

Knowledge shared = Knowledge²



Learning MATTERS

Chit Chat Discussion Sheet

Paula Wine and Nik Laing – Structured Literacy Implementation

Welcome to the Chit Chat between Carla McNeil of Learning MATTERS, Paula Wine of Woodstock School in Hamilton New Zealand, and Nik Laing of Port Vila International School in Vanuatu (PVIS). During this Chit Chat, Carla, Paula, and Nik discuss Structured Literacy implementation in their kura and the challenges/successes they had.

We encourage you to listen to the Chit Chat (43 minutes) with your colleagues, team and/or staff, and consider the following questions and discussion points along the way. We hope this helps to cause some robust conversations, build shared understandings and offers an opportunity for reflection.

You may wish to use the strategy of **READ** (*this discussion doc*) → **LISTEN** (*listen to the Chit Chat*) → **CHAT** (*with your colleagues*), sharing your thoughts, learnings and reflections.

- What key factors have influenced your decision to implement a Structured Literacy approach across your school?
- How did you go about getting buy in at your school and what helped to make this successful?
- What successes have you and your teachers noticed in terms of classroom learning?
- Discuss the outcomes achieved regarding routine and repetition and the benefits of these as discussed in the Chit Chat.
- What recommendations were suggested in terms of leaders being involved and invested?
- What actions were considered to begin to sustain their practice moving forward?
- As a result of listening to both Nik and Paula, what actions might you consider taking to build shared understandings and confidence with this shift in practice?
- How do you currently determine the need for intervention in your school? Is this process standardised or moderated?
- What will you consider moving forward?

We hope you found the Chit Chat thought-provoking and a good opportunity to reflect on your practice. Perhaps you have begun your journey into Structured Literacy and the Science of Reading and there was a lot of affirmation, or perhaps this is your starting point. Either way, you are on your way. We wish you all the best as you too work to make a greater evidence-based shift in your setting.

- Do you have more to learn? What will you do now? What do you think are the next steps for your school?
 - Build more knowledge?
 - Improve teaching practice?
 - Consider resourcing?
 - Build consistency across classrooms?

