

SAJC PSG Workshop for Parents: Too Much Work, Too Little Time, 27 May 2021 7.30-8.30pm

Collated Q&A for Parents' Gateway

Question Type: Use of digital technologies and social media	
Question	Response
My JC2 child has never failed not to use her phone to watch video/engage in social media, while concurrently doing homework or revisions. I find that it is very inefficient and resulting in her unable to meet timelines; despite numerous advice from me. Any advice here to share?	<p>Parents should first try to understand the the reasons for their child being on social media and watching videos.</p> <p>Parents can then discuss and agree together with the child strategies on how to limit the usage of digital devices. (e.g. allow a set time of usage only after studying for a specified amount of time)</p> <p>Parents should avoid being forceful or demanding as this will turn their child away.</p>
My daughter's school mates will always start Facetime to study at 11pm and they are online till 2am. This happens during school term. I can't get her to detach from her 'Facetime' friends. What are your thoughts?	Having such group study sessions can be helpful for students who may face a lack of motivation but they should have these sessions earlier in the evening so that they have sufficient rest to be alert for school the next day.
Question Type: Academics	
Question	Response
My boy made this remark on Physics - "I don't know what I don't know". What advice will you give him?	<p>This is something that many students face and it applies to all subjects.</p> <p>Students should first attempt some work for the subject (e.g. tutorial questions or homework). With some work done, they can then consult their teachers who can guide students based on what they have done because the teachers can understand how the student is approaching the problem. They can also consult their teachers on how best they can study and prepare for the subject too.</p>
I was told that school assignments are not marked by teachers. As a result, students do skip doing their assignments. Suggest teachers do surprise audit checks in rotation to keep students on their toes.	<p>There are many kinds of work that students are required to do. They range from in-class assignments to tutorial questions to hand-in assignments. Teachers do collect assignments to mark at key check points regularly to check on the students understanding. There are also additional questions that are given to students (e.g. revision packages) to allow them to further practice on their own time. Students need to take all assignments seriously as these are opportunities to test their understanding. Should they face challenges in completing the assignments, regardless of whether they are graded assignments or meant for self-directed learning, students can seek consultations with the respective teachers for assistance or feedback.</p>

Question Type: School Related	
Question	Response
Are there any similar talks shared with the students directly?	<p>Students have been guided on planning a Jun revision timetable during a lesson last week (JC1) and this week (JC2). The lesson taught them similar principles such as taking into account the amount of time needed to cover the syllabus vis-à-vis the amount of time they have, as well as the importance of sleep and reducing distractions.</p> <p>The Year Head and Assistant Year Heads also conduct regular talks and related programmes about time management with our students.</p>
With current covid situation, is the school open in June for the students?	<p>Students have been provided a google form link by the college to sign up for weekly requests to study at the library from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm. This arrangement is to cater to students who may not have a conducive environment to study. Students should stay for the duration that they have registered and maximise the time in the college.</p>
Question Type: General	
Question	Response
How to respond when my son tell me "mum, i know what I am doing, I do not like you to micro manage me. Trust me"	<p>Start by looking at the child's results. If the child is doing alright, then parents can give the child some autonomy to manage themselves. If the child is not doing well, parents can then share their concern about the child's well-being and check if the child is coping rather than focusing solely on the results. Avoid nagging, as this may turn them off.</p>
One piece of advice to parents. What would it be?	<p>Have a heart to heart talk with your children to understand the struggles that they are facing during this period of their lives. Parents can also find out how they can motivate their children and cheer them on. It is important to maintain a good parent-child relationship. Parents can show support through an encouraging word or preparing some snacks for them.</p>
My boy goes to JC because he doesn't know what course to do should he enrol in a Poly. As he doesn't know exactly what he really likes, it is also pretty hard for us parents to motivate him when he doesn't have an aim. What can we do about this?	<p>Your child can talk to the college's ECG counsellor, Ms Saira Kuttan, who comes in every Tuesday from 8.30am to 5pm. She also offers ECG counselling through Zoom. Students can email her for an appointment for an ECG conversation at (saira_kuttan@schools.gov.sg) or through this online link (calendly.com/kuttansairasajc20)</p>