

Girl Scout Troop 6671 Newsletter

Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) Visit



Tori Capul, Chloe Atienza, Zoe Klebes, Sophia Magadia, Adelyn Santos, (not pictured Atasha Ocampo)

LAST WEEKEND, JPL OPENED THEIR DOORS TO

THE PUBLIC. Troop 6671 grabbed the opportunity to visit the very place where the Mars rovers have been conceived, designed and built.

On a rainy Sunday morning, the girls entered the campus and were greeted by three generations of the Mars rover – Opportunity, Curiosity and (currently unnamed) Mars Rover 2020. They were functional replicas of the rovers roaming Mars over 34 million miles away from home. Friendly scientists, astronomers and engineers demonstrated how the rovers operate on the Martian terrain with their specially designed wheels that can climb large rocks without getting stuck!



Mars Rover Opportunity

A Daisy poses in front of the rover replica.



Mars Rover Curiosity

JPL host shows the girls the array of cameras on the rover.



Mars Rover 2020

The Daisies say good luck and farewell.

The girls also visited the facility where parts for the rovers are fabricated. The new rover's wheels were on display. All parts (including every nut and bolt) are created with extreme precision using computers, robots and lasers. They are also chemically sanitized before making their way to the final assembly room.



After a 90 minute wait, the Daisies came upon the assembly room where the Mars Rover 2020 and its space capsule are undergoing preparations for launch atop an Atlas V rocket. The girls personally bid the rover godspeed before it begins its journey to visit its siblings (Opportunity and Curiosity) in July 2020.

The girls left the JPL campus inspired, with the thirst to learn more about space and our universe. Furthermore, JPL demonstrated how to defy conventional thinking and unlock limitless possibilities.

Thank you, JPL for welcoming Troop 6671!

JET PROPULSION LABORATORY (JPL)

The Jet Propulsion Laboratory is a unique national research facility that carries out robotic space and Earth science missions. JPL helped open the Space Age by developing America's first Earth-orbiting science satellite, creating the first successful interplanetary spacecraft, and sending robotic missions to study all the planets in the solar system as well as asteroids, comets and Earth's moon. In addition to its missions, JPL developed and manages NASA's Deep Space Network, a worldwide system of antennas that communicates with interplanetary spacecraft.



(Source: jpl.nasa.gov)