and update on our mission to the Sun

preparations continue for Orion's upcoming flight test and a science chat

you about this week at NASA signals from our Parker solar probe indicate the spacecraft is alive and well and after skimming by the Sun at just 15 million miles from our star's surface a status beacon sent on November 7th indicates all instruments are running and collecting science data

Parker will study the Sun's corona to
solve long-standing mysteries and should help improve forecasts of space weather which can affect spacecraft and astronauts in orbit as well as communications on earth our Kennedy Space Center in Florida received the European service module for our Orion spacecraft from Germany on November 6th the service module will propel power and cool Orien during exploration mission-1 Orion's first uncrewed flight test with our Space Launch System rocket that will demonstrate our capability to extend human existence to the moon and beyond
NASA and the European Space Agency will participate in a November 16th of NF Kennedy to mark the arrival of the service module that event will air live on NASA television and the agency's website at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time we teamed with a US Navy and others for the 7th in a series of tests off the California coast to verify and validate procedures and hardware needed to recover Orion after it splashes down in the Pacific Ocean when it returns from deep space exploration missions a test version of Orion was used to evaluate
recovery operations and various

conditions there are two more recovery
tests planned for this series

on November 5th our administrator Jim
bridenstine gave keynote remarks at
National Geographic Society headquarters
in Washington DC before a showing of the
project Mars competitions short films
and national Geographics Mars series
during his remarks bridestine talked
about our insight mission scheduled to
land on the Red Planet November 26th
this insight Lander is critical to a
future human exploration activity on the
surface of Mars what we're gonna be able
to do is create a 3D image of what's happening inside Mars and ultimately how that could jeopardize human astronauts in the future a November 7th a science chat focused on upcoming encounters for two of our planetary missions osiris-rex and new horizons osiris-rex our first asteroid sample return mission will arrive at asteroid Bennu on December 3rd and then deliver a sample from the asteroid to earth in September 2023 on New Year's Day 2019 our New Horizons spacecraft will make the farthest space probe flyby in history
when it encounters Kuiper belt object Ultima Thule which is approximately 4 billion miles from Earth you can see the entire episode and go dasa.gov/

harnesses assembled in our Langley Research Center in Virginia will be used by the Mars entry descent and landing instrumentation to or mentally to during our Mars 2020 missions entry through the red planet's atmosphere medli 2 will measure pressure temperature heat flux and radiation on the capsule that encloses the Mars 2020
Rover for an interactive look at how the mission will land. Check out go.dasa.gov slash Mars 2020 landing. That's what's up this week @nasa for more on these and other stories follow us on the web at nasa.gov slash corner.