

COGNITA

An inspiring world of education



Connecting classrooms on Cognita's global Skype day

Our second global Skype day, “Cognita Calling”, will take place next Wednesday, 21st November. We’re aiming to connect more Cognita classrooms than ever before, so our students can learn about different cultures, other languages and see inside a school somewhere else in the world.

There’s still time to get involved! You can join the ‘Cognita Calling community’ on MyCognita to register your interest and meet other educators who will be taking part. Or, if you're not yet on MyCognita, [email Tim Evans](#) at Stamford American – Hong Kong.

Thanks to Tim for organising this exciting opportunity for our students and staff to make new connections within our global family.

Dear Team –



I talk a lot about the power of collaboration. It's important for any organisation, but for a global group like Cognita, it will make or break our success. That's because each one of our schools – like each community and family we serve – is totally unique. Yet there are similar themes and issues that are common to us all. This principle is the very basis of our 'inspiring world of education' framework made up of the Cognita Education and Cognita Way. Our Director of Education Simon Camby and I recently contributed to a video explaining this framework and I'd like to share it with you below. The video is one of a range of materials now in development to show what we're all about as a global family. We'll start to cascade these via our school and regional leaders in the coming weeks.

Collaboration takes many forms and I'm genuinely excited by the way our educators are building more and more links globally. Cognita Calling and Christmas Around the World are two current examples and I know there are others in development – both these initiatives are covered in *The Cog* and are also alive and well on our new MyCognita platform. If you're not yet involved, contact Tim Evans and Katie Miller-Chalk, the teachers leading them. They are doing an amazing job, which is the result of one thing: passion for learning – both in terms of the educational experience we provide our students and career development that comes from expanding our own professional perspectives.

I love to hear from colleagues so, as ever, please let me know your thoughts and ideas at any stage via chrisj@cognita.com.

All the best, Chris





A Cognita Education





Christmas is coming!

Help your students share festive traditions with their Cognita peers worldwide.

Find out more on our *Christmas Around the World* community on my.cognita.com.

Join our 'Christmas Around the World'

With the festive season approaching, Katie Miller-Chalk, Key Stage 2 Coordinator at Quinton House School in the UK, has organised a series of “Christmas Around the World” activities for Cognita students.

There's still time to get involved. You can join the ‘Christmas Around the World community’ via MyCognita. If you're not yet on MyCognita, [email Katie](mailto:katie@my.cognita.com) as soon as possible!



Simon Camby: What's your playlist?

Simon Camby, Group Director of Education, launches the new *What's your playlist?* campaign on MyCognita by sharing two of his own learning playlists and encouraging colleagues to do the same.

Find out more in this video from Simon.

Cognita Collaboration





Learning, growing and celebrating together in Latin America

"Thinking & Education: best practices in the classroom" was the focus of the Cognita LatAm Conference 2018 in Chile this week.

The Conference included visits to Colegio Pumahue Peñalolén and American British School, where students played and danced typical music from different LatAm countries. There were also Cognita Awards for Excellence.

You can find out more and see some wonderful photos from the week by searching for [#CognitaLatamConference2018](https://twitter.com/CognitaLatamConference2018) on Twitter. We hope you enjoy some of the highlights from the Conference in this video.



COGNITA



Day 1

Create your own Twitter account and upload a profile picture.

#CognitaWay

12 Days of Twitter Challenge

Have you considered joining Twitter but aren't sure where to start?

Teachers at Stamford American - Hong Kong ran a "12 Days of Twitter Challenge" last December to help the team start using the platform for networking and professional development.

This year, they would love for their Cognita colleagues to take on the challenge, too.

There will be a different task to complete each day between 1st and 12th December, from simply creating a Twitter account to tweeting about your favourite educational book or blog.

To find out more, visit [Twitter.com/CognitaSchools](https://twitter.com/CognitaSchools) where we'll be posting the daily challenges from 1st December.



Connecting students the Cognita way

40 students and four accompanying teachers from Cognita schools in Chile are currently visiting the UK on a five-week exchange programme.

The students have been enjoying a cultural week visiting important sites such as Buckingham Palace, The Tower of London, London Zoo and Leicester Square. From Monday, they will attend classes at North Bridge House Canonbury, North Bridge House Hampstead, Akeley Wood School and Quinton House School to learn alongside their peers, develop their English language skills and form new friendships.

Carolina Bergamasco, Primary Education Bilingual Director for Cognita Chile, said: *"What an amazing learning experience for each one of them. They are truly global citizens of the 21st Century."*

In January 2019, students from Instituto GayLussac and PlayPen Bilingual Education in Brazil will travel to Singapore for 16 days. The students will attend classes at Stamford American International School, with excursions at the weekends.



Sharing inspiration across the globe

The team at Akeley Wood Junior School in the UK were delighted to welcome Neil Smith, Head of Elementary at the Australian International School, Singapore this week while he was visiting the UK. Together with Headteacher Clare Page and Deputy Headteacher Kara Dowson (pictured), Neil discussed school priorities and toured the site to see learning in action.

There was much focus on Akeley Wood's inclusive setting and focus on mixed ability teaching to ensure all children are appropriately challenged and supported.

Kara Dowson, Deputy Headteacher, said: *"Neil provided valuable advice to us on our ongoing curriculum review as we are looking to incorporate elements of the enquiry-based PYP approach. We are looking forward to collaborating in the future via MyCognita and are also keen to explore global learning opportunities for the children in our schools."*

Smart Working

Help yourself grow on MyCognita

MyCognita and CognitaPeople are our new, interlinked global platforms for sharing news, ideas and learning. As they continue to roll out across the group we have some exciting initiatives taking place there this month.

Be sure to check out *Cognita Calling* and *Christmas Around the World* in **My Communities** to find out how classes and students will be able to connect with each other over the next three weeks.

In 'Cognita Faces' on *The Cog*, Group Director of Education Simon Camby shares two learning playlists he's created on **My Learning** – and encourages the rest of us to create and share our own via a new *What's your playlist?* community. Instructions on how to do this can be found in the community itself – open to all so just click join to get started.

We're looking forward to welcoming SAIS Singapore to the new platform later this month and Thailand and Vietnam in January. Not long to go now!



New home for *The Cog* – MyCognita!

As MyCognita goes live to more and more of our colleagues around the world, we will be phasing out *The Cog* in its e-newsletter format. Instead, we'll post the articles on MyCognita on an ongoing basis, so now you won't have to wait a whole month to read them!

We'll be adding new Cognita Faces videos, news stories and Cognita Collaboration opportunities to **The Cog on MyCognita** as and when they are ready – in English, Portuguese and Spanish – so you'll be more up to date with what's going on around the group than ever before.

If MyCognita hasn't yet launched in your school, you will still receive The Cog e-newsletter for the time being. If you have any questions, email media@cognita.com and please keep sending your stories for us to share!

The Cog

Discover news and features from our Cognita world



Remembrance at Milbourne Lodge

Form 2 students from Milbourne Lodge School in the UK helped BBC Surrey commemorate the Armistice Centenary by starring alongside...

23 hours ago Europe [Read more >](#)



Finding fun in diversity

On 26th October, the Infants at The English Montessori School (TEMS) in Spain celebrated Diversity Day by wearing odd socks in...

23 hours ago Europe [Read more >](#)



What do schools really mean by 'mixed ability'?

The world of education is rife with its own language. Brendan Pavey, Head Teacher at North Bridge House Senior Hampstead in...

1 week ago Europe [Read more >](#)

[Go to The Cog](#)

School Spotlight



Southbank in Hampstead becomes an Apple Distinguished School

Congratulations to Southbank International in the UK whose Hampstead campus has been recognised as an Apple Distinguished School for 2018–2021 in recognition of the school's continuous innovation in learning, teaching and its environment.

Apple Distinguished Schools are centres of innovation, leadership and educational excellence that use Apple products to inspire creativity, collaboration and critical

thinking. Shirley Harwood, Principal of Southbank International, Hampstead, said: *“This recognition is only the beginning and we are excited to explore what lies ahead.”*

Visit [Southbank's website](#) to learn more.



BSB students take centre stage at our Global Education Leadership Conference

Students from The British School of Barcelona in Spain experienced a school day with a difference last month when they were invited to take part in our Global Education Leadership Conference.

The students confidently led discussions about future skills and technology in education, before experiencing the latest production technology when they went behind the scenes with the conference film crew.

We hope you enjoy these video highlights from the day.



New Character Development Programme launched at Colchester High

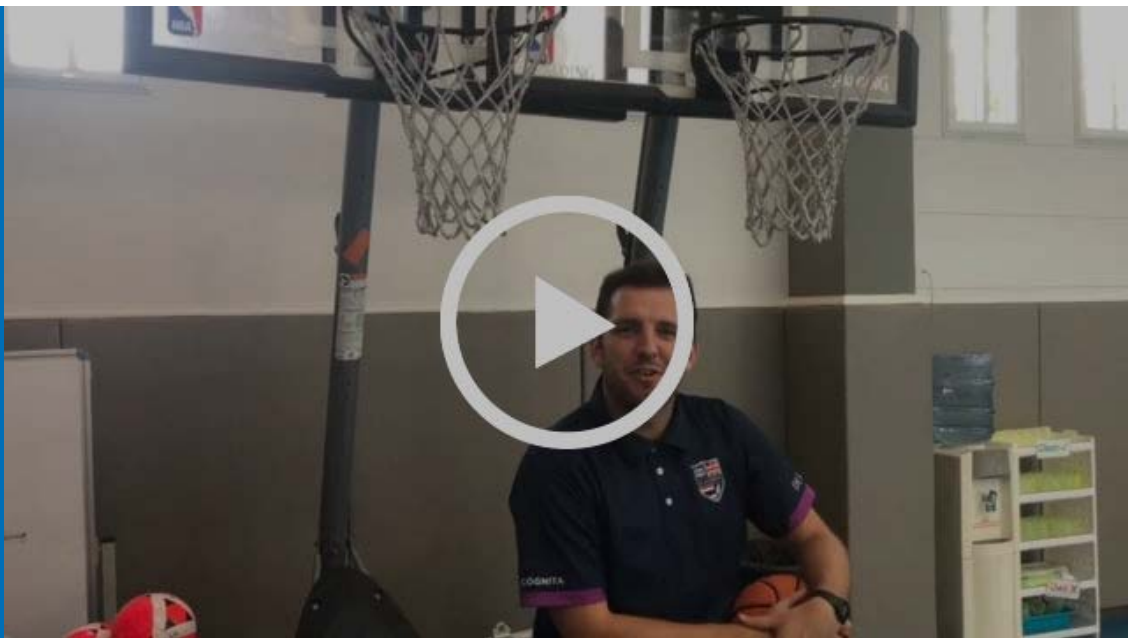
Last month, Colchester High School in the UK proudly launched its enhanced Character Development Programme, having worked in conjunction with students and parents to create it.

By encouraging participation in a range of activities, the programme aims to boost students' creative expression, promote positive wellbeing, cultivate their sense of citizenship and build character. Through their commitment to the initiative, students can earn awards at the end of each academic year and ultimately become resilient, motivated and thoughtful young people.

If you would like to learn more about the programme and how it was created, email [Nick Mussett](mailto:Nick.Mussett@colchesterhighschool.co.uk), Assistant Head at Colchester High School.

Cognita Faces





Dane Crush, St. Andrews International School, Dusit

The Cog recently caught up with Primary PE Teacher Dane Crush at St. Andrews International School, Dusit in Thailand.

In this video, he shared what inspires him about his school and leadership of Head Caroline Ratcliffe – and the crucial match his Year 5/6 Boys' Basketball team was preparing for.

We're pleased to report the boys were victorious last week – CONGRATULATIONS!



Why I Tweet - Michael Drake

Michael Drake (@MickyDrake), CEO for Cognita Asia, tells us how he uses Twitter to find up-to-the-minute information and opinions on various topics, and why he loves #CognitaWay: <https://vimeo.com/300725958>

You can find our list of over 330 Cognita colleagues on Twitter, and connect with us on our other social platforms, using the buttons below.



Facebook



Twitter



LinkedIn



Latest from #CognitaInsider

Thank you to the team at International School Ho Chi Minh City (ISHCMC) in Vietnam for delivering an engaging 'Twitter Takeover' last month. Posting over 300 tweets across the week as our 'Cognita Insider', the team offered a fascinating insight into what it is really like to teach and learn at ISHCMC.

All posts were tagged with #CognitaInsider so you can catch up on the takeover activity by searching for the hashtag on Twitter.

If you'd like to be a future 'Cognita Insider', please



Helen's CPD Story

Helen Maltby, Head of Religious Studies at Akeley Wood School in the UK, recently returned from a “life-changing” professional development trip.

With her overarching goal to “do justice” to the topic of the Holocaust for her students, Helen has been involved with the Holocaust Educational Trust since October 2016.

An international residential course with the International School of Holocaust Studies in Israel this summer has transformed Helen’s approach to this topic and she is keen to share her experience with others to help develop and support their teaching.

You can find out more and hear Helen’s story in this video.

Thought Leadership

[What do schools really mean by 'mixed ability'?](#)

The world of education is rife with its own language. Brendan Pavey, Head

Teacher at North Bridge House Senior Hampstead in the UK, explains what schools really mean by 'mixed ability'.

Brendan.Pavey@northbridgehouse.com



News In Brief



Growth Mindset Day at Hastings

On 17th October, regular lessons were suspended across the five campuses of Hastings School in Spain for a Growth Mindset Day.

Teachers planned activities and experiences for students which required a different way of thinking; challenged their perception; required team work and did not necessarily have clearly defined pathways. The end of the day was a time for

reflection, to allow the children to make important links.

The day was an enormous success and raised awareness of the importance of being life-long learners.



Figure skating success for Santo Tomás

Congratulations to the figure skating team at Colegio Santo Tomás Ñuñoa in Chile who placed sixth out of 19 teams in the Ekekeria League figure skating championship last month.

More than 330 skaters competed at event, with the Santo Tomás team achieving an impressive 23 top 10 rankings.



Meoncross students deliver 'message of hope' for girls denied an education

Having been inspired to connect with Tracy Edwards MBE following her keynote speech at Cognita's Global Education Leadership Conference 2017, students from Meoncross School in the UK are taking part in [The Maiden Factor World Tour](#) to help spread the message that every girl has a right to an education.

Yachtswoman Tracy Edwards MBE said: *"Sailing on Maiden with a team of women proved to me that anything was possible and through hard work and following my dreams I could reach my full potential. Education can give girls that possibility to increase their life opportunities as Maiden did for me."*





Remembrance at Milbourne Lodge

Form 2 students from Milbourne Lodge School in the UK helped BBC Surrey commemorate the Armistice Centenary by starring alongside choirs from around the country in a musical World War 1 tribute.

You can listen to the recording and watch an accompanying video, [here](#). Thank you to our many schools who commemorated the Armistice Centenary.



Finding fun in diversity

Over the past few weeks, schools across our family celebrated diversity by wearing odd socks in school to highlight the fact that we are all special and unique.

On 'Diversity Day' at The English Montessori School in Spain, classes were mixed together so children of all ages got to meet and collaborate with one another. Students also got to learn from different teachers as they moved from workshop to workshop.

Students and staff in other Cognita schools also wore odd socks to school as part of Anti-Bullying Week. #CognitaWay on Twitter was abuzz with 'Odd Socks' sharing between our schools...so much so that a parent at St. Andrews, Dusit in Thailand saw the posts, got inspired and worked with staff to organise their own 'Odd Socks' day in Bangkok! Cognita community and collaboration in action!

As a result of these activities, our students furthered their understanding that diversity is good, that we are all the same and yet we are all different, and together we can do great things.



10-year-old Hydesville Tower student joins Mensa

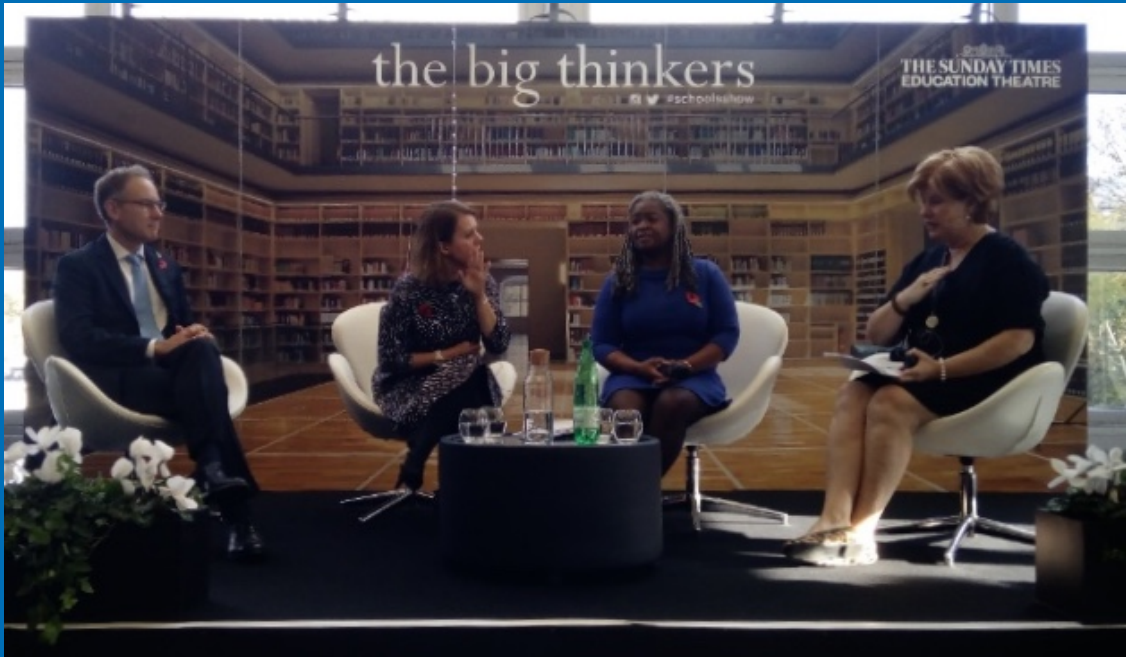
Nitin Puligari, a Year 6 student from Hydesville Tower School in the UK, recently passed the test for Mensa (The High IQ Society) and was invited to ITV Central's TV studio for an interview which was broadcast on the evening news this week.

Whilst at the studio, Nitin was asked if he would like to have a go at being a TV presenter. He was absolutely brilliant. He read from the autocue and delivered the

link with confidence and flair!

You can watch Nitin's presenting debut on Twitter, here:

<https://twitter.com/hydesvilletower/status/1062452664741584897?s=11>



"The Big Thinkers" at London's Independent Schools Show

At the Independent Schools Show in London last weekend, Anne-Marie Giffits-Walker, Head of Early Years at Hendon Preparatory School in the UK, joined a panel in the Sunday Times Education Theatre.

They discussed the topic "Starting out: nursery, pre-prep and prep explained" in front of a large audience of parents from across the UK.



Sharing best practice in Marketing & Admissions, Asia

The second annual Marketing & Admissions Summit for our Cognita Asia schools was held at St. Andrews International School, Green Valley, Thailand from 29th October to 2nd November.

The Summit was attended by 40 colleagues from the Marketing & Admissions teams across the 11 schools in Asia to reconnect, to share and to learn. Key topics discussed were Marketing & Admissions strategies (Acquisition, Advocacy and Retention), digital marketing and branding, including the role of Cognita in our individual school stories.

The Cog is edited by Rebecca Hills, Communications Manager and Sophie Hickey, Communications Executive. Please contact rebecca.hills@cognita.com with any feedback and ideas.

Copyright © 2015 Cognita Schools, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you are a Cognita employee or partner.

Our mailing address is:

Cognita Schools
5&7 Diamond Court
Opal Drive, Eastlake Park
Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK15 0DU
United Kingdom

This email was sent to << Test Email Address >>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Cognita Schools · 5&7 Diamond Court · Opal Drive, Eastlake Park · Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK15 0DU · United Kingdom

