

# GLOBAL FRIENDSHIP THROUGH SPACE EDUCATION

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# ASTRO NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first issue of our Astro Newsletter's 9th year! Here you can find all the latest news about space, science, Partner School Science Program (PSSP), Future Explorers Program (FEP) and Global Friendship Through Space Education (GFTSE).



*Above: Teachers from Bulgaria, Canada, Poland, Slovenia, Turkey and USA with Astronaut Michael Foreman during the E-Pal Week*

We are proud to say that last year we hosted over 46 videoconferences at our state-of-the-art Digital Learning Center. This was the highest number of videoconferences ever organized in a school year.

Videoconferences were organized for PSSP and FEP schools.

During the E-Pal Week teachers and students were able to meet with NASA Astronaut Michael Foreman. They got a chance to listen to him and ask questions about space and his experiences as an astronaut.

The first Future Explorers Summit took place on August of 2015. FEP teachers from Turkey were able to meet with NASA Flight Director Ed Van Cise and Ph.D. Inge Christ (Stavanger University, Norway). Both guest speakers had a chance to meet with the teachers and students. Mr. Christ and Mr. Cise's presentations were interactive and full of fun.

This year's E-Pal Week will be held between July 10 and July 16, 2016. We are currently working on finding another astronaut as a guest speaker during the E-Pal week.

Future Explorers Summit will be held between August 7 and August 13, 2016. NASA astronaut **Dorothy Metcalf-Lindenburger** and **Ph.D. Inge Christ** have accepted to participate in the Future Explorers Summit.



# Partner School Science Program



## PSSP Schools;

This year schools from United Kingdom and Slovenia are participating in PSSP for the first time. Also we have schools from Italy, Bulgaria, Poland, U.S.A., and Turkey.



Students from İzmir Turk College Mithatpaşa Campus worked on the mission patch activity and designed a nice mission patch representing their school club.

All the students have worked together to design and assemble the final product. They are planning to make a videoconference with their partner school Aylward Academy (London, UK).

# Partner School Science Program

Students from Istanbul MEF College have done a videoconference with our Digital Learning Center. At the beginning of the videoconference DLC Specialist Scott Eren Bolle explained some facts about mission patches.

Students had the opportunity to share their work and mission patch designs with the expert.

Students from MEF College have started to work on the Toys in Space activity and they are planning to make videoconferences with their partners.



Videoconferences, will continue with full speed. There are a lot of planned videoconferences on our calendar.

# Future Explorers Program

Second year of the **Future Explorers Program** has started with some of the experienced schools joining the program as well as some new participants.

Actually, first year was a sort of test-year for the program since it began at the end of January, 2015. Results for the program and progress of the students as well as participation during the Future Explorers Summit was amazing.

At the beginning of the second year, the program has become more solid and well-known by schools. Program is empowered with the participation of our new schools. Right now there are nine schools in the program actively working. They are Izmir Rota College (Izmir), TUZYEV - Mozaik Schools (Istanbul), Ismail Kaymak Schools (Çanakkale), Hisar School (Istanbul), Samsun Final Schools (Samsun), Ekin College (Izmir), Çayyolu Final Schools (Ankara), Turk College (Çiğli,Izmir) and ODTÜ College (Denizli).



*TUZYEV Mozaik students, İstanbul*



*A Mission Patch design from  
Samsun Final Schools, Samsun*



# Future Explorers Program



Hisar School Students, İstanbul



Rota College Students, İzmir



Videoconference with Ekin College, İzmir

## ASTRONOMY PICTURE OF THE DAY



### Leonids and Friends

Image Credit & Copyright: [Malcolm Park](#) ([North York Astronomical Association](#))

[Leonid meteors rained down](#) on planet Earth this week, the annual shower of dusty debris from the orbit of [Comet 55P/Tempel-Tuttle](#). Leonids streak through this composite night skyview from a backyard observatory in southern Ontario. Recorded with camera fixed to a tripod, the individual frames capture the bright meteor activity throughout the night of November 16/17, about a day before [the shower's very modest peak](#). The frames are registered to the fixed field of view, so

the meteor trails are not all aligned to the background star field recorded that evening when Orion stood above the southern horizon. As a result, the trails don't appear to point back to the shower's [radiant](#) in Leo, situated off the left edge of the star field frame. In fact, some trails could be of [Taurid meteors](#), a shower also active in November, or even sporadic meteors, including a bright fireball with its reflection near the horizon.