## **Year 5 Spring Snapshot: Just Beyond The Stars**



## **Key Knowledge**

Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars are rocky planets. They are mostly made up of metal and rock. Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune are mostly made up of gases (helium and hydrogen) although they do have cores made up of rock and metal.

Earth rotates (spins) on its axis. It does a full rotation once in every 24 hours. At the same time that Earth is rotating, it is also orbiting (revolving) around the Sun. It takes a little more than 365 days to orbit the Sun. Daytime occurs when the side of Earth is facing towards the Sun. Night occurs when the side of Earth is facing away from the Sun.



## **Key Figures**

Valentina Kereshkova: first woman in Space.

Mae Jamison: first Black woman to travel into space.

Sophie Blanchard: first female aeronaut.

Key Vocabulary	
Sun	A huge star that Earth and the other planets in our solar system orbit around.
star	A giant ball of gas held together by its own gravity.
moon	A natural satellite which orbits Earth or other planets.
planet	A large object, round or nearly round, that orbits a star.
sphere	A round 3D shape in the shape of a ball.
spherical bodies	Astronomical objects shapes like spheres.
satellite	Any object or body in space that orbits something else, for example: the Moon is a satellite of Earth.
orbit	To move in a regular, repeating curved path around another object.
rotate	To spin. E.g. Earth rotates on its own axis.
axis	An imaginary line that a body rotates around. E.g. Earth's axis (imaginary line) runs from the North Pole to the South Pole.
geocentric model	A belief people used to have that other planets and the Sun orbited around Earth.
heliocentric model	The structure of the Solar System where the planets orbit around the Sun.
astronomer	Someone who studies or is an expert in astronomy (space science).

