

# Title: CUHK Science Program Internships: Broadening Horizons and Igniting Passion for Scientific Exploration

## Introduction:

The Science Engagement Program from the School of Life Science, CUHK has provided invaluable opportunities for students to engage in hands-on scientific exploration and gain a deeper understanding of various fields of study. Over the course of three weeks, we had the chance to immerse ourselves in a range of scientific experiments and techniques.



6B Solwin / 6B Crystal / Principal / 6A Samiksha / 6A Tayyibah



These internships not only expanded our knowledge but also ignited our passion for scientific research and opened doors to future career paths. Hands-on Scientific Activities: The internships offered students the chance to participate in a diverse array of hands-on scientific activities. From utilizing single-channel pipettes to conducting soybean DNA extraction and analyzing methylmercury content in leaves and mice DNA, participants were given a glimpse into the fascinating world of scientific research. Although initially challenging, with the guidance and support of mentors and peers, students gradually gained confidence and developed a deeper understanding of the concepts. The internship experience not only broadened our scientific knowledge but also helped them explore our personal interests and preferences.



Exposure to University Environment: One of the most significant aspects of the CUHK Science Program internships was the exposure to the university environment. Participants had the opportunity to interact with university students and gain insights into our academic

pursuits. This first-hand experience allowed the students to ask questions about university life and the challenges faced by science students. Additionally, we were able to explore the university's state-of-the-art laboratories and utilize specialized apparatuses not commonly found in secondary school settings. This exposure to the university environment proved invaluable in shaping the students' understanding of higher education and the possibilities it holds.

Networking and Collaboration: The internships fostered a sense of camaraderie among the participants from different Delia schools. Through collaborative learning and shared experiences, students formed strong bonds and created a supportive network. This network not only enhanced our learning during the internship but also provided a platform for future collaborations and friendships. The opportunity to interact with like-minded individuals from different backgrounds further enriched the overall experience, making it a memorable and enjoyable journey of scientific exploration.



Career Exploration and Personal Growth: Participating in the CUHK Science Program internships allowed students to gain insights into our own interests and potential career paths. By working closely with dedicated mentors, students had the chance to explore various scientific fields and understand the

practical applications of our knowledge. This first-hand exposure to different areas of research enabled them to make more informed decisions about our future academic and professional pursuits. The internships also contributed to personal growth, nurturing skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and effective communication, which are essential for success in the scientific community.

## Conclusion:

The CUHK Science Program internships provided Delia Memorial School (Broadway) students with a transformative experience in scientific exploration. Through hands-on activities, exposure to the university environment, networking opportunities, and personal growth, participants gained a broader understanding of scientific research and its real-world applications. The internships not only expanded our knowledge but also helped them shape our academic and career aspirations. This program serves as a testament to the importance of fostering curiosity, passion, and practical skills in young scientists, paving the way for a future generation of scientific innovators and researchers.

