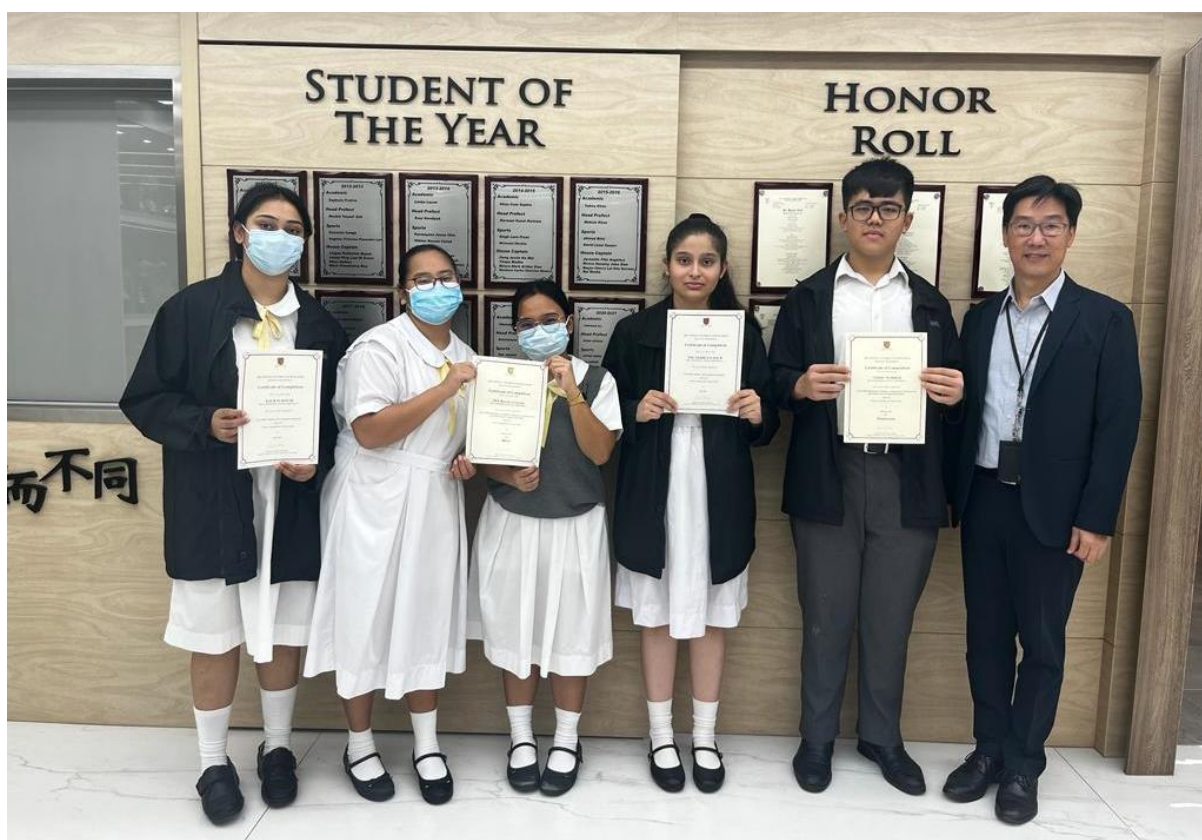


During the summer, 5 Chemistry students from S4-S6 were selected to attend university-level Chemistry Courses offered by the Science Academy for Young Talent at the Faculty of Science, Chinese University of Hong Kong.

The students gained valuable knowledge and experience that could prepare them for higher education. The courses provided a more in-depth understanding of the Chemistry concepts and enabled students to explore their academic interests further.



**5B Sukhvir / 4B Khushi / 5A Louraine / 5B Samreen / 6B Norwin / Principal**

### **Student Reflection – Limbu Norwin 6B (Distinction)**

Over the summer, I was chosen to attend a summer course (Bondings in Organic Compounds, and Reactivity And Selectivity of Organic Reactions). It was a short program, but it allowed me to get a taste of how life was like in university and provided me with valuable learning experience that helped facilitate my interest in chemistry.

During the lessons, our professor taught us university-level chemistry topics such as atomic orbitals (s, p, d, f) and electron configuration,

formation of  $\sigma$ -bonds and  $\pi$ -bonds,

orbital hybridization, valence bond theory, resonance and resonance structures, reaction mechanisms, nucleophile substitutions  $S_N1$  and  $S_N2$  and elimination reactions E1 and E2. Our professor was knowledgeable and passionate in his field of study. I could tell that he was very dedicated to his work.



Alongside learning new topics that piqued my interest, it was also a good time to refresh on topics already taught in the HKDSE curriculum such as the shapes of different molecules and the reactions of alkanes and alkenes. However, these were in university-level detail so now I have an even better understanding of these concepts.

I was satisfied with how the program went, I came in with a curiosity to learn new things about one of my favourite subjects and left with a deepened knowledge, renewed passion, and a sense of anticipation for further studies. The program allowed me the opportunity to get a good glimpse into university life.



Another thing I would like to mention is how different university is from secondary school. One of the things that shocked me the most was the size of the campus. There were a lot of faculty and buildings all dedicated to a field of study, there were even coaches going to and from different buildings. After talking with some university students, they told me about how there is a lot more independence when it comes to university, such as having greater control over your class schedule. But with all that independence comes a greater responsibility, you have to hold yourself accountable because the choices you make, the effort you put in, and the time you allocate will directly impact your grades and personal growth.





The program can also help me when applying for a science-related course in university because it shows that I am passionate about chemistry and that I am taking action to try and better my understanding of the subject. During the final lecture, we had a test and since I tried my heart out during the lectures, I managed to complete the course with Distinction.

I would like to thank my school for allowing me the opportunity to attend this course, and my chemistry teacher, Mr. Haris, for introducing me to this program and furthering my interest in chemistry as a whole through his teaching.