

TriWonder

2025 Project Celebration Booklet





Introduction

'It's like earth and heaven meet and we get to be here - to see and be'

These were the words of a tourist from Sweden who stood in awe underneath the Triwonder Installation at Winchester Cathedral.

We invited Year 6 children across Winchester Diocese to return to our Cathedral with their families, to view the Triwonder Installation in the North Transept. I was able to greet them and explain our Triwonder Project over three days this week from 4pm, and some stayed for Evensong.

We welcomed 81 adults and 47 children, who came from 23 schools as far as New Milton and Woolton Hill (Newbury) – but also met people from India, USA, France, Bavaria, Canada, Taiwan and Italy, all gushing in their enjoyment and taking photos! For a large number of adults across our Diocese, and from Winchester City, this was their first visit to the Cathedral, and they commented that they would return and encourage other friends and families to visit, not just the installation but all that our Cathedral offers. Many thousands of people continue to see the Installation, which has received regional and national media attention, and remains in place until September 7th – do visit!

A special moment was watching a child lead his parents with their hands over their eyes to stand under the installation and on his countdown, they were allowed to open their eyes and looking up. The parents' reaction was wonderful, coupled with the child's joy at their reaction, was amazing and emotional to witness!

Quotes from some of the visitors:

'I had no idea it would look like this, I was imagining it was just pictures stuck on the walls - it looks wonderful' (Grandparent)

'What an amazing way to teach children about faith. It is incredible' (Dad)

'It is really beautiful. It's great that children are able to appreciate the beauty of creation' (Tourist from India)

'It looks great, and it was worth the two days it took to put it up. Thank you to the cherry picker man. I can see my squirrel over there!' (Pupil)

'He was so proud of it, he wanted to show us. We had no idea that it would look so amazing. He has been buzzing since he came back from the Cathedral last week, thank you so much' (Mum)

'I've seen most of your other Y6 installations, and I look forward every year to my annual visit that is specifically timed with these Y6 days to see (and share!) what you do – always inspirational! (Teacher from Birmingham)



'I work in an after-school adventure playground for disadvantaged children. I am thinking now that we could do something like this' (Tourist)

'I am from Italy. I am going to tell my grandchildren about it and show them the pictures that I have taken. I will tell them to show their teachers' (Tourist from Italy)

'It's just stunning... beautifully displayed.... Absolutely breathtaking' (Parent)

'I want to take part in what you do next year but I'll be in secondary school – so I'll just come and look' (Pupil)

'It's been so engaging, the children loved itwonderful' (From a mum who'd been a parent helper at the Y6 Days)

'It's awesome – such a shame I don't get to do things like that anymore' (Older sister)

'It looks amazing to see the colours of the pictures against the grey stone, how beautiful. How lucky are we to have visited today when this was in the Cathedral' (Tourist from USA)

'She wanted us to come and see, she was so proud of it. They have been doing the Triwonder project all year and she has really enjoyed it' (Parent)

At Portsmouth Cathedral, visitors were able to get close to the creatures and read the prayers. We heard people describe the prayers as 'profound', 'humbling', 'deep' and 'beautiful'.

The Installations at the Priory and Cathedrals were the culmination of our project. Many schools held special TriWonder Days and Weeks, and used our project booklet of curricular and creative ideas to enthuse the pupils and students.

This booklet is merely a snapshot of the range of activities and work enjoyed by children and young people across our diocesan family of schools.

Many churches supported their local school with aspects of the project. If this isn't your custom, do consider joining with next year's project. An overview will be shared with schools at the start of the Autumn Term, with our 2026 project booklet being launched in October.

Our project next year is titled '**Bags of Hope**' – and we hope you'll be involved.

Thank you for your support across our schools and with our families

Jeff

Jeff Williams
Director of Education

Many schools across Winchester and Portsmouth Dioceses have engaged with this year's TriWonder project with a wide range of creative, inspiring activities. These pages will give you a flavour of some of the many experiences that pupils have enjoyed. You can read more about TriWonder by downloading the project booklet [here](#) (Winchester Diocese) or [here](#) (Portsmouth Diocese). We hope that the ideas in this booklet will inspire you and your young people, and we would love to hear from you about other ways that your schools or churches have explored the theme of TriWonder!

A Willow Dragonfly

Dragonflies are central to our TriWonder theme and were the inspiration for this year's logo. Their vibrant colours and amazing acrobatic skills inspire a sense of awe and wonder, as does their transformation from a drab, ordinary looking water nymph to a dazzling insect. They live in air, land and water at different stages of their life cycle, which is another key element of Tri-Wonder, where children have explored and created animals from all three habitats.



Pupils in Gruffalo class at South Baddesley CofE Primary School created their own willow dragonfly as part of their creative approach to the school's Easter celebrations. They said it was, 'a week full of teamwork, imagination, and a touch of magic. It was great to see it all come together!'



Climate Unity Project

Milford on Sea CofE Primary School held a special TriWonder art day, starting with a collective worship celebrating the awe and wonder of God's creation, where they listened to important messages about the environment and climate change from David Attenborough. Pupils then created their own doodle art inspired by [Kev Munday](#). They doodled their favourite things about the natural world and added key words and phrases, such as 'breathtaking,' colourful' and 'makes you want to smile' Each class then created their own globes incorporating every child's artwork. The work was also part of the Hampshire [Climate Unity Project](#), and will be exhibited at Winchester School of Art this summer.

The children's artwork was also exhibited at the Creation Sunday service in All Saints Church, where Year 6 pupils also displayed their TriWonder butterflies. Children helped plan and deliver the service and the songs they chose included [One World](#) by Nick and Becky Drake and 'Think of a World without any Flowers' which they sung at the leavers' services.



Small Worlds at St James'

Pupils at St James' CofE Primary School, West End also combined our TriWonder theme with the [Small Worlds Exhibition](#) at Winchester Art Gallery this summer. They wove these amazing wicker orbs which they decorated with different creatures and hung from trees in the school environmental area, or 'outdoor cathedral.' The QR codes take parents and visitors to further information about the project on the school website.



Special TriWonder Week

Pupils at Lockerley CofE Primary spent a week in house teams exploring and celebrating the wonders of earth, sea and sky. They said that 'This week has allowed us to slow down and take a moment to appreciate the beauty of nature. 'Tri' being the holy trinity and 'wonder' being the world. We have celebrated by making art to symbolise the simplicity and beauty of God's creation.' The week culminated in a celebration event, when parents were invited in to enjoy the children's work. Elizabeth in Year 6 commented that, 'I never felt so connected to the world in God's eyes,' and Olivia in Year 5 added that, 'It felt special to experience a Holy Week celebrating the earth, sea and air.'



Saying 'Wow' at Clatford

Pupils at Clatford CofE Primary School enjoyed exploring the TriWonder theme, reflecting on Psalm 65:8, 'The whole Earth is filled with awe at your wonders.' Staff encouraged the children to slow down and notice the wonders of creation, some were inspired by the land, some by the sea and others by the air. 'A Tri Wonder!' They ended the term with a TriWonder event, where parents were also invited to stop and reflect as they visited the children's displays, to use their senses to take in the wonders of the world and to notice the things that make them say 'Wow!'



Year 1 read the book, *The Boy with Flowers in his Hair*, by Jarvis, and made their own pictures to celebrate the fact that we are all uniquely and wonderfully made.

Year 4 enjoyed river dipping with the Wessex Rivers Trust and created their own artwork using their feet!





I see the white clouds,
I notice they have a resemblance of candy floss.

I hear the pretty chirping chicks,
I want to say "aaaw, what a wonderful new life."

I smell freshly cut grass,
I imagine spending days lying in the gentle rays of the sun.

I feel the radiant sun burning on my back, in the morning breeze,
It reminds me of a roaring fire, keeping me warm in the evening.

I taste the bittersweet scent of rain in the air,
It is like leaving primary school for the final time.

I wonder what the world was like many years ago,
It makes me think that the world is a really safe place for everyone to live and
grow together.

TriWonder Enrichment at The Bay CofE School

Students and staff at The Bay Secondary School have embraced the TriWonder project with many different activities. These include fortnightly nature walks led by the school ELSA to help students immerse themselves in nature; planting vegetables in the school garden; making bug houses in DT and learning about animal management.



Four students had the opportunity to do work experience at the Wildheart Animal Sanctuary in Sandown, doing conservation work such as tree planting and cleaning out animal habitats, a fabulous opportunity to experience God's creation at first hand.



Year 9 students visited the Southampton Oceanography Centre, where they spent time aboard a research vessel studying marine life in the Solent and collecting seawater data. They were shocked to discover the amount of chemicals and other pollutants in the water!



Students also enjoyed a visit from the theologian and environmental campaigner [Ruth Valerio](#), who encourages people to make eco-friendly choices in their everyday lives. Ruth spoke to Year 9 geography students about the effects of our lifestyle choices on poorer nations such as Tanzania. She also met the Eco Champions from The Bay Primary School, who told her about all the initiatives they have led, such as litter-picking, recycling and turning off the lights. She spoke to all the pupils in Years 5 and 6 about the beauty of the planet and the importance of looking after it.



TriWonder in RE

At Charles Kingsley CofE Primary School, pupils started their TriWonder project with some mini-beast-inspired activities led by the school's Wellbeing Ambassadors. This then became the focus of the RE curriculum across the school for a term. Year 6 pupils responded creatively to the wonders of God's world by writing poems, stories and songs, or by creating original artwork that reflected the beauty and mystery of the natural world.

The school reflected that, 'This year's whole-school RE project is an exciting and meaningful journey that connects faith, learning, and action in ways that inspire both children and adults. Through a combination of curricular activities, personal reflection, and spiritual exploration, pupils have engaged with key themes that shape our world and our well-being. With a strong focus on Creation Care, we explored how we can be responsible stewards of the Earth, caring for the environment and the creatures we share it with. Outdoor Learning brought our learning to life, offering hands-on experiences that deepen our connection to nature and faith.'

Contextualise: to explore some other artistic responses to the wonder of creation and the natural world.



I chose this image because I love all of the colours and I love that there is so much to look at. I think that this expresses awe and wonder really well because it has so much to look at and discover. When I saw this I was in total awe because I love a lot of colour and vibrancy and it just pops and stood out to me from the rest of the photos. In this picture, you can see signs of new life, like the bigger person holding the smaller person's hand and all of the vibrant plants and flowers. This picture represents awe and wonder really well to me.

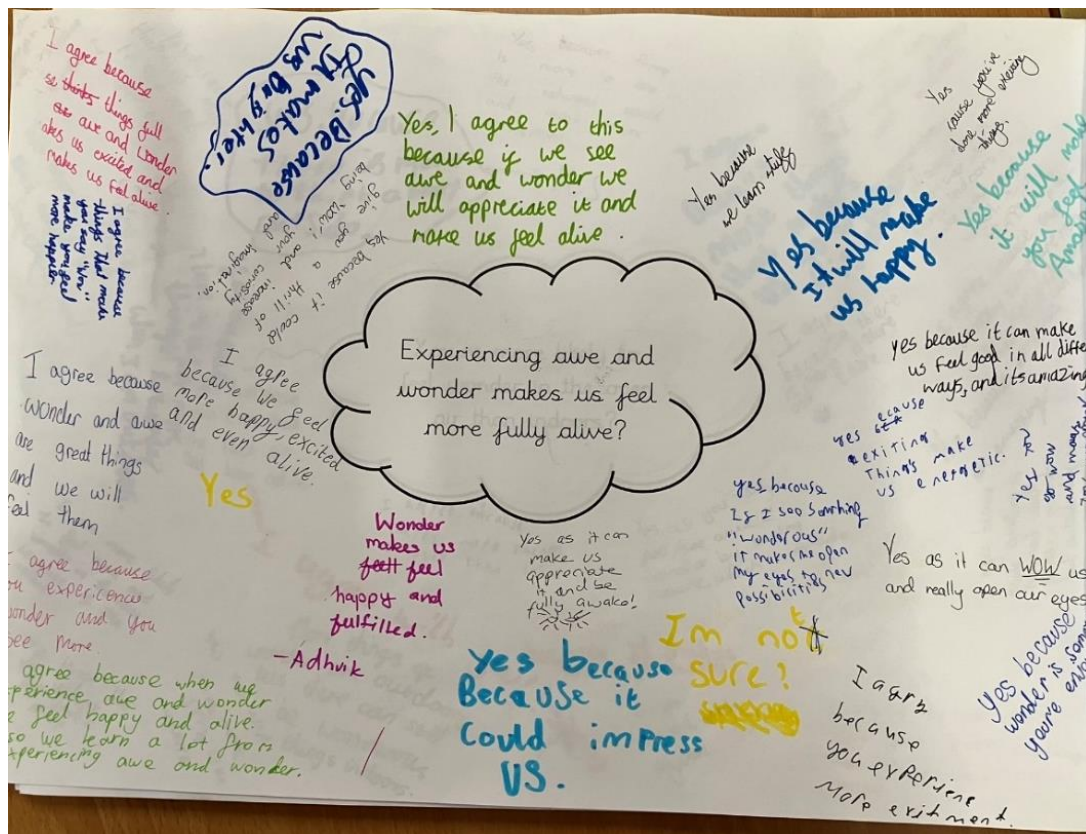
Contextualise: To explore some other artistic responses to the wonder of creation and the natural world.



I think the title of this creation art is Land and Sky because it is a beautiful picture filled with awe and wonder. A part of the creation story that inspired this is when God made the heavens. The idea of something beginning is shown by the galaxy as it looks like it's opening. I chose this image as it made me feel awe and wonder. This work helped me realise how wonderful the Earth is.



Diocese
of **Portsmouth**



TriWonder Hive Day at Brighstone

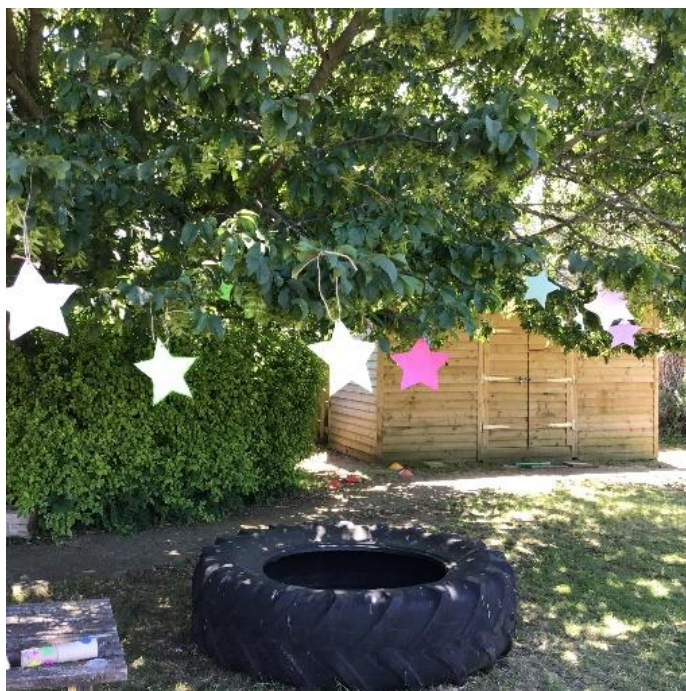
The whole school at Brighstone CofE Primary took part in a TriWonder Day in their hives, or houses. This was 'to celebrate, and to be awestruck by, and to wonder about, God's wonderful world.' Pupils took the time to gaze up at the perfectly blue sky, then hunted for green and brown natural objects to make their own collections of beautiful things, and reflected on the difference between 'beautiful' and 'awesome.'



Back inside, the children reminded themselves of the Creation Story and the Garden of Eden. They thought about all the perfect things God had put in there and wondered what perfect things they could put in their own ephemeral art displays.



After lunch, pupils looked beyond our planet to space and the galaxy around them; inspired by some night skies film footage, they chalked and pastelled their own night sky artistic creations. Then they thought about wishing on a star – they wrote their own wishes on a star and, although they couldn't get it into space, a beautiful alternative was to hang them from the trees and let them flutter and twinkle in the breeze.



Finally, they used the breeze to send their messages of thanks for our lovely world to God. Shouting these out as they created loads of bubbles, they flew off, carrying the children's words up into the sky and heaven.

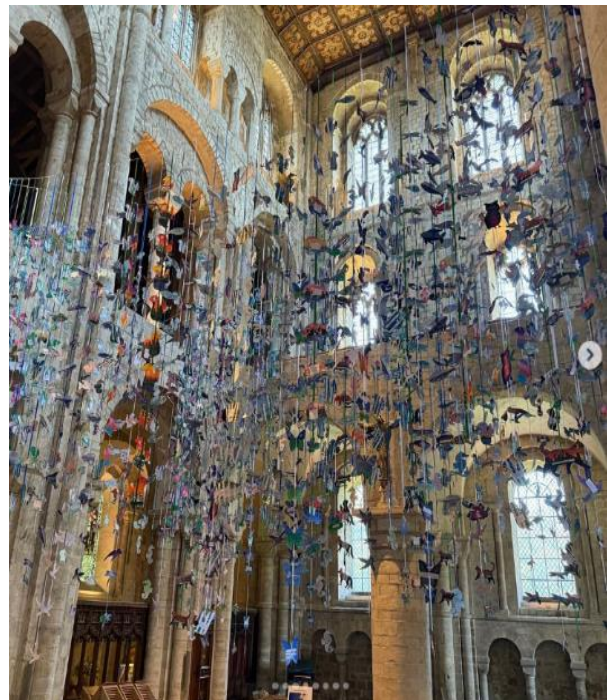


The children were awestruck by a kite gliding through the sky with its wings outstretched, they wondered how many blades of grass there are in the world, they were awed by the different sizes and shapes of leaves, and they wondered how the sea was made.

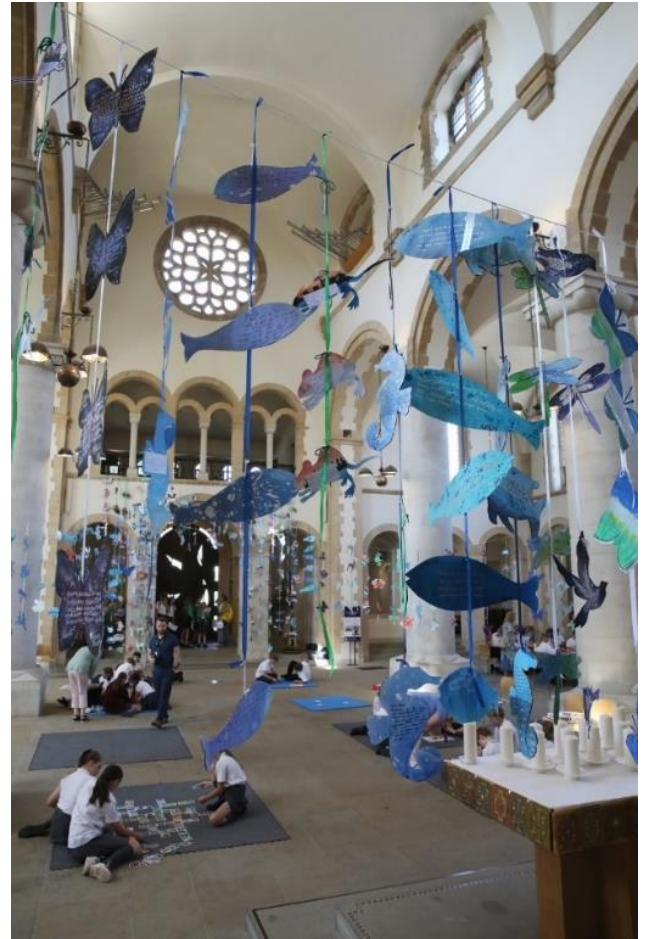
TriWonder Artwork

Each year, we ask schools to contribute to an art installation at the Year 6 leavers' services, linked to our annual project. In past years these have included decorated fibreglass sheep, 'Bee Inspired' canvasses, and clay figures inspired by Anthony Gormley's 'Field for the British Isles.' This year, children were asked to create animals from earth, sea and sky, which were suspended on ribbons to create an amazing display. Each pupils wrote a prayer on their creatures about the wonders of the natural world, and also their hopes and dreams for creation and their futures.

Pupils from John Keble CofE Primary School shared some photos of the painstaking work that went into creating their TriWonder art. They told us how excited they were to see their work on display in Winchester Cathedral and a good number have been back to show their families what they created. The Winchester installation contains more than 150 ribbons, with over 2,000 creatures. It took two days to hang the artwork, using a team of people and a cherry picker. Visitors from around the world have admired the children's creations and been moved by their prayers. The TriWonder installation will be on display in the North Transept of Winchester Cathedral until 8th September.



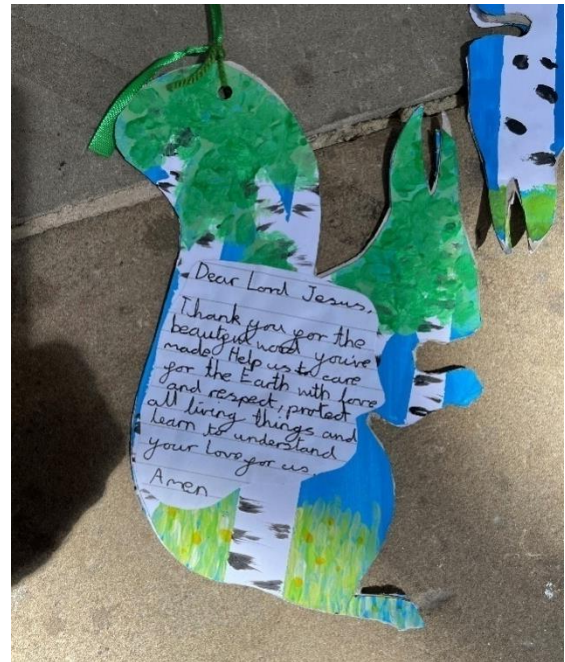
Year 6 pupils at Newtown CofE Primary School really enjoyed making these beautiful creatures to display at Portsmouth Cathedral and had fun trying to spot their own animals in the installation.



Ariana from St Columba CofE Academy told us that, "It makes me feel happy that people will see my bird in the cathedral. I've loved the experience of coming here to discover more about the building and seeing the decorations hanging here. I did have to search for a while to find mine."

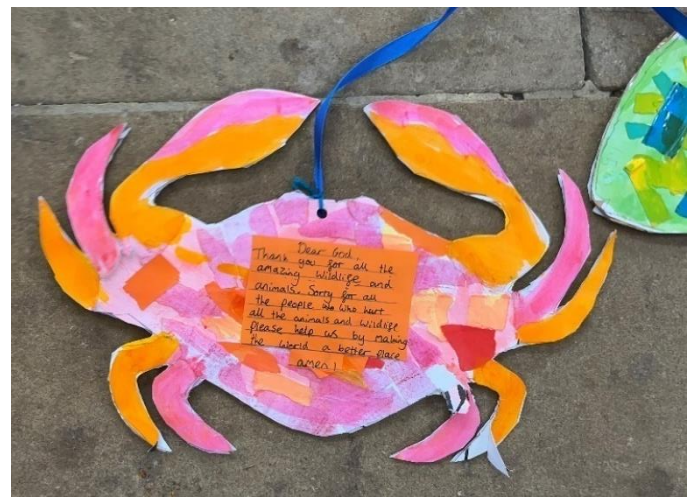
TriWonder Prayers

Each creature included a prayer, written by a Year 6 pupil, praising God for the wonders of creation, promising to take better care of the world, or expressing their hopes and fears for the future. Visitors to the cathedrals have read and been touched by the children's prayers, and some have been incorporated into worship in the cathedrals.



Poppy, from Andover CofE Primary School said, "God made the world, and he put a lot of effort in and sometimes people don't respect the world and treat it as they should. It felt good to see all our creatures and all our prayers hanging in the Cathedral."

Frank from Andover added, "We really did think about what to write on our prayers. I wrote about the creatures of the world and asked God to help us into and through Year 7."



Bishop Philip, Bishop Rhiannon, Bishop Geoff and Bishop Jonathan blessed the installations at each service, praying they will bring joy and inspiration to all who the visitors who see them.



For more photos and information about the art installations and the leavers' services, please see the Winchester Diocese website [here](#) or the Portsmouth Diocese website [here](#).

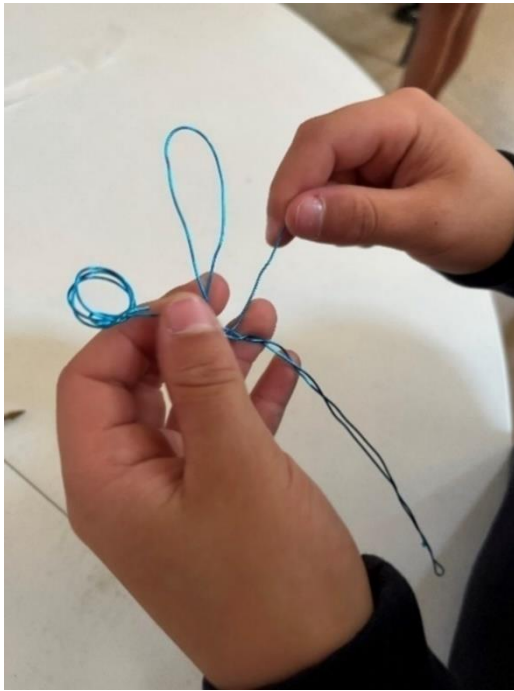
Oui-Si Games

One of the workshops at Winchester and Portsmouth Cathedrals involved pupils playing a variety of [Oui-Si](#) card games. They sorted cards into different categories, found links and connections between them and engaged with some stunning nature pictures to increase their sense of awe and wonder at God's creation.



Dragonfly sculptures

Pupils at the Portsmouth leavers' services enjoyed the challenge of making wire dragonfly sculptures. Dragonflies are an important part of our TriWonder project, with their beautiful, iridescent colours and their unique ability to hover and fly backwards, which has inspired modern drone technology. Their life cycle fits our 'tri' theme, as they metamorphose from eggs to water nymphs and are then transformed into dragonflies.



Bishops at the Services

Bishop Philip, Bishop Rhiannon, Bishop Geoff and Bishop Jonathan each engaged the children at the cathedrals with a different approach to talking about 'Triwonder'. +Philip accompanied with his guitar the singing of an action song, demonstrated by the Education Team. +Geoff encouraged responsive 'waws' from everyone.

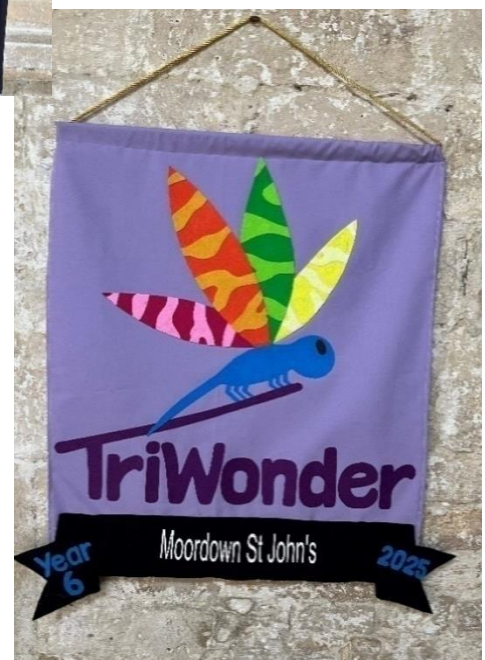
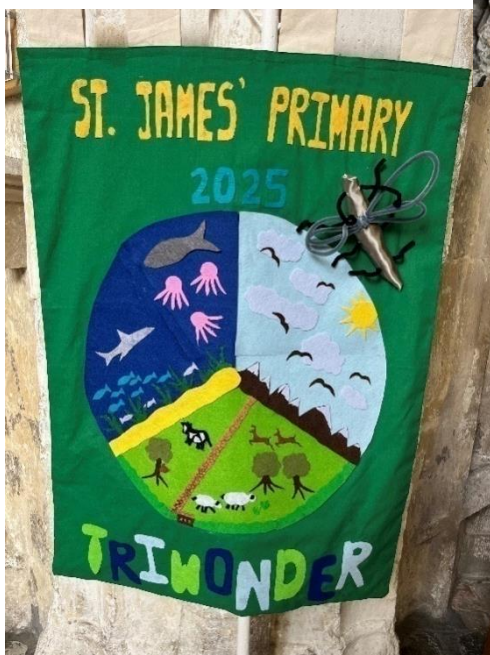
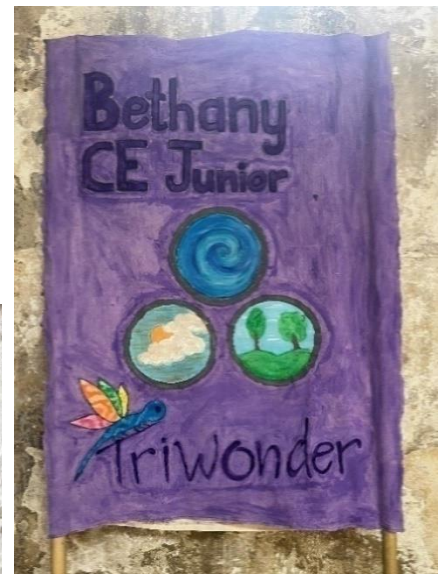
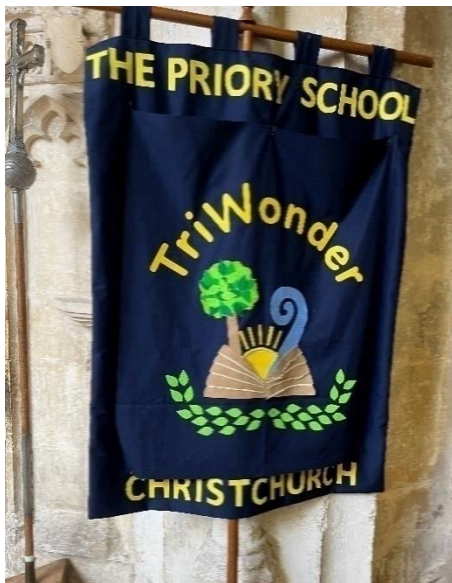
+Jonathan brought his dog, Bonnie, to the Portsmouth leavers' services to illustrate the importance of caring for all living things. Bonnie was a great hit with all the Year 6 pupils and received a round of applause for catching a dog treat!



+Rhiannon showed her cope which is full of items that represent the glory of God throughout the world. She said, "It's been so wonderful to have schools from all over the Winchester Diocese, all over Hampshire and East Dorset come to mark the end of their time in primary school, that transition which I think is really important for them. We have also celebrated God's creation. They've all made these amazing creatures and we had them hung up from the ceiling and it's wonderful just to see all of those and to celebrate and rejoice with them today."

Christchurch Leavers' Service

Schools from the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole area held their own leavers' service at Christchurch Priory and brought customised TriWonder banners for their procession.



Pupils continued to explore the TriWonder theme through a range of activities, including dance, drumming, weaving and art made from natural materials.



Romsey Abbey Leavers' Services

Year 2 pupils leaving CofE infant schools, who don't then progress to a church junior school, hold their own leavers' services at Romsey Abbey. The children enjoy an activity trail round the abbey in the morning, followed by a picnic lunch and an afternoon service celebrating their time at infant school and God's wonderful world.



This year, the children created their own, original TriWonder artwork. Year 2 at Bursledon CofE Infant School enjoyed creating their own Andy Goldsworthy art with natural materials...



... while others made butterflies and other creations, which were proudly displayed at the front of the abbey for everyone to admire.



You can read more about the TriWonder project - and other diocesan projects - on the Winchester Diocese website [here](#), or the Portsmouth Diocese website [here](#).



Canon Andrew Micklefield reading some of the 2 000 prayers in the TriWonder installation in Winchester Cathedral. This photo made it to the national news, being printed in the Daily Telegraph and The Times!

