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THE MAESINCLA TIMES

21 July 1969

A MAN ON THE MOON

With great excitement, one-fifth of the entire population of the world watched TV in wonder as American astronaut Neil Armstrong stepped on to the surface of the Moon.

An historic event

On 16th July, three men left Earth in their space capsule Apollo 11, thrust into space by its awesomely powerful rocket engines. Four days later, the astronauts arrived at their destination – the Moon!

When he touched the surface of the Moon with his left foot first, Neil Armstrong said “*That’s one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind,*”. His voice echoed round the space headquarters in Houston, Texas, USA, 384,000 kilometres away.

A few seconds later, Armstrong was joined on the surface by Edwin ‘Buzz’ Aldrin. The third member of the crew, Michael Collins, was still in the space

module that carried on to orbit (go around) the Moon.

Armstrong and Aldrin explored the area of the moon where they had landed before they proudly erected a US flag with a special wire frame to hold it (as there is no wind on the Moon). Then they collected samples of the rocks that litter the Moon’s landscape to take back for analysis at a laboratory on Earth.

The race to the moon has been won

This has been a very historic event because America had always wanted to be the first country to send a man to the moon.

The United States therefore have now fulfilled the first part of President Kennedy’s promise – to land a man on the moon – now they need to do a even more difficult task and return all three astronauts back safely to Earth.

NEIL ARMSTRONG

Karen MacIntyre Huws

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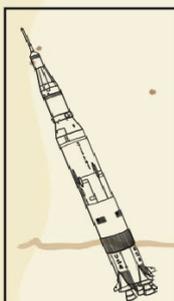
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TWINKL TIMES

21st July 1969

FIRST MAN ON THE MOON

Yesterday, the 20th July 1969, will be a day that is remembered forever. NASA enabled the first men to successfully land and walk on the Moon.



The Apollo 11 Spacecraft

The astronauts flew 240,000 miles to the Moon in the spacecraft, Apollo 11. The journey took 76 hours (three days) from the takeoff on Earth to the Moon's surface.

A small lunar module called The Eagle left the main craft and landed on the Moon's surface with two astronauts inside: Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin.

They found it difficult to find a suitable location to land and only had a few minutes of fuel left.



The Eagle lunar module



Neil Armstrong, aged 38, was the first man to step his foot onto the Moon.

His historic first words on the Moon were, 'That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.' Buzz Aldrin, aged 39, then joined him. During their time on the Moon, the astronauts spoke to the US president, planted the flag of the USA and spent two hours collecting Moon samples and data.

The landing was watched on television by 600 million people around the world. Apollo 11 is now on its way back to Earth and should arrive on the 24th July.



Many people watched the event on television