What is protected time during school holidays?	The protected time during school holidays is for both students and teachers to take a break. During the protected time, teachers would avoid calling their students back for make-up lessons & CCAs.
Is the Civic Tutor the same as Resident Mentors (RM)? Who is the 1st contact person for international parents?	Civic Tutor manages school-related matters. RM manages hostel-related matters.

Question Type: Parent Support Group	
Questions	Responses
Is there a WhatsApp (or Telegram) group chat that parents can participate in?	Our Parent Support Group maintains a WhatsApp chat group for parents where information on school events & activities that the PSG supports are regularly shared. The college also regularly sends out key info pertinent to parents via Parents Gateway. If you would like to join the group, please fill up the PSG registration form, using the link found on the college website.
	website.
Do parents need to participate in the PSG in order to join the group chat?	Parents can join the PSG to be a part of the PSG WhatsApp chat. Joining PSG does not mean that you need to be actively involved in all PSG events & activities. Parents can choose their level of participation, based on their interest & availability.
Do praying parents typically pray on-site or over zoom?	Currently, the predominant mode is praying via zoom. With the removal of Covid measures, the PSG will be looking at a combination of F2F & zoom sessions for praying parents. Info will be shared over the PSG WhatsApp group.

Commented [AKSC1]: Can provide them the link here for them to access easily, just like the rest?