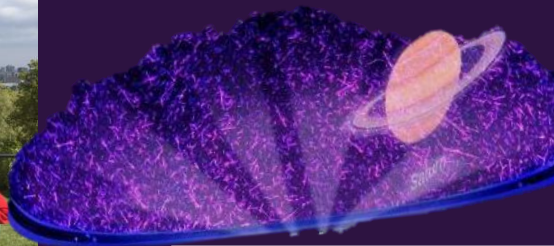


# Year 5's Visit to the Royal Observatory!



To kick off our new science topic all about Earth and space, we visited the Royal Observatory in Greenwich to find out more about our solar system and the universe.



First of all, we were lucky enough to visit the planetarium where we watched a show all about the planets in our solar system. An astronomer talked us through the show and we learnt lots about rocky planets, gas giants, the sun, stars, galaxies and so much more.



We even had time to stop off and see the Cutty Sark!



We visited the statue of Yuri Alekseyevich Gagarin - a Soviet pilot and cosmonaut who became the first human to journey into outer space. We learnt that Gagarin completed one orbit of Earth on 12 April 1961, travelling in the Vostok 1 capsule.



Before returning to school, we saw the prime meridian and we learnt that this is the meridian in a geographic coordinate system at which longitude is defined to be 0°. We also learnt there is an international agreement that the meridian that runs through the Royal Observatory is considered the official prime meridian.



In the afternoon, we had another workshop with an astronomer where we learnt about the Earth, the moon and then sun. We learnt about the orbit of the moon around the Earth and the Earth around the sun and about the different phases of the moon.

We then had a workshop where we had to put our knowledge of what we'd learnt in the planetarium to the test! We answered questions and completed crosswords about our learning.

