

A space shuttle is shown launching from a launch pad, with a large plume of white smoke and fire at the base. The shuttle is positioned vertically in the center of the frame. The background is a blue sky with scattered white clouds. In the foreground, there is a body of water reflecting the light from the launch. The text 'TW@N' is overlaid in large, white, bold letters with a black outline, centered horizontally and partially overlapping the shuttle. Below this, a dark blue rectangular box contains the text 'THIS WEEK @ NASA' in white, all-caps, sans-serif font.

TW@N

THIS WEEK @ NASA

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:04,237  
The second all-private astronaut mission to the space station.

2  
00:00:04,237 --> 00:00:07,774  
Completing the set of tiny severe weather trackers.

3  
00:00:07,774 --> 00:00:14,080  
And a robotic explorer – with a twist ... a few of the stories to tell you about – This Week at NASA!

4  
00:00:14,848 --> 00:00:19,953  
On May 21, a SpaceX Dragon spacecraft launched from our Kennedy Space Center

5  
00:00:19,953 --> 00:00:21,821  
on Axiom Mission 2,

6  
00:00:21,821 --> 00:00:26,192  
the second all private astronaut mission to the International Space Station.

7  
00:00:26,192 --> 00:00:30,697  
The four-person crew, commanded by former NASA astronaut Peggy Whitson,

8  
00:00:30,697 --> 00:00:34,234  
is scheduled to spend several days conducting research, outreach,

9  
00:00:34,234 --> 00:00:37,070  
and commercial activities on the space station.

10  
00:00:37,871 --> 00:00:42,075  
The final two CubeSats for our TROPICS mission launched from Rocket Lab's

11  
00:00:42,075 --> 00:00:45,745  
Launch Complex 1 in New Zealand on May 26.

12  
00:00:45,745 --> 00:00:49,616  
The small satellites will join two other identical spacecraft that launched

13  
00:00:49,616 --> 00:00:51,584  
to orbit earlier this month.

14  
00:00:51,584 --> 00:00:55,722  
All four will fly, as a constellation, in a unique low Earth orbit

15  
00:00:55,722 --> 00:00:58,425  
that will allow them to observe tropical cyclones,

16  
00:00:58,425 --> 00:01:00,827  
including hurricanes and typhoons,

17  
00:01:00,827 --> 00:01:04,697  
more often than what is possible with current weather satellites.

18  
00:01:05,465 --> 00:01:10,770  
A team at our Jet Propulsion Laboratory is creating and testing a snake-like robot

19  
00:01:10,770 --> 00:01:15,742  
called EELS, short for Exobiology Extant Life Surveyor.

20  
00:01:15,742 --> 00:01:21,347  
The self-propelled, autonomous robot is being developed to go where other robots can't go.

21  
00:01:21,347 --> 00:01:25,351

Although it was inspired by a desire to look for signs of life

22

00:01:25,351 --> 00:01:29,556

in the sub-surface ocean on Saturn's icy moon, Enceladus,

23

00:01:29,556 --> 00:01:32,959

EELS is not currently part of any NASA mission.

24

00:01:33,693 --> 00:01:40,600

On May 23, our Stennis Space Center conducted a hot fire test of an RS-25 rocket engine.

25

00:01:40,600 --> 00:01:44,104

It was the eighth hot fire of the current 12-test series

26

00:01:44,104 --> 00:01:47,607

to certify production of new RS-25s.

27

00:01:47,607 --> 00:01:51,511

Four of the engines will help power our Space Launch System rocket

28

00:01:51,511 --> 00:01:54,948

on future Artemis missions to the Moon.

29

00:01:54,948 --> 00:01:57,016

That's what's up this week @NASA.