

Illuminating Understanding about orthography with Year 2 and 4...

This workshop will highlight the importance of orthographic knowledge required for literacy learning, specifically about the English writing system, including phonics, spelling and vocabulary. It is based on the premise that students are entitled to accurate information about our writing system and how it works. Julie will describe and explain the essential connections between morphology, etymology and phonology and show how they are integral to all aspects of language and literacy.

There are important implications of these understandings that impact classroom practice and these will be shared with participants. Julie returned to the classroom four years ago and will showcase the learning environment and journey that she has embarked on with her groups of students.

She will describe various tools and inquiry strategies that students at all year levels can use to investigate the structure of words and the relationships among them, as well as outlining how the students have moved from guided to independent inquiry.

Julie will also share the successes she has experienced with her students. Once students see the logic of the English spelling system they develop a curiosity to learn about words and how to resolve common phonics and spelling errors. Their developing understandings positively impact vocabulary, oral expression, writing and comprehension.

She will share exciting examples of what students can achieve and the impact that this has had on formal spelling assessment.