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Welcome

Hello and welcome to April'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 we move towards the end of the Spring Term, I wanted to take a moment to provide you with an update on some key activities undertaken by Governors.

Members of the Governing Board have been involved in school life through visits to the school within the school day and by attending meetings after school. They have worked with the school leadership team at a strategic level at meetings about finance, safeguarding of children, SEND, areas of the taught curriculum, the progress groups of children are making in school, and the spiritual development of the school community.

As a Governing Board we are continually impressed by the dedication of the staff, the enthusiasm of the children and we are committed to ensuring that our school remains a nurturing and inspiring environment for them. We remain committed to ensuring that every child receives the highest quality education, grounded in our Christian values.

As always, your involvement and engagement as parents / carers are crucial to the success of our school community and the partnership between parents, teachers, and governors is key in helping us to create an environment where children thrive.

We encourage you to take part in school events, volunteer where possible, and continue to support your child's learning at home.

Thank you for your continued support.

Angela Maxted

Reading for World Book Day

On World Book Day we joined children across all year groups to share Roald Dahl's beloved classic *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Governors took turns both listening to children read and reading aloud to classes, creating a wonderful atmosphere of literary enjoyment throughout the school. Mrs. Bliston Jones expertly led the assembly and class activities, showing great effort and enthusiasm (you couldn't miss her and fellow year five teacher, Miss Franklin, dressed in giant Violet Beauregarde costumes).

The day was made even more magical by the incredible outfits worn by children and staff alike. Our Chair of Governors and made us laugh dressed as *Grandma Georgina* (as did Foundation Governor, Mary Soutar) , complete with a curly grey wig and nightgown!

The shared love of reading created a memorable day for our entire school community.



Retirement Celebration held for Diane

As we announced in our December newsletter, Diane Clements has stepped down as Chair of Governors after an extraordinary 34-years. We held a farewell party for her in February, and in her honour we unveiled a new award named the *Diane Clements Award for Resilience*, which will be presented to a child who exemplifies this at the end of each academic year.

Thanks again for Diane's service to the school community.



Our Reflections

ENDOWED 180

We are delighted to support the school marking its incredible milestone of 180 years.

Thanksgiving service

We encourage parents and the wider community to join the thanksgiving service, led

by Bishop Rose Hudson-Wilkin, at St Alphege Church on Thursday 3 April at 11am. This anniversary is not just a celebration of the school's history, but a testament to its ongoing commitment to nurturing and educating generations of local children. We look forward to seeing many familiar faces celebrating this special moment in the school's journey.

Sponsor a book

We're donating a selection of books, which will include book plate messages from us all, to help reach a target of 180 books for the school.

If you purchase a book from [Tales on Moon Lane](#) you will receive 10% discount when you mention Endowed 180.

Visit [180 of Years of Love, Learning & Laughter](#) to find out more.

GOVERNOR MONITORING VISITS

During our recent monitoring visit, we explored how The Endowed's Christian vision of 'Let Your Light Shine' comes to life throughout the school. Our observations showed a calm, purposeful environment where the school's values are visibly embedded. Highlights included meeting inspiring Worship Leaders who are writing prayers for the 180th celebrations, and witnessing how the school's vision is thoughtfully displayed across classrooms, corridors, and common areas.

We were particularly impressed by the children's engagement with the school's core values. The Worship Leaders demonstrated confidence in explaining what 'Let Your Light Shine' means to them, and showed creativity through their lantern decoration project. Conversations with staff highlighted a commitment to continuous learning and professional development, reflecting the school's nurturing ethos.

Our visit also confirmed the school's strong safeguarding practices, with staff showing sensitivity and care in managing children's welfare. The school continues to provide an environment where both pupils and adults can flourish.

We have also conducted visits this term centred around SEND, finance, admissions, christian distinctiveness and reading.

GOVERNING BOARD MEETINGS

Since December, we have had two Full Governing Board meetings, a Finance & Resources Committee, an Admissions Committee and a Self-Evaluation Meeting. Plus countless training courses.

A Message from Rev. Rachel Webbley

For the church, in this hemisphere, we are surrounded by new life as Winter gives way to Spring so the message of resurrection echoes through all of creation around

us.

The Easter story is pertinent, as the message of hope after despair can often be what we most need to hear, not least when the news doesn't seem to be getting any easier. Christians lean into the solemn stuff with a pretty rigorous six-week preparation for Easter, not least during Holy Week, where we stay connected to the uncomfortable narrative. Holy Saturday is when we wait, not rushing through straight away to the 'good news' of resurrection on Easter Morning. Despite the shock and despair of seeing Jesus crucified, his disciples managed – just – to stay connected. Mary returned to the tomb and was the first to witness the miracle of the Easter morning. The disciples were afraid, but stuck together, and all of them – even Thomas, eventually – met Jesus in a new and life-changing way.

This has made me consider again how important it is not to run away when we can see no way ahead, but to keep connected, and see what happens next. There are many problems in the world that may seem insoluble right now. But through faith and loving community who knows what paths to a better future may emerge?

Find out more about Holy Week and Easter 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 |



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|------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Isabelle Defaut-Juneja | Andrew Gore | Mary Soutar | Janine Hewitt |
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| Parent Governor | Foundation Governor | Foundation Governor | Staff Governor |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|



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| Gabrielle Grant | Vacancy | Jennifer Pate | Charlotte Pearson |
| Parent Governor | Canterbury Diocesan Board of Education | Foundation Governor | Clerk to the Governors |



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| Vacancy |
| Local Authority |



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