GLOBAL FRIENDSHIP
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ASTRO NEWSLETTER

STUDENTS' REFLECTIONS

We would like to be the voice of students in this issue of Astro and give them a chance to share their interests and opinions on space and science with each other. In this issue we will share two articles which were sent to us by Dalya Kinsizer and Hazal Kara from Hisar Schools, Istanbul/Turkey. We would like to thank them for their initiative and we are looking forward to seeing similar articles from rest of the PSSP and FEP community.

Following The Foot Steps of Edgar Mitchell

Have you ever gazed at the moon,wondering what it would be like to take a step and feel the ground and take another step,then another? Wishing upon stars and having a gifts of physics and astronomy Edgar Mitchell was the sixth man to walk on the moon on the Apollo 14 mission. He and his crew had made a big fat smile on NASA's face by succeeding and pushing away the failure of Apollo 13. Apollo 14 was the longest mission to be spent on the lunar surface as well. Not only being a part of the Apollo mission, Edgar had worked with the most famous man of all time; Neil Armstrong, the first man to walk on the moon. Though that's still not the most crazy awesome fact about Edgar Mitchell, after returning from his mission he actually was the founder of Institute of Noetic Sciences (IONS is the short) which was a huge mile stone for him. Just as he was returning to our home planet Earth he realized that we are all living in a universe of consciousness. This discovery of his has turned into a significant and a large topic which is called Noetic Sciences.

If we want to learn more about the astronaut Edgar Mitchell we should perhaps know more about his career life in NASA. He was a scientist and an engineer but most importantly he was a space pilot! He had given the job of working as the backup pilot for the mission Apollo 10 but he worked in Apollo 14. After going through his mission a lot of interest had begun for him. He had his famous saying; explaining how the world looks and how it's like out their, in the galaxy. He also shared that he has a believe on alien existence. He said that many un-known floating objects in this case reported from 1940's; UFO's were visitors from other planets. He also released a book called "The Way Of The Explorer". In this book he discussed his journey into mysticism an space.

Edgar Mitchell currently has a place in the astronaut hall of fame. He has passed away in 10th of February 2016 at the age of 85. Not only we grieve we also appreciate for all that he's done during his life and all that he gave for the history of science. He was a significant astronaut and a successful explorer. May we follow the steps of the moonwalkers and have an opportunity to one day walk on the lunar surface!

Dalya KINSIZER
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References; www.noetic.org, www.space.com, www.astronomynews.com

Beyond Pluto

New discoveries have proven that there is a new planet in our solar system lurking beyond Pluto. What is this planet? How big is it? What material is it made out of? Questions like these make us realize that we really don't know as much we think we do about our universe. Perhaps there are dozens of more planets in our solar system orbiting our sun. Perhaps our universe is not the only universe, but just one of hundreds or maybe thousands of them full of different stars, planets and galaxies.

The truth is, we will probably never know everything about our universe. Most things will remain a mystery because our universe is a baffling place. Possibly, we will never definitively know what dark matter is or why our universe exists, but we will continue to make theories that explain why...

Hazal KARA
Hisar School, Istanbul, Turkey

ASTRONOMY PICTURE OF THE DAY

Hitomi Launches

Image Credit & Copyright: F. Scott Porter (NASA, Goddard Space Flight Center)

On February 17 at 5:45pm JST this H-IIA rocket blasted skyward from JAXA's Tanegashima Space Center located off the southern coast of Japan, planet Earth. Onboard was the ASTRO-H X-ray astronomy satellite, now in orbit. Designed to explore the extreme cosmos from black holes to massive galaxy clusters, the satellite observatory is equipped with four cutting-edge X-ray telescopes and instruments sensitive to photon energies from 300 to 600,000 electron volts. By comparison, visible light photon energies are 2 to 3 electron volts. Following a tradition of renaming satellites after their successful launch, ASTRO-H has been newly dubbed "Hitomi",