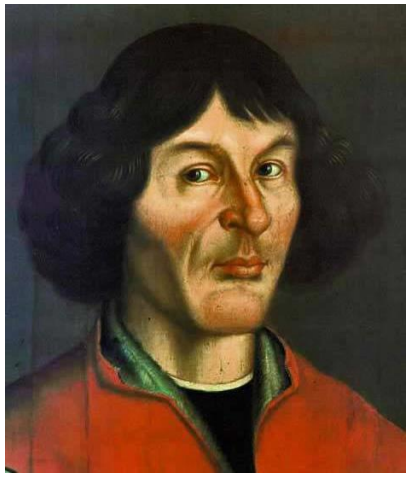
Science – Earth and Space – Year 5 – Summer 1

Vocabulary Top Ten:	
asteroid	One of the small planets found mainly between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter.
axis	A line through the centre of a spinning object.
celestial	Linked to the sky or heaven.
crescent	A narrow curved shape coming to a point at each end.
lunar	Linked to the moon.
satellite	A moon moving around a planet.
solar	Linked to the sun.
sphere	A perfectly round, solid shape.
waning	Becoming less, smaller or weaker.
waxing	To become stronger or more important.

Nicolaus Copernicus

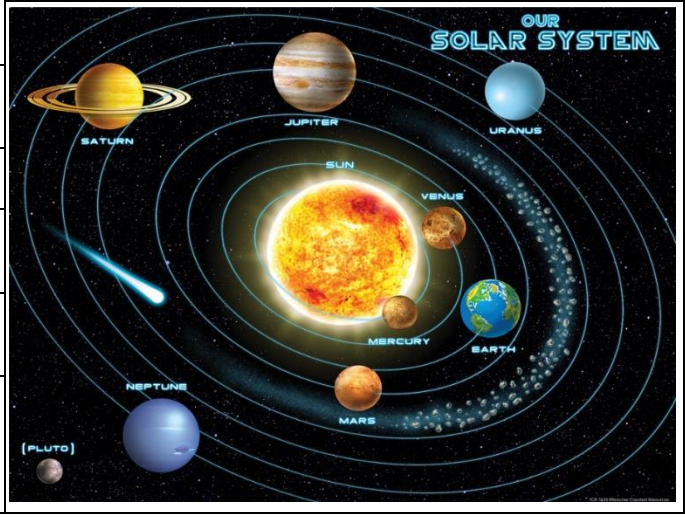


Born: 1473
Died: 1543

Nationality: Polish

An astronomer and mathematician who created a model of the universe with the Sun at its centre.

Diagram



Key Facts:

The solar system is made up of the Sun and the planets that revolve around it.
The Sun is a star at the centre of our solar system and does not move.

There are eight planets in our solar system. These are: **Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune.**

The Sun, Earth and Moon are spherical bodies.

The Earth takes 365.25 days to complete its orbit around the Sun, therefore every four years we have an extra day in February called a leap year.

As the Earth orbits the Sun, it rotates. The half of the Earth facing the sun will experience day and the part facing away will experience night.

The Earth's rotation that makes the Sun appear to rise in the East and set in the West.

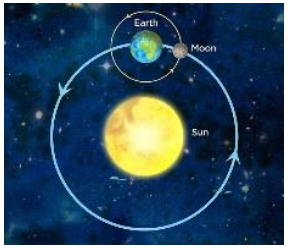
It takes 24 hours for the Earth to rotate on its axis.

The Moon takes 28 days to orbit the Earth which is called the lunar month.

A Full Moon is when the face of the Moon is fully turned towards the Sun.

The Moon does not change shape, we see different amounts of the Moon's surface depending on its position in relation to the Earth and the Sun.

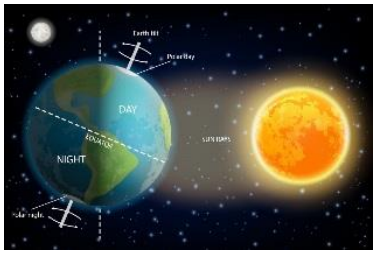
Earth's orbit



Seasons of the year



Day and night



Phases of the moon

