

# COGNITA

## An inspiring world of education



### Primary library accolade for ISHCMC

The primary library at International School Ho Chi Minh City has received the 2018 Best Public Service Interior Award by the International Property Awards. The award is based on design, quality, service, innovation, originality and commitment to sustainability. ***Congratulations!***

Dear Team – With most of our schools having a spring break for Easter earlier in the month, there's a definite sense of fresh starts and new beginnings in the air around our global family. This was certainly the case earlier this week at North Bridge House School in London, where colleagues kicked off their new term with a very special



staff development day. 'Special' because this annual event brought together staff not just from all 5 NBH campuses ~ this year the School's leadership team enlisted colleagues from several other Cognita schools to also take part as speakers and presenters, alongside external experts.

It was a great touch to have Cognita colleagues sharing their practice in this way. I was honoured to attend part of the NBH day to share in a discussion on leadership. Thank you to all involved in the day ~ and others like it that take place across our global family. Work like this offers a foundation we can really build on. I would love to know what you think, so please email me any time with your ideas at [chrisj@cognita.com](mailto:chrisj@cognita.com).

All the best,

Chris

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## Countdown to global debates 19-20 April

Educators in all parts of the world can take part in our multi-format debates with Tes 19-20 April. The debates focus on teacher retention - a key issue for the sector globally. First up is our live debate on **19 April, 7-8pm**, at North Bridge House Canonbury. It will also be live-streamed on Facebook and the stellar panel includes three celebrated teachers based in three different countries, including Cognita teacher blogger [Craig Kemp](#) from Stamford American International School Singapore - and leading mental health expert Natasha Devon. Tes Deputy Editor Ed Dorrell will be in the chair.

Then on **20 April 8-9am GMT**, the panellists will join Cognita Director of Education Simon Camby at the Tes offices for a live [#keepteachers](#) Twitter debate.

*View the full line-up [here](#) and to view via live stream visit the [Tes Facebook page](#) on the night.*

*To take part in the Twitter chat the next day, follow [#keepteachers](#) from 8-9am on 20 April to view and post your comments.*

If you have any questions about taking part, don't hesitate to contact Cognita Communications ([rebecca.hills@cognita.com](mailto:rebecca.hills@cognita.com) or [margaret.kubicek@cognita.com](mailto:margaret.kubicek@cognita.com))

# Cognita Collaboration



## Asia leadership conference highlights

This video shares highlights from last month's Asia leadership conference in Singapore. The Cognita 'O' for our inspiring world of education took centre stage on the final night in a special 'O-wards' ceremony celebrating inspiration in the region. Congratulations to all Asia colleagues recognised for their dedication and achievement in the 2018 Asia O-wards. You can view the full list of winners [here](#).



## Education focus with Chilean government

Sir Kevan Collins, Chair of Cognita's Education Advisory Board, and our Group Director of Education Simon Camby were in Chile last month. They worked with our Chile General Manager Victor Barahona Kunstmann and Educational Director Marcos Barros Vallejos as well as the wider teams in schools. While in Chile, the group met with the newly appointed Chilean Minister of Education, Gerardo Varela Alfonso, pictured above.

The purpose of the meeting was to share Cognita's educational strategies and pedagogy that our team has implemented in our Pumahue and Manquecura schools in Chile. The meeting was an opportunity for Cognita to share perspectives and views regarding educational projects and programmes around the world.

Sir Kevin serves as Chair of our Education Advisory Board alongside his day-to-day role as Chief Executive of the Education Endowment Foundation, an independent charity that works to share evidence of research and interventions that can best improve outcomes for students of all backgrounds.



## Cognita Calling: our global Skype day

Thanks to Tim Evans, Educational Technology Integrationist at Stamford American - Hong Kong, for organising a great multi-school Skype day on 21st March. 58 classrooms took part and connected with some 20 Cognita schools across the globe, sharing their pictures using the hashtag #CognitaCalling.

*To find out more about online events like this one, don't forget to follow [@CognitaSchools](#) and the [#CognitaWay](#) hashtag on Twitter.*

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## School Spotlight



## International art award for Milbourne Lodge

Milbourne Lodge School in the UK triumphed amid some 4,000 entries to win the Michael O'Mara Books Personal Choice Award at the recent Global Canvas Schools Art Competition Finals 2018. Held at the Natural History Museum in London, the global exhibition featured 15 shortlisted schools.

A group of 10 pupils helped build the exhibition at the museum and they accepted the trophy on behalf of the whole school. Milbourne's submission combines the pupils' creativity in Art and IT to illustrate the importance of protecting individual natural habitats for all endangered species. No animal is depicted without illustrating their own natural environment.

In IT, the pupils 3D-scanned the sculptures they had created in Art and these models were used as part of an AR (Augmented Reality) project which pupils designed and built.

[Read the full story here](#) and view the students' outstanding work in the video above.

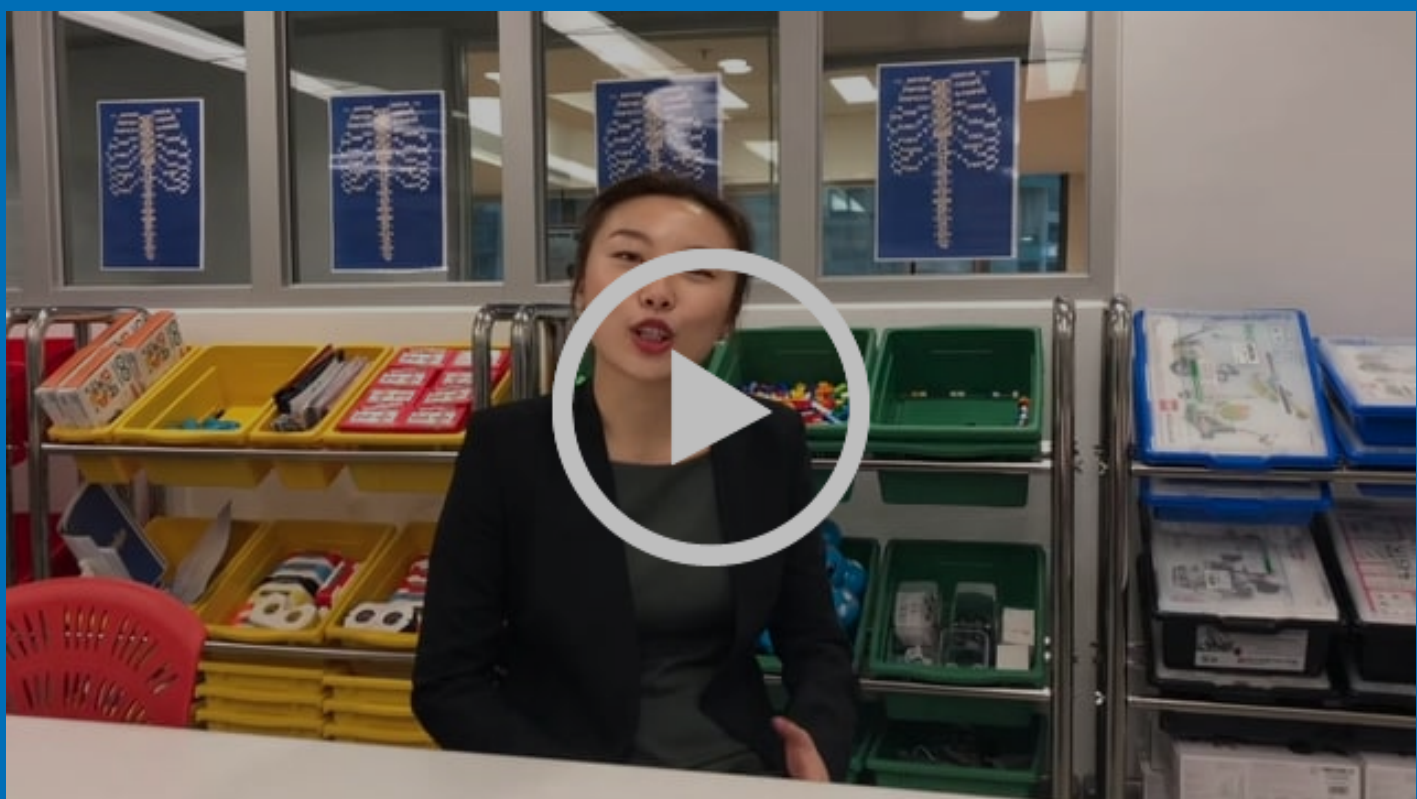
Congrats to all in the Milbourne Lodge community for working together with such success!

# Cognita Faces

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James Petrie is Interim Head of Secondary at the British School of Barcelona, Castelldefels, Spain. In this video, James tells us why he enjoys working in Barcelona and what inspires him on a day-to-day basis.



## Why I tweet

Ivy Li, Mandarin Teacher at Stamford American - Hong Kong, explains how she got started on Twitter and why it's her first choice for staying connected with what her colleagues, both in Hong Kong and further afield, are doing in their classrooms.

***Are you following Cognita on social media? Have you connected with the 160+ Cognita educators on [our list](#) of Cognita teachers on Twitter? Just click on the links below and join the conversation.***



Facebook



Twitter



LinkedIn

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# Thought Leadership

## [How can you access the great outdoors when your school is in an urban area?](#)

Outdoor learning can be a challenge for schools in urban areas. Robin Davies, Assistant Director of Education, Europe, explores how students in inner cities can benefit too.

[robin.davies@cognita.com](mailto:robin.davies@cognita.com)



## [Could technology solve the 'reading for pleasure' crisis?](#)

There is an underlying concern a lot of teachers face: that children simply do not want to read, says Letitia Powell, Deputy Head of Junior School at Long Close School in the UK. Could combining literature and technology be the answer?

[letitia.powell@cognita.com](mailto:letitia.powell@cognita.com)





# MEASURING THE IMPACT OF YOUR CPD PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 22ND MARCH 2018



DAME ALISON PEACOCK  
VIVIENNE PORRITT



PHILIPPA CORDINGLEY  
PHIL STOCK



DAVID WESTON



## North Bridge House hosts Teacher Development Trust event

On 22nd March, North Bridge House Senior School Hampstead in the UK, hosted an event for the Teacher Development Trust entitled *Measuring the impact of your CPD*.

The day included a range of practical sessions covering tools and ideas for measuring impact; moving beyond graded lesson observations; linking impact to performance management; and what the most successful schools are doing.

The event involved a number of high profile speakers, including Dame Alison Peacock, Chief Executive of the Chartered College of Teaching, and David Weston, founder and Chief Executive of the Teacher Development Trust.

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## News In Brief



## North Bridge House Senior launches 'Pride and Diversity Council'

North Bridge House Senior School, Hampstead in the UK is promoting openness, diversity and inclusiveness through its new 'Pride and Diversity Council'. Its first meeting was held on 1st February – aptly timed to coincide with the start of LGBT history month – and the Council's founding teachers, Katharine Harney and Ellis Bolle, were overwhelmed with the forty-strong attendance.

Inspired by Cognita's [Stonewall](#) training last November, Katherine and Ellis were inspired to take some of these ideas back to school. The duo bravely attended all year group assemblies and pitched the idea of the council to NBH Senior students, emphasising that the council is open to all students, however they identify.

The new council has already made a big impact at the school and have held sessions and workshops on issues that affect LGBTQ students. They have also committed to celebrate LGBTQ culture and history throughout the year, taking part in both the LGBTQ History Month and Pride during the Summer Term.

*Katherine Harney, one of the Council's founding teachers, says: "The strongest support, I think, has come from students who identify as 'allies'. Encouraging all students, especially those who do not identify as LGBTQ, to think, listen, care and become allies is work that all schools – Cognita or otherwise – can do."*



### **BSB hosts Children's Lit Quiz for Barcelona**

The British School of Barcelona Castelldefels hosted the city's international schools for a Children's Literature Quiz last month. 52 eager literary buffs across Key Stage 3 shared and celebrated their love of reading and literature.

The Lit Quiz was led by Director of Learning English and Languages, Ms Kelly and Mr Mistry, with a team of BSB English teachers as judges: Ms Ewbank, Ms Rai, Mrs Petrie and Ms Duarte. They were supported by a team of enthusiastic Year 10 organizers and tour guides - as well as a Year 11 quiz master!

This yearly event encourages students to read widely and share their recommendations. Originally run as a lunchtime club, this year Lit Quiz developed into a society on Wednesday afternoon.

***Year 11 student Alex summed up the growth of the Lit Quiz: "In my first year, my team did not place, the next year we came third and last year I captained the winning team. One year later and I'm hosting the whole quiz! You just have to bounce back and keep competing."***

***The students (pictured) featured on Ràdio Castelldefels in this [radio interview](#) about the quiz and their love of reading. Inspiring stuff!***



### **Long Close School takes up the 'Shadow a Student Challenge'**

Colleagues at Long Close School in the UK participated in the 'Shadow a Student Challenge' which is driven by the School Retool initiative from Stanford University. The aim was to experience the journey students take during the course of a school day - through their eyes. Six members of staff, were involved. The main aims were to "Prep, Shadow, Reflect and Act", which has allowed the team to feed back to wider staff and inform the ongoing School Improvement Plan.

*Melissa McBride, Head of Long Close School, spent the day in Nursery shadowing a 3-year-old. She said: "What a fab day we enjoyed. Such a valuable experience. I highly recommend wider Cognita Schools take part in this journey."*

***Have you done something similar in your school? If so, please get in touch via [rebecca.hills@cognita.com](mailto:rebecca.hills@cognita.com). You can find out more about Stanford's Shadow a Student Challenge, here: <http://shadowastudent.org>***



### King's School introduces a playground "Eco-Pod"

King's School in the UK has introduced The Eco-Pod to transform play at lunchtimes.

These new play spaces introduce students to a wide range of recyclable materials but is much more than a structure. It is means of facilitating free play which involves high degrees of choice and control by children.

Not only does the Eco-Pod concept encompass the 'Every Child Matters' outcomes, it also meets the King's School Early Years Foundation Stage Values. An Eco-Pod contract was made between the Eco-Pod Leaders and the Key Stage 2 children. This led to a high level of ownership by the children as well as the staff.

## Stamford 美國國際學校 STEMinn 訓練創新思維

高中、初中一至十二年級學生可選修。課程由美國波士頓大學國際課程 (IB) 研成一般美國高中文憑程度課程。此外，該校還提供 STEMin 課程。讓學生在課餘時間自願參與各式各樣的 STEM 工具。

自願參與課程的參與者，每週有五個 STEM 課。校內亦設有實驗室，有多名機械師和工具師的學生學習。例如小學程度學生可用 3D 打印機製作零件和模型。而高年級的學生可協助小學程度學生製作。英文進修、上學期數學研究會和航海海洋可持續發展的大題目。學生亦可以這些專題學習成果，其中三年級學生和 11 班設計新小艇船殼型。六、七年級學生在專家指導下，參與建造可載人的木船。

**校內舉辦進修計劃**  
定期舉行，每週一次，由學生自主學習。每學期至少舉辦一次，目的是令不同年級的學生均可參與。其中課程由他們於此年級所學能力。STEMinn 課程是「STEM」或「STEAM」教育。讓我們可以看見計劃。包括為航海專題研究。讓你們可以解決問題的方法不止一個。



Stamford 校長 Kevin Dettl (中)，課程總監陳麗儀 (左) 和董事 Cesar Jump-Harada 與學生參與進修計劃活動。

學生進修計劃的負責人 Steve 和 Cesar Jump-Harada 表示，學生在STEMinn 課程中學習如何設計和建造木船。這項活動不僅能培養學生的動手能力，還能讓他們了解海洋保護的重要性。此外，該校還提供 STEMin 課程。讓學生在課餘時間自願參與各式各樣的 STEM 工具。

### Stamford American - Hong Kong's STEMinn curriculum

Last semester, Grade 6 and 7 students built life-sized boats under the guidance of Cesar, CEO of Maker Bay. The Students went to the Volvo Ocean Race Hong Kong and studied how to design and build a boat, as well as learning about the importance of marine conservation.

In the article pictured above, Linda Cheung, STEMinn coordinator, introduces the characteristics of STEMinn and explains how the school conducts a large-scale learning project every semester with students in different grades all participating to acquire critical thinking and problem-solving skills.



### **Cognita schools in the UK receive Millie's Mark accreditation**

Congratulations to our British schools who have been awarded Millie's Mark. This is England's "gold standard" in paediatric first aid. Achieving Millie's Mark ensures that all staff are confident and ready to act, and demonstrates that an Early Years environment is going above and beyond in keeping children safe.

Well done to everyone involved at Breaside Preparatory School, Duncombe School, St Mary's School and Downsends School, Ashted.

*The Cog* is edited by Rebecca Hills, Communications Manager. Please contact [rebecca.hills@cognita.com](mailto:rebecca.hills@cognita.com) with any feedback and ideas.

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