

YEAR 5 ISSUE 1

ASTRO

December 1, 2010

The Partner School Science Program Newsletter

Welcome to Global Friendship's newsletter Astro! In the Astro, you will find the latest news about space and science. You can also submit your school's photos, projects, and videoconferences to be included in future issues of the newsletter. Please email all submissions to tyildirim@gftse.org and ashley.walls@spacecampturkey.com.

Meet and Greet and NASA Videoconferences between Hobgood NASA Explorer School (Murfreesboro, TN) and Turk College (Izmir, Turkey)







A Meet and Greet videoconference between Hobgood NASA Explorer School and Turk College was held on November 12, 2010. Students from both schools met with their partners and shared their hobbies with one another. A NASA videoconference with the same schools participating was held on November 29, 2010. The students enjoyed NASA expert Mr. Scott Anderson's presentation about Humans in Space and asked some questions, as well as answered his questions. At the end of the presentation, students were able to meet with their partners. During one of the most enjoyable parts of the videoconference, Turkish students taught some Turkish words to their partners.

NASA Astronaut Scott Kelly Kicks Off Geography Trivia From Space



Where over the world is NASA astronaut Scott Kelly? Kelly, who will be living aboard the International Space Station for nearly six months, wants to test your knowledge of the world through a geography trivia game on Twitter.

Kelly hopes the game will help those on Earth to learn more about their planet's geography, knowledge that he believes is "essential to our economic well-being, our relationships with other nations and the environment."

The first person to correctly identify the place depicted in his photos will win an autographed copy

of the picture. Kelly plans to continue the geography contest, which began on November 15th, until he returns to Earth on March 16, 2011.

To play the geography trivia game and get other updates from Kelly throughout his mission, follow his Twitter account at http://twitter.com/StationCDRKelly.

'Kids in Micro-G' Program Seeking 2011 Science Submissions

NASA's "Kids in Micro-G" challenge is accepting proposals from students in fifth through eighth grades to design a classroom experiment that also can be performed by astronauts aboard the International Space Station (ISS). Proposals are due by Dec. 8.

The experiments should examine the effect of weightlessness on various subjects: liquids, solids, the law of physics and humans. The



experiments are expected to have observably different results in microgravity than in the classroom. The apparatus for the experiments must be constructed using materials from a special tool kit aboard the station. The kit contains items commonly found in classrooms for science experiments. The experiments must take 30 minutes or less to set up, run and take down.

"This is a wonderful program that gives students the opportunity to have their experiments carried out in space by astronauts," said Mark Severance, ISS national laboratory education projects manager at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

"The students will compare the results of experiments conducted in the classroom with those conducted in the microgravity environment of the International Space Station."

A panel of microgravity scientists, classroom teachers, NASA education and station operations personnel will select the winner and five runners-up. Their experiments will be performed on the orbiting laboratory next spring. During this past summer, astronauts performed nine student experiments aboard the space station. NASA selected those experiments from 132 submissions.

To learn more about how to submit proposals for the 2011 challenge, contact the ISS Payloads Office at <u>jsc-iss-payloads-helpline@mail.nasa.gov</u>.

For more information about the challenge, visit: http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/research/nlab/experimentchallenge.htm

IMAGE OF THE DAY - Sand in Space

Was this image taken with a telescope or a microscope? Perhaps this clue will help: if the dark forms were bacteria, they would each span over football field across. What is actually being seen are large sand dunes on the floor of Proctor Crater on Mars.

The above picture was on board the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, a robot



spacecraft currently in orbit around Mars.

Image Credit: NASA/HiRISE/MRO/University of Arizona

The dark rippled dunes likely formed more recently than the lighter rock forms they appear to cover, and are thought to slowly shift in response to pervasive winds. The dunes arise from a complex relationship between the sandy surface and high winds on

Mars. Similar dunes were first seen in Proctor Crater by Mariner 9 more than 35 years ago.

Note: Image of The Day section's aim is to create curiosity in your mind and make you want to search about the image or topic, rather than us giving full details about the image. We are expecting you to ask yourself questions and to search for information about the image of the day to get answers and learn more.