Derbyshire County Council

New Mills School

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Headteacher:
Mrs H Watts

9th December 2027

Dear Parent/Carers,

We are excited to invite Year 7 and Year 8 students to an Astronomical Observation Evening hosted by the Science Department on:

Year 7: Tuesday 15th December to Thursday 17th December

Year 8: Tuesday 5th January to Thursday 7th January

The event **will be held** from **4:30 pm to 5:30 pm** and offers an opportunity for a total of **18 students**, divided into **three groups of six per year group**, to explore the wonders of the night sky using our **reflecting and refracting telescopes**.

Students will have the chance to observe celestial objects such as the Moon and Saturn. The telescopes are powerful enough to reveal fascinating details, including the rings of Saturn. The session will also teach students how to identify key features of the night sky, make astronomical observations, and operate telescopes effectively.

As the event takes place in the evening, we anticipate cold weather. Students should dress warmly and bring a coat, hat, scarf, and gloves. They are welcome to bring a lidded cup for a hot chocolate, which will be provided free of charge. Participants should arrive at **New Mills School Reception** promptly at **4:30 pm** on their allocated evening.

If the event is oversubscribed, places will be allocated through a random draw. If you would like your child to take part, please complete the Microsoft Form linked below by **Friday 19th December**.

Astronomical observation 2026 - 2027 – Fill out form

Please note that if poor weather or cloud cover prevents us from making observations, the event will be cancelled. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to rearrange the event for another date. Any cancellation will be communicated to parents/carers via Class Charts by **2:00 pm** on the day.

We look forward to inspiring your child with the beauty and science of the cosmos!

Yours faithfully,

Thomas Robertson
Second in Science