Our night Sky for March 2nd,2026

One effective way of familiarizing yourself with the night sky is to watch one or two constellations for several months and see how its place in our sky changes with time. I suggested early last fall to watch Orion which at the time was just rising in the North east at sunset and its highest was just above the horizon and horizontal. By the new year and into February, Orion is high in our southern sky and will soon be setting in the south west before the sun sets. Another easy to spot signpost is Vega. Vegas path through or sky brings it very close to our northern horizon in the winter but just beginning its climb to its summer dominance high overhead for most of the summer. Look due north in the early evening and watch over the coming weeks as Vega with the lop sided square that is Lyra attached climbs ever higher to it's peak at the zenith for most of the summer.

One question I am asked often is "how far away is that"? The closest star to our sun is Alpha Centauri at about 4.4 light years. In the last hundred years we have gone from nothing man-made in space to thousands of spacecraft exploring the solar system. The fastest of those is the Parker solar probe at about 700,000 Km/h.

Simply by coincidence the speed of light is about 700,000Km/sec. So, there are 3600 seconds in an hour if we can increase our fastest spacecraft speed by 3600 in the next century. It will still take four and a half years to get to our closest neighbor in space. I think some things will ever remain a mystery in Our Night Sky