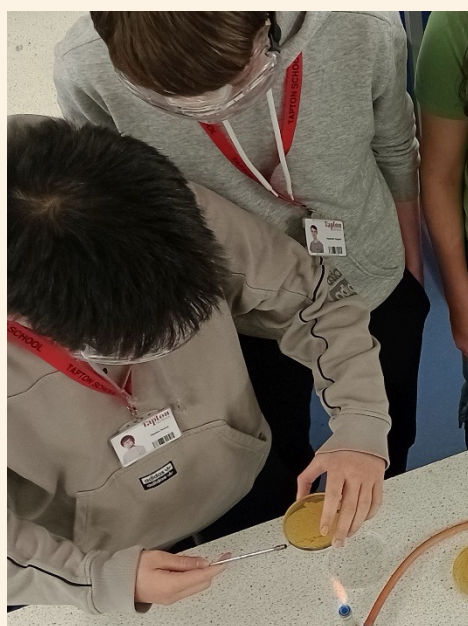
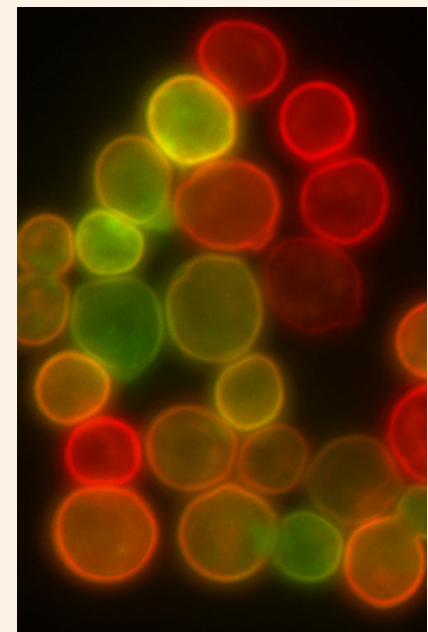
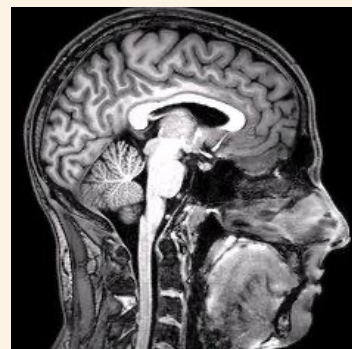


Can yeast help to find a cure for human diseases?

Investigating disease experimentally is a challenge and scientists often have to use other organisms as experimental models to do this. Luckily one of these organisms is the single celled yeast, which is easy to grow and study. Motor neurone disease (MND) affects the brain and nervous system and currently has no known cure. The brain is difficult to study as it is complex and protected within the skull but a simple organism such as yeast could help us to understand it better.



We have introduced the disease-causing agents from MND into yeast cells. Although these modified yeast cells do not have a nervous system, we have shown that they share some symptoms with diseased MND nerve cells. We are using these modified yeast cells to learn more about the mechanisms behind MND and hopefully identify new potential therapies.