

7 things to look out for at BETT 2014

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We'll be attending BETT again this year (**stand F380**), and we know from past experience that deciding which events and stands to visit can be daunting, particularly for a first time visitor. We've drawn together this guide to take you through a few highlights of this years show, and hopefully to give you some inspiration for when you attend.



1. BYOD

A lot of schools have been venturing into mobile learning over the last year, a combination of more relaxed **Bring Your Own Device** (BYOD) policies and schools supplying devices to students mean that this method of learning is a key part of planning for the future. We'd recommend attending one of the sessions of the school leaders summit - Niels Schmidt who represents the IT department of a Danish municipality will be giving a case study on BYOD. This session is on **Thursday the 23rd at 16:10 in the School Leaders Summit** theatre.



2. Speed Learning

One of the great things of going to a show like BETT is seeing the innovative ways that you can acquire new information. The "Speed Learning" sessions in the platinum suite are exactly this sort of innovation. They'll be taking place at **10:30 and 13:30 Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in the Platinum suite**. Demand can be high for these so it is worth going to the BETT website to book in advance. The format comprises a short keynote from a speaker, then a selection of short inputs and discussions from a variety of experts.



3. "Siri" and Sir Ranulph Fiennes

One of the best places to hear about the latest trends is the main BETT arena. This year it is being hosted by Jon Briggs, whose voice Apple fans might recognise as the UK "Siri" voice. The keynote this year will be given by Sir Ranulph Fiennes about how technology linked his Antarctic team to over 40,000 schools. His session is on **Friday at 15:15 in the main arena**, again registration is a must.



4. Gamification

Gamification of learning has become a key trend in 2013, and is something we see going hand in hand with BYOD policies as time goes on. Several of our own solutions have gamification components, but we're also happy to highlight "**Planet Sherston**" on **stand F258**. This is a system aimed at primary schools which lets students play games and earn rewards while learning. It's a great product and well worth a visit. We recently conducted a webinar on gamification which you can view here: <http://bit.ly/wa-games>



5. Flipped Classroom

Another key trend we've seem develop this year is the "Flipped Classroom". This year you are lucky enough to hear two of the key pioneers of the concept speak on their experiences. Jon Bergmann and Aaron Sams will be speaking **in the Arena at 13:00 on Friday the 24th**. We recently conducted a webinar on flipped classrooms which you can view here: <http://bit.ly/wa-flipped>



6. Teach Meet

A great event to finish friday off with is the "Teach Meet" this happens at **18:30 on Friday in the Arena**, after the main event. It's a great opportunity to share what you've found and find out about advances your peers have worked on over the last year.



7. Big Data

Professor Stephen Heppell is hosting a selection of events each day on top educational topics, on **stand E100**. His first session on Wednesday is on Big Data and its impact on education. Professor Heppell will be presenting live demos of his research on the stand all week. You can look at some of the other features under Summits & Seminars, Heppell.net on the BETT website.

Top tips for attending BETT:

Plan your days - make sure you have an idea of seminars you'd like to attend or stands you don't want to miss, then you won't end up disappointed.

Wear comfortable shoes - you will do a lot of walking at BETT! Make sure you're in something comfy so you can keep going.

Take water with you - there are cafes on site, but it's a good idea to keep a bottle of water with you to keep you hydrated.

Keep some free time - it's awful to have to leave a stand early because your next event is starting, build in some "free time" to your day, to let you have those conversations and get to know people.

Travel with a buddy - it's a much more enjoyable experience if you have someone to share it with, it could be someone else from your school, or a contact you have from elsewhere. It can also help you see more stands, as you could grab an extra brochure if your buddy isn't going to get to that one.

About Webanywhere

Established in 2003, Webanywhere began as a school website design company. Since then we have expanded our product range to include LMS, e-portfolios and other e-learning tools, alongside curricular content.

We're an official Moodle Partner and Capita Technical Partner, as well as a Mahara Partner and Google Apps Authorised Reseller.

Our product range supports schools in improving key metrics such as student achievement, quality of teaching, effective leadership and behavioural standards, and through these products we both promote and support e-safety within schools. Our systems use the latest technology to protect your children whilst helping them to get the most from their e-learning.

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