**Neptune**

Today in Science class, Mr. Smith taught us about Neptune.

Things I learned:

* Neptune has a mantle of icy water, methane and ammonia.
* It has a rocky silicate core.
* The names of some of its rings are Adams, Le Verrier, and Galle.
* It has a cloud deck.
* It has a blue color because it has a lot of methane.
* There is a spot on Neptune called the Great Dark Spot that is 30,000 kilometers across.
* One Neptune year is 165.49 Earth years.
* There is also a Small Dark Spot.
* It is tilted 28.75 degrees.
* Neptune’s largest moon is named Triton.
* It has a very thin atmosphere, made mostly of nitrogen and a little methane, with haze up to 10 kilometers.
* There is a section of Triton with terrain called cantaloupe terrain because it looks like it has the texture of a cantaloupe.
* Its icy volcanoes with eruption plumes deliver liquid nitrogen, methane compounds, and dust to the surface and atmosphere.
* The plumes may rise to about 10 kilometers in altitude.
* Triton’s surface temperature is about -235 degrees Celsius.
* Pluto is the most recently discovered planet.
* Charon is a moon of Pluto.
* Pluto’s year is 247.7 Earth years.
* It has a rocky core.
* It has an icy mantle.
* It has a surface of water ice and frozen methane. Pluto’s orbit is more tilted and more elongated than that of any other planet.
* A section of Pluto’s orbit is closer to the sun than Neptune’s orbit. Thus, for some time, Neptune is the most distant major planet.
* Pluto is about -458 degrees Fahrenheit.
* Pluto was the first discovered Kuiper object.
* Xena is also a Kuiper object.
* Xena used to be called 2003UB313.
* Kuiper objects are things that could be planets that are not on the planet of the ecleptic.
* TNOs are objects that are farther away from the sun than Neptune.
* TNO stands for Trans Neptunian Objects.
* The Kuiper Belt is also referred to as the Edgeworth-Kuiper Belt after astronomers Kenneth Edgeworth and Gerard Kuiper.

