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Science close-up for Taita students

STUFF REPORTER

A group of Taita College science students came face to face with the real thing on a visit to ESR microbiology laboratories last week.

The students, all studying NCEA Science, are part of a combined ESR and Victoria University School of Design project to encourage participation in STEM (science, technology, English, maths) subjects.

Their teacher, Sujata Rajagopal, said the students spent time in the ESR laboratories where they were

told about Group A streptococcus and how it could cause rheumatic fever, as well as the bacteria, E-coli, and the issues surrounding the use of wastewater.

She said they learnt about micro-organisms at school, and had to choose two micro-organisms and create their life cycle using 3D technology.

"So the chance they get to see even a sample of that is extremely valuable to them as it links reality to what they actually learn," she said.

"They told me ... that it was 'too cool' and the best science trip they'd had."



ESR senior science technician Izzy Alderton and some of the Taita College students.