



What makes up our galaxy?



Space Facts

1543 – Nicolaus

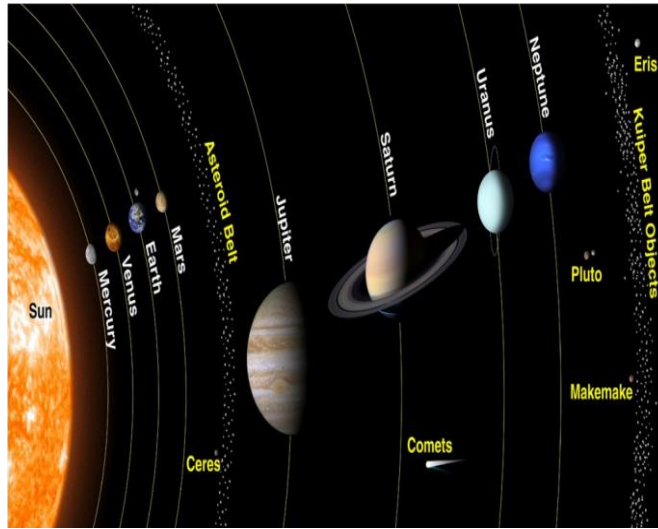
Copernicus formulated a heliocentric model of the universe.

1957- 4th October 1957, Russia launched the first satellite into space; Sputnik 1 and the space age had properly begun!

1957 - Russian space dog, Laika, became the first animal to orbit the earth.

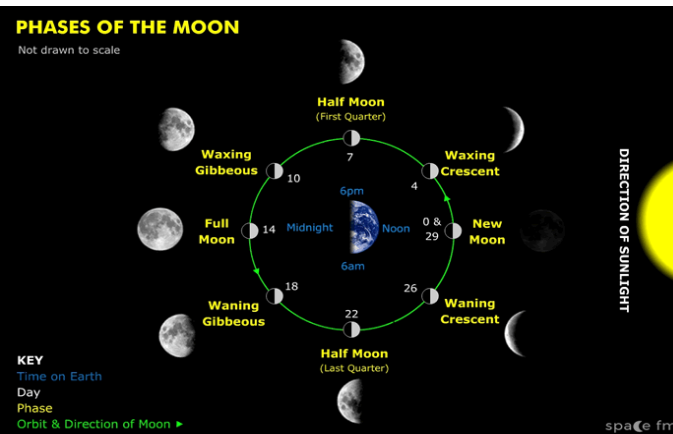
1961 - Russian Cosmonaut, Yuri Gagarin, became the first man in space.

1969 - First men on the moon.



Key vocabulary

asteroid	axis	celestial	day
dwarf planet		geocentric	moon
night	orbit	planet	rotation
	solar system	heliocentric	
star	sun	Olympus Mons	



Planets in our Solar System

The largest planet in the solar system is Jupiter, followed by Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Earth, Venus, Mars with the smallest being Mercury.

Mercury

- A year on Mercury is just 88 days long (one full journey around the sun)
- 57.9 million km from the sun

Venus

- A day on Venus lasts longer than a year on Earth
- Venus rotates counter-clockwise
- 108.2 million km from the sun

Earth

- The Earth has one moon which orbits it every 28 days
- Earth does one full rotation on its axis in 24 hours
- 149.6 million km from the sun

Mars

- Mars is home to the tallest mountain in the solar system
- 227.9 million km from the sun

Jupiter

- Jupiter orbits the Sun once every 11.8 Earth years
- Has over 70 moons orbiting it
- 778.3 million km from the sun

Saturn

- Saturn orbits the Sun once every 29.4 Earth years
- 1,427.0 million km from the sun

Uranus

- Uranus turns on its axis once every 17 hours, 14 minutes (Earth time)
- 2,871.0 million km from the sun

Neptune

- Neptune spins on its axis once every 18 hours (Earth time)
- 4,497.1 million km from the sun