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Betr.: ARISS

ARISS contact planned for Summer Camp in Germany

An International Space Station ARISS contact has been planned for astronaut Paolo Nespoli IZ0JP with VCP-Bundeszeltplatz, Großzerlang, Germany.

The event is scheduled Tuesday August 1st, 2017 at approximately 18.20 UTC, which is 20.20 CEST.

The direct radio contact will be operated by DP9S.

Downlink signals will be audible in parts of Europe on 145.800 MHz narrowband FM.

School Information:

The "Bund der Pfadfinderinnen und Pfadfinder" (BdP) is a Guide and Scout Association from Germany. BdP is part of the "World Organisation of the Scout Movement" (WOSM) and the "World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts" (WAGGGS).

Every four years a National Jamboree (summer camp) is organized, where about 5'500 guides and scouts, in the age of 12 to 16 years, meet. Part of this gathering are also about 500 guest scouts from all over the world. In Germany the camp is called "BuLa" – a abbreviation for "Bundeslager".

During two weeks the scouts live peaceful together and enjoy life abroad from civilization. They camp in traditional "black tents", which are a specialty of German scouts. The basic tent shape is that of a small tipi (Kothé) or a yurt (Jurte). But there are nearly no limits in combining the tent elements and the scouts build awesome constructions, which they call yurt-castle (Jurtenburg). After everything is built, the campground becomes a little city, where the inhabitants experience a unique back-to-the-roots atmosphere and share the scouting and guiding spirit.

The 10 main camp days are loaded with exciting outdoor activities. But there on site activities but also excursions to the surroundings. You can climb, build pioneering stuff, go geocaching, biking, hiking, climbing, swimming, canoeing, go for a drink or snack in one of the tent coffees, etc. etc. . One activity spot is the scout-radio-amateur-tent. There the scouts can do amateur radio direction finding (fox hunting), play a game with avalanche beacons, have international amateur radio contacts, learn about EME (earth-moon-earth) and try it out or play one of the other radio connected games. And of course, a highlight of ours is the contact with the ISS.

The motto of the camp is "Estonteco 2017". "Estonteco" means in Esperanto "future". Our tent city will be a space for different walks of life, nationalities and cultures, to engage and get know each other, while we build our camp world from scratch.

The ARISS contact will be conducted in English.

Participants will ask as many of the following questions as time allows:

1. What are the current research projects that you have on board the ISS? Which experiment are you carrying out?
2. What skills do you need to become an astronaut and how do you acquire them?
3. What was the most important or most spectacular scientific discovery made on the ISS up to now?
4. What if somebody gets seriously sick?
5. What was your motivation to become an astronaut?
6. What was the most critical situation on the station so far?
7. Can you see our Jamboree site from space and could it help if we shine a laser pen towards the ISS?
8. How do the constellation of the stars change compared to the view from the Earth?
9. How often are you working outside in Space? Is it dangerous?
10. How do you shower in space?
11. Is it possible to see the romantic sunsets from the ISS like from the Earth? Or even polar lights? What about rainbows?
12. What happens, when a meteorite hits the space station?
13. How does the food taste?
14. When you are looking out of the window towards the Earth, do you sometimes think of the insignificance of humanity or of your own person?
15. What is the most annoying thing up there?
16. What are you most excited about, when you are back on Earth?
17. How do you experience the day-night-rhythm?
18. Do you have plants?
19. You've been away from home for a long time. How is that for you?
20. What do you miss most?

ARISS is an international educational outreach program partnering the volunteer support and leadership from AMSAT and IARU societies around the world with the ISS space agencies partners:

NASA, Russian Space Agency, ESA, JAXA, and CSA. ARISS offers an opportunity for students to experience the excitement of Amateur Radio by talking directly with crewmembers on board the International Space Station. Teachers, parents and communities see, first hand, how Amateur Radio and crewmembers on ISS can energize youngsters' interest in science, technology, and learning.

73, Gaston Bertels – ON4WF ARISS Europe