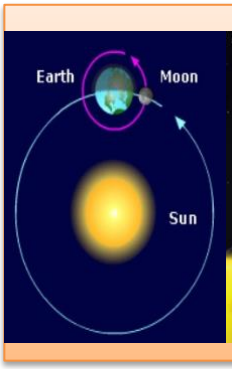
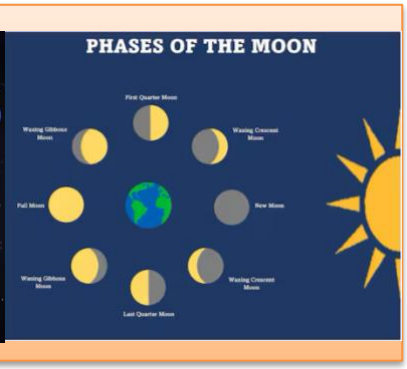
Science Knowledge Organiser

Earth and Space







Scientific Enquiry Types:

- Pattern Seeking
- Research
- Observation Over Time

Sticky Knowledge

- The sun is a star and is at the centre of our solar system.
- There are eight planes that order nearest to the sun. Working outwards: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune.
- The Sun, Earth and Moon are approximately spherical bodies.
- The Earth and the planets orbit around the sun.
- The moon orbits the Earth. It takes about 28 days to complete its orbit.
- The Earth takes 365 ¼ days to orbit the sun. We call this a year.
- The Earth rotates (spins) on its axis every 24 hours.
- As Earth rotates half faces the Sun (day) and half is facing away from the Sun (night).
- As the Earth rotates, the Sun appears to move across the sky.
- The phases of the moon are caused by its orbit around the Earth.

Vocabulary

- **Planets-** celestial bodies in orbit around a sun/star.
- **Solar system-** the collection of planets, moons and other celestial bodies that orbit around the sun.
- **Spherical-** sphere-like in shape.
- **Rotation-** the turning of something.
- **Celestial body-** an object connected to space.
- **Orbit-** the path an object takes around another object.
- **Axis-** an imaginary line about which a celestial body rotates.
- **Geocentric-** centred around the Earth.
- **Heliocentric-** centred around the Sun.
- **Moon Phase–** the different shapes of the moon's surface we can see from Earth.