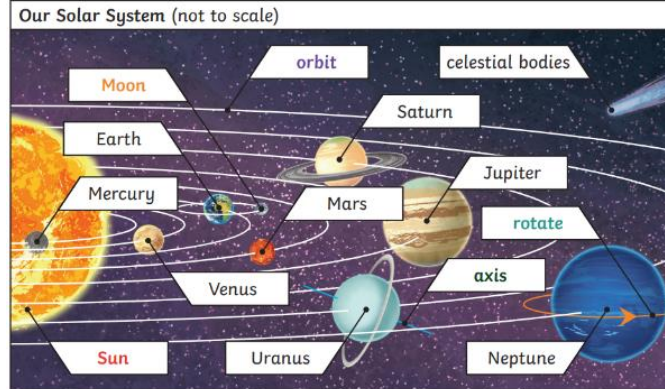
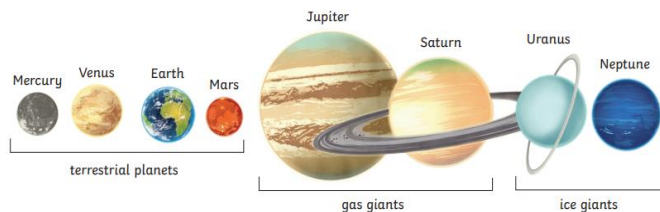


# EARTH AND SPACE – RED SQUIRREL CLASS

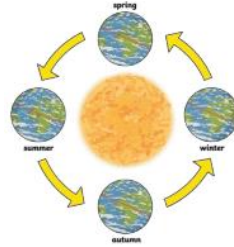
## Key Vocabulary

Sun	A huge star that Earth and the other planets in our solar system orbit around.
star	A giant ball of gas held together by its own gravity.
moon	A natural satellite which orbits Earth or other planets.
planet	A large object, round or nearly round, that orbits a star.
sphere	A round 3D shape, a bit like a ball.
spherical bodies	Astronomical objects shaped like spheres.
satellite	Any object or body in space that orbits something else, for example the moon is a satellite of Earth.
orbit	To move in a regular, repeating curved path around another object.
rotate	to spin for example, Earth rotates on its own axis.
axis	An imaginary line that a body rotates around. For example – Earth's axis runs from the North Pole to the South Pole.
geocentric model	A belief people used to have that other planets and the sun orbited around the Earth.
heliocentric model	The structure of the solar system where planets orbit around the sun.
astronomer	someone who studies or is an expert in astronomy.



## Key Knowledge - Seasons

The seasons are due to Earth's tilt as it orbits round the Sun. Earth is tilted at an angle of about  $24^\circ$ . This means that, at different times throughout the year, parts of Earth are either tilted towards or tilted away from the Sun, which changes temperatures and weather conditions.



## Key Knowledge: The Moon

The Moon is Earth's natural satellite. It is made of rock and metal, is approximately spherical and is a quarter of the diameter of Earth. The Moon orbits round Earth once approximately every 27 days. It takes the same amount of time to rotate on its axis. This means we always see the same side of the Moon. The Moon appears to change shape over the course of its 27-day orbit as different parts of it are lit or in shadow.

## Key Knowledge: Planets

Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars are rocky planets. They are mostly made up of metal and rock. Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune are mostly made up of gases (helium and hydrogen) although they do have cores made up of rock and metal. Pluto used to be considered a planet but was reclassified in 2006 as a dwarf planet.

Important people and places: Galileo, Nicolaus Copernicus, Kelper

## Key Knowledge: Day and Night

Every 24 hours, Earth rotates on its axis, which is an imaginary line that passes through its centre. This rotation causes the Sun to appear to move across the sky and is what causes the cycle of day and night, as one side faces the Sun and the other side faces away from the Sun. The side facing the Sun will be experiencing daytime, as it is lit and heated by sunlight. The side facing away from the Sun will be experiencing night time, as it is in shadow.

