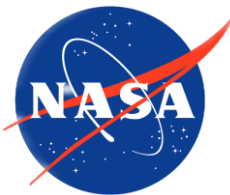
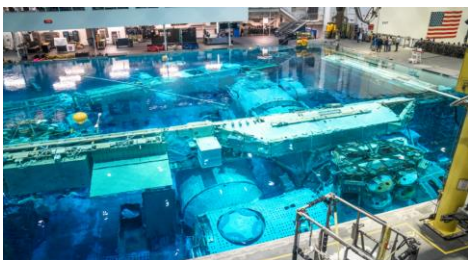


22/1/23

Dear Parents/Carers

**STEM DISCOVERY TOUR to NASA's SPACE CENTER, HOUSTON  
27 July - 3 August 2025**



We are excited to inform you about the possibility of a trip open to students currently in Years 10-12 to take part in a tour to Houston and to participate in NASA's Space U program. The provisional dates for this are 27th July - 3rd August 2025.

With NASA's target of returning to the Moon in 2026, a landing on Mars scheduled for 2030 and the cutting-edge work being undertaken by organisations such as Space X, we felt that now could not be a better time to launch a school STEM tour to NASA's Johnson Space Centre in Houston, Texas.

On the challenging 6-day Space U program, boys will be based in the education centre, working in teams to complete tasks such as 2-stage rocket design and launch, designing a Mars habitat to sustain core aspects of life, a cryogenics and thermal heat shield test and a VEX robotics challenge. On one afternoon the group will transfer to a nearby pool where they will experience weightlessness and receive basic scuba dive training, the same as an astronaut receives on basic training.

Boys will also attend a question-and-answer session with a retired NASA astronaut as well as a current NASA employee to learn about careers in the industry. Before class each day, boys will also receive behind the scenes tours of Space Centre, including the Rocket Park, Mission Control and Vehicle Mock up facilities.

The tour will include return flights from London Heathrow in economy class and Full Board hotel accommodation at the Springhill Suites Hotel (part of the Marriott chain). Please note that as with all US tours, rooms are arranged in a 2 x queen size double bed format with 4 boys sharing a room.

At this stage we are still working with suppliers to confirm the final budget but are estimating the cost of the trip at around £2980 depending on the number of students attending.

At this stage we are asking for expressions of interest in order to confirm final arrangements and costings. If you would like your son to go on this trip, please fill out the following expression of interest form here.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Pu6mcJUblEifB1\\_MiPbJhnZ1eeApi7BFIPDk2yai7NpUMERES0RNVzQ4Qk9WSU1HR0EzVDVCSjhNUS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Pu6mcJUblEifB1_MiPbJhnZ1eeApi7BFIPDk2yai7NpUMERES0RNVzQ4Qk9WSU1HR0EzVDVCSjhNUS4u)

Please complete the form by **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February**.

Should you require further details or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Kind regards

Darren Travi  
Head of Computing