

[View this email in your browser](#)



Welcome

Hello and welcome to December's edition of The Boardcast — a newsletter from The Endowed's Board of Governors. This circular is used to share our insights and observations with staff, parents, and carers throughout the academic year, keeping our school community informed and connected.

A Message From The Chair

As Christmas approaches, the Governing Board would like to take this opportunity to wish all our pupils, parents and carers a very happy and peaceful Christmas. We want to thank you for your continued support throughout the year. It has been a pleasure to see the enthusiasm, resilience and kindness shown by your children, and we are grateful to our dedicated staff for their hard work and commitment to providing the best possible education and care.

Christmas is a time for reflection, celebration and togetherness, and we hope the festive period brings you time to rest, enjoy special moments with family and friends, and look ahead to the New Year with optimism.

On behalf of the Governing Board, we wish you all a joyful Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year. We look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you in the year ahead.

Warmest wishes,
Angela Maxted

Could You Be Our Next Parent Governor?

We're seeking a new Parent Governor to join our school's governing body.

Parent Governors play a key role in shaping the future of our school. They help make important decisions, support and challenge school leadership, and represent the views of parents. You don't need any special qualifications — just enthusiasm, commitment, and a desire to make a difference for our children.

Being a Parent Governor is a great way to:

- Get involved in your child's education
- Learn new skills and gain valuable experience
- Work with staff and other governors to help our school continue to improve

Training and support are provided.

If you're interested or would like to find out more, please get in touch with Miss Taylor or Mrs Pearson (Clerk to Governors) at clerk@whitstable-endowed.kent.sch.uk.



[Find out more on the NGA website](#)

SIAMS Success

We're delighted to hear such a positive outcome of the recent Church School inspection, which praised the School for living out its Christian vision: *"Let your light shine"* (Matthew 5:14–16).

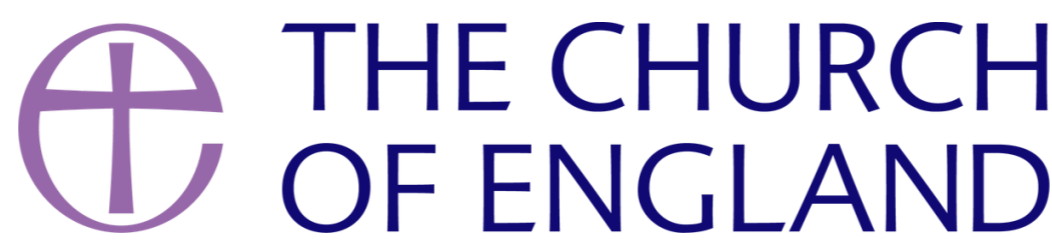
The report highlighted:

- Strong commitment from leaders and pupils to our vision and values — Love, Joy, Goodness, Resilience, and Trust.
- Inclusive, reflective collective worship and nurturing relationships across the school.
- Enriched learning through partnerships with our local church and community.

Next steps include deepening pupils' opportunities to explore spirituality and strengthening how governors evaluate the impact of the vision.

This recognition is a wonderful way to conclude the school's and the church's 180th anniversary celebrations.

Thank you to all those involved in this inspection.



Our Reflections

2025 marked the school's 180th anniversary, and the celebrations were particularly memorable. Highlights for us included:

- Art Exhibition – 'Shining Together: Celebrating 180 Years', showcasing artwork created during Art Week, reflecting our history, vision, values, and environment.
- A service of celebration and thanksgiving with Bishop Rose, bringing together our school, church, and community.
- Children celebrating in style with a joyful birthday party to mark this milestone year.

Governors were delighted to see the creativity and spirit of the school shine through these events. We also continue our regular work behind the scenes: full governing board meetings, committee sessions, and monitoring visits, all aimed at supporting the school's vision and success.

When you see us around the school, please say hello! We love visiting and connecting with staff and pupils.

Driving Sustainability Forward

In early October, Angela joined staff and Climate Action Advisors from Let's Go Zero for a sustainability review.

The Good News

- Big strides already made: energy-efficient upgrades, meat-free Mondays, active travel plans, Beach School, and rain gardens.
- A clear Climate Action Plan to tackle energy, waste, food, transport, and curriculum.

A Plan for Improvement

- Optimising the HVAC system and training staff.
- Embedding sustainability into teaching and student-led projects.
- Enhancing biodiversity and creating shaded spaces for increased resilience.

We're fully behind the school's commitment to going greener. We'll continue to monitor progress and support the school every step of the way. Next check-in: March 2026.



[Read more at Let's Go Zero](#)

A Message From Rev. Rachel Webbley

What does the 'Christ' bit in 'Christmas' mean? Christ-mas refers to the special 'mass' (communion service) to celebrate the birth of Jesus, known as 'the Christ' or 'anointed one'. In the Bible, kings, prophets and priests were all anointed with oil as a sign that they were called by God and set apart for a special role or task. By the time of Jesus's birth, the people of Israel were hoping that God would send someone special – a messiah, or 'Christ' – to set the people free from the Romans occupiers.

The radical message of the first disciples is that the messiah or 'Christ' came not as a warrior, but as the prince of peace, born as a tiny baby, not in a palace, having to escape to safety as a refugee, and as an adult bringing good news to the poor and oppressed.

The church has always kept Christ at the heart of Christmas, retelling the nativity story to all who want to hear it. The baby Jesus, the Christ child, is also known as the 'Light of the World', 'Emmanuel', which means 'God with us'. This message of God's loving presence with us, even when we're struggling or doubting, can really feel like light in the darkness, bringing comfort and peace.

As you enjoy the beautiful lights of this wintry time of year, may your spirits be lifted and hope strengthened by the birth of the Christ child — the story at the heart of Christmas.

[Find out more about services at St Alphege Church](#)

Who's Who



Angela Maxted	Rev Rachel Webbley	Ellen Taylor	John Legg
Chair and Foundation Governor	Vice-Chair and Principal Officiating Minister	Headteacher	Canterbury Diocesan Board of Education



Gabrielle Grant	Andrew Gore	Mary Soutar	Ed Baker
Parent Governor	Foundation Governor	Foundation Governor	Staff Governor



	Ryan Bennett	Vacancy	
	Foundation Governor	Parent Governor	

