



1  
00:00:00,269 --> 00:00:04,180  
Our mission to touch the Sun is on its way

...

2  
00:00:04,180 --> 00:00:07,399  
Administrator Bridenstine visits NASA spaceflight facilities ...

3  
00:00:07,399 --> 00:00:13,200  
and an update on our first-ever asteroid sample return mission ... a few of the stories to

4  
00:00:13,200 --> 00:00:15,821  
tell you about – This Week at NASA!

5  
00:00:15,821 --> 00:00:19,310  
“A daring mission to shed light on our closest star ...”

6  
00:00:19,310 --> 00:00:23,150  
Our Parker Solar Probe is on its way to touch the Sun.

7  
00:00:23,150 --> 00:00:30,280  
The spacecraft launched Aug. 12 at 3:31 a.m. EDT, aboard a United Launch Alliance Delta

8  
00:00:30,280 --> 00:00:34,120  
IV Heavy rocket from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, in Florida.

9  
00:00:34,120 --> 00:00:38,820  
The mission could help improve forecasts of space weather events, which have the potential

10  
00:00:38,820 --> 00:00:45,280  
to damage satellites, harm astronauts in space, disrupt radio communications, and even overwhelm

11

00:00:45,280 --> 00:00:48,250  
power grids.

12  
00:00:48,250 --> 00:00:53,649  
Our Administrator Jim Bridenstine visited  
three NASA centers playing pivotal roles in

13  
00:00:53,649 --> 00:00:58,380  
sending American astronauts back to the Moon  
and eventually to Mars.

14  
00:00:58,380 --> 00:01:03,989  
On Aug. 13, he met employees at our Michoud  
Assembly Facility in New Orleans, who are

15  
00:01:03,989 --> 00:01:10,149  
working on construction of our Space Launch  
System rocket, or SLS and Orion spacecraft

16  
00:01:10,149 --> 00:01:13,429  
that will fly astronauts on missions to the  
Moon and beyond.

17  
00:01:13,429 --> 00:01:18,539  
“What you’re doing here at Michoud is  
going to enable your country to go further

18  
00:01:18,539 --> 00:01:20,979  
and do more than we’ve ever done before.”

19  
00:01:20,979 --> 00:01:25,450  
The next day the administrator was at our  
Stennis Space Center in Mississippi, for a

20  
00:01:25,450 --> 00:01:30,099  
hot-fire test of an RS-25 rocket engine ...

21  
00:01:30,099 --> 00:01:36,149  
The test was the first in another series of  
evaluations for the developmental engine.

22  
00:01:36,149 --> 00:01:42,840  
SLS will use four RS-25s to launch Orion on missions to deep space destinations, including

23  
00:01:42,840 --> 00:01:44,729  
the Moon and Mars.

24  
00:01:44,729 --> 00:01:50,289  
And on Aug. 15, Bridenstine was at our Marshall Space Flight Center, in Huntsville, Alabama.

25  
00:01:50,289 --> 00:01:55,689  
While there, he toured facilities and was briefed on critical structural tests underway

26  
00:01:55,689 --> 00:02:04,179  
with SLS, as well as human spaceflight testing and science operations aboard the space station.

27  
00:02:04,179 --> 00:02:12,200  
On Aug. 17, OSIRIS-REx, our first-ever asteroid sample return mission reached another milestone.

28  
00:02:12,200 --> 00:02:16,950  
According to the University of Arizona – which leads the mission’s science team, observation

29  
00:02:16,950 --> 00:02:23,670  
planning and processing, the spacecraft began its final approach phase toward asteroid Bennu.

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00:02:23,670 --> 00:02:30,100  
It will arrive at Bennu later in December and return a sample from the asteroid in Sept.

31  
00:02:30,100 --> 00:02:31,100  
2023.

32

00:02:31,100 --> 00:02:36,170

Bennu is rich in carbon and composed of primitive material from the beginnings of our solar

33

00:02:36,170 --> 00:02:37,170

system.

34

00:02:37,170 --> 00:02:39,670

“We have ignition – first stage.”

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00:02:39,670 --> 00:02:44,950

On Aug. 14, at our Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia, a suborbital sounding rocket

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00:02:44,950 --> 00:02:49,260

carried eight student experiments on a brief ride into space.

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00:02:49,260 --> 00:02:54,060

The experiments – developed by undergraduate students from across the country, flew through

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00:02:54,060 --> 00:02:56,260

our RockSat-X program.

39

00:02:56,260 --> 00:03:02,450

They traveled to an altitude of about 98.5 miles before descending to a parachute landing

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00:03:02,450 --> 00:03:08,300

in the Atlantic Ocean, about 64 miles from the launch site.

41

00:03:08,300 --> 00:03:14,650

During an Aug. 15 spacewalk outside the International Space Station, Russian cosmonauts Oleg Artemyev

42

00:03:14,650 --> 00:03:20,400

and Sergey Prokopyev performed work to deploy several technology demonstration satellites

43  
00:03:20,400 --> 00:03:25,250  
and install equipment for an environmental  
experiment to monitor the migration of groups

44  
00:03:25,250 --> 00:03:27,220  
of animals on Earth.

45  
00:03:27,220 --> 00:03:32,770  
It was the 212th spacewalk in support of space  
station assembly, maintenance and upgrades.

46  
00:03:32,770 --> 00:03:36,450  
That's what's up this week @NASA ...