



# The Astrophile Newsletter

**One Fond of Starlore: An Amateur Astronomer**

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## Week Long Astronomy school for students

### Celeste Astronomy School

February 14-18, 2022

03:00 PM - 04:30 PM  
05:00 PM - 06:30 PM

**Learn astronomy from experienced educators**

5 Classes, 90 minutes each      Monday to Friday

For more details, queries and interest, reach us

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## Virtual safe environment for students to learn about space and astronomy from the comfort of their homes.

A week long astronomy Camp is being organising for the students of your school after school hours from Grade 5 till 12 in different batches. The module will be 1 of 3 and will be used by students to pursue the topics in astronomy.

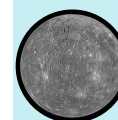
The camp will be held once every month and each time new topics will be added which the students can use to their advantage. Each participating student will receive a certificate of participation.

The topics so chosen for the camp this time vary from eclipses to James Webb Space Telescope and many more. The camp is open for students to enrol themselves however if the school wishes to conduct a more coordinated programs for their students then dedicated group classes can be organised at the pre-decided time. For details on fee and curriculum, please visit: <https://astro-phile.com/celeste/>

## Moon phases and dates

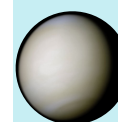
### Important phases and dates for Moon to plan your observation

01/02/22	New Moon	11:16	
08/02/22	First Quarter	19:20	
16/02/22	Full Moon	22:26	Snow Moon
24/02/22	Third Quarter	04:02	



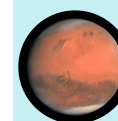
### Mercury

Mercury will be visible in the early morning in the beginning and towards the morning in the late of February.



### Venus

Venus will be visible in the early morning in the beginning and towards the morning in the late of February.



### Mars

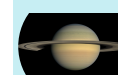
The red planet will be visible in the early morning in the beginning hours this month.



### Jupiter


Jupiter will be visible only in early evening hours. It is going to hide behind the Sun next month and then will be visible in the morning.

### Saturn




Saturn will not be visible this month as it is extremely close to Sun after its conjunction with Sun this February. It will return to morning skies in March.

## Online Astrophiler's Club for in school club activity




### ASTROPHILER'S CLUB



Astronomy Club for Astronomy Enthusiasts

**Key Highlights:**

- 12 Online Lectures
- Valid for 12 months from date of registrations.
- Astro Trips to dark locations\*
- Participation in competitions, events, projects, conferences etc.
- Live interactions with astronomers and space scientists
- Learn about space science from the experts.
- Forums for discussions, event updates, sky chart updates.
- Certificate of participation for all registered members.
- Discounts upto Rs 10,000/- on purchase of astronomy services and equipments from allied partners\*



Registrations open for grade 6 onwards.  
\* visit [astro-phile.com](https://astro-phile.com) for more details

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The pandemic has shown that even though the usual life will halt in extreme situations, education will not and should not stop.

In December last year, we launched Astrophiler's Club for students to enrol and learn astronomy in a year long structured and scheduled manner. With the success of the same, we are happy to extend the same to the schools like regular astronomy curriculum except that this will be conducted online for the near future with a possibility of conducting offline in days to come.

The club will be developed in a way that the sessions can be conducted in offline manner as and when the situation is conducive. Weather online or offline, the club will be created in school and the students will be able to take great benefits as a member and continue to learn. Visit <https://astro-phile.com/astrophilers-club/> for more details.

## James Webb telescope near L2



NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, the agency's successor to the famous Hubble telescope, launched on Dec. 25, 2021 on a mission to study the earliest stars and peer back farther into the universe's past than ever before. Webb is currently at its observing spot, Lagrange point 2 (L2), nearly 1 million miles (1.6 million km). It is the largest and most powerful space telescope ever launched.

The mirrors are at their observation position and also the antennas have been raised to start the communication between the telescope and the command centre on ground. This will enable the team to feed data for the targets to observe and capture. Also to download the captured images. The telescope has mirror cell with diameter of 6.5m and focal length of 131.2m making it F/20.2 and is positioned at 1 million km away at L2 point.

## BRING BACK DARK SKIES - CITIZEN SCIENCE PROJECT FOR EVERY INDIAN

Science is for the benefit of the community and hence the participation of community is very important. With that in mind, Astrophile Education Services started a Pan-India Citizen Science Project called "[Bring Back dark Skies](https://astro-phile.com/bring-back-dark-skies/)".

The project encourage participation from the people even if they have very little or no knowledge of the sky. The participation require oneself to measure the amount of light pollution by counting the number of stars visible in a specific constellation during the moonless time of the month and report the same back to us on our website.

The projects aims to collect the data of stars visible in the sky by estimates the amount of light pollution in your area. The estimations and the study will be provided to various state and central government departments which can help us eradicate the light pollution and hence bring back the dark skies so that more and more people can enjoy the majestic skies.

Light pollution has slow but harmful effects not only on humans but also on birds, animals and insects. The ambient light has affected the pattern of humans and animals a like and this irreparable damage will only get worse in the times to come.

To learn more about the same, please visit: <https://astro-phile.com/bring-back-dark-skies/>

