



## Pupils' project on irises

**PUPILS from church schools across Portsmouth and Winchester dioceses have taken part in a project focussing on irises as symbols of hope.**

**They have planted flowers in gardens within their schools, drawn pictures, written poems and prayed - with the iris as a common theme.**

**It was the project for the academic year 2020-21, which would normally have climaxed in themed workshops and a cathedral service for the 11-year-olds leaving our primary schools this summer.**

**This year, it won't be possible to hold those get-togethers, but a video showcasing this work will be played to those Year 6 children during July.**



## Skydive for charity

**DIOCESAN staff member Lauren McDermott was on her honeymoon in 2018 when she first felt the pain caused by endometriosis. Now she hopes to raise awareness of this painful condition by leaping out of a plane this September.**

**Her skydive will raise money for the charity Endometriosis South Coast, who have supported her since surgery that helped to diagnose the condition.**

**"It's a condition that can cause cramps, back pain and fatigue," she said. "It means the kind of tissue that normally lines your womb also grows in other parts of your body." Read more on [www.portsmouth.anglican.org/lauren](http://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/lauren)**



## Open space to be used

**PORTSMOUTH worshippers have invited their local community to help them decide what to do with an open space next to their church.**

**The demolition of the hall next to St Nicholas Church, Copnor, has released an area that could be used as a green space for outdoor activities or to create a building for community activities.**

**The Rev Sam Duddles, team vicar, has invited local residents to say what they want to see by posting ideas into the letterbox outside the church.**



## Wild Church launched

**DOZENS of families connected with God and nature as a new worshipping community was launched.**

**'Wild Church' is the name given to a monthly get-together of parents and children outside St James Church, Emsworth.**

**It's a Sunday afternoon of outdoor activities that includes a chance for families to explore the beauty of nature and get creative, organised by pioneer minister the Rev Jo Northey.**