

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: THURSDAY 4 APRIL 2013

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Bacteria, scorpions and disease: students investigate medical science

Year nine and 10 students from Geilston Bay High School will visit the UTAS School of Medicine on Friday 5 April 2013 to investigate microbiology.

The students will take part in a variety of lab-based activities to give them an insight into how microbiologists conduct their work and research.

Head of the UTAS School of Medicine, Professor James Vickers, said the exercises are designed to spark the students' imagination.

"By giving students a taste of medical research, including conducting their own experiments, it is hoped that it will inspire them to pursue this area of study at college, university and beyond," Prof Vickers said.

Students' activities from 9.30-10.30am, Friday 5 April 2013:

- Two short videos:
 - Just the job – A career as a medical laboratory scientist* (8 min)
 - Day in the life – Microbiology/virology* (5 min)
- Students will then circulate between a series of activities:
 - Bench 1: bacterial agar plates/microscopes with slides of different bacteria/fungi
 - Bench 2: immunisation preventable diseases information – focus on childhood
 - Bench 3: preserved creatures in jars (worms, spiders, scorpions etc) with labels
 - Bench 4 and 5: paper-based activities – find a word, scrambled handwashing words, basic bacterial cell structure and function.
- Finish with short video: *My best shot – How immunisation works* (6 min)

Media opportunity: Media are invited to the activities tomorrow. Location: Medical Sciences 2 building, Level 1, ILL laboratory (room 153). Access via Campbell street main entrance. Please sign in individually as a visitor and collect a visitor card at the reception desk (no swipe card access required) and ask reception to notify Angela Hanley or Julie Harris to meet and direct to the laboratory.

Information released by:

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