

“Newsy” the ESOL Tutor Newsletter

March, 2024



Welcome to “NEWSY” the Literacy Unlimited Tutor Bulletin

Hi Everyone, time flies when you are having fun and we cannot believe it is March already! We hope you are getting ready for spring and all the wonderful things that come with it!



General Information

Student Registration – A Big Thank-you

We would like to thank all the volunteers at Framingham and Natick who helped us register 88 new students the week of February 12. Great job everyone!

Literacy Unlimited Coordinator Position

Michelle will be leaving her position in April and the city is now looking for an interim coordinator to fill her position. If you are interested, please contact Michelle or click here to see the position description and apply. [Click here to see the position](#)

March Library Closings

There are no library closings in March.

News about Morse Institute in Natick

The Morse Institute in Natick is having construction done during March, so **no study rooms will be available**. There are plenty of places to sit and tutor, and outside of the Literacy office is often available and has a whiteboard. Laurie Christie also has whiteboards which you could use. Please feel free to contact Laurie at literacy@morseinstitute.org if you need assistance.

Good to Know – For Tutors

Professional Development Workshop (PDW) – Wednesday, March 20th - Using ChatGPT to Prepare Lesson Plans – 6:00 – 7:00pm

What is ChatGPT? It is a free generative (i.e., new material) AI (i.e., artificial intelligence) chat (i.e., 2 people exchanging words). Because it is generative and creates new content it is not a search engine that finds existing material. How can it help you? Come to this workshop and see ChatGPT in action and hear how other tutors are using generative AI.

The workshop will be on Zoom. Please let us know if you plan to attend by responding to this email and we will send you the Zoom link before the workshop.

ESOL Tutor Training Starts in April

We are always looking for new tutors like you. There will be an in-person ESOL Tutor Training on Thursday April 4, 11, 18, 25 and May 2, 9 from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm at the Framingham Library. There will also be a new tutor information session on Thursday, March 21 from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm to explain the program and the training. If you know of someone who you think might be interested in becoming a tutor, please have them contact us.

Congratulations New Tutors

Congrats to the thirteen new tutors who completed their tutor training in February. We can't wait to match you with a student!

Barbara B.

Priya S.

Ed D.

Roberta J.

Barbara S.

Howard K.

Nancy B.

Priscilla B.

Evelyn G.

Sedi G.

Karyn M.

Terry A.

Nina L.

Thinking About Taking on a Second Student?

Have you ever thought about working with more than one student? This is the perfect time to do it! Let us know about your preferences and availability and we will make it happen. After student registration in February we now have about 130 students on a waitlist to get a tutor.

Good to Know – For Students – Spread the Word

Citizenship Seminar Starts Wednesday, March 20 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm

Class leader Brian Judge will be teaching the Seminar which runs for 11 weeks on Wednesday nights. He is passionate about US history and citizenship. Many of the students that you read about in Newsy passing the citizenship test have taken his seminar. If you have a student who has applied for citizenship or is thinking about applying in the next year or so, please let them know about this seminar. They can find out more about the seminar [here](#) or they can stop by the office. Registration is required and students should be intermediate or higher English speakers.

Fundraising Events

May Baskets are Coming

Our advisory board members and Michelle have been working hard on the 12th annual May Baskets Raffle, and they have gotten great prizes for this year's fundraiser! The items will be displayed at the Main Library and McAuliffe branch library from April 16th until May 31st. The funds raised will be used to cover our operational expenses, including salaries, office supplies, and materials. Spread the word, and stay tuned for more news!

Tutor and Student Pair Accomplishments – You Rock!!!!

Please remember to let us celebrate you and your student's accomplishments by sending us an email or including a comment when you report your monthly hours. Thank-you to everyone who took the time to share their activities with us this month. We think the updates below are both inspirational as well as instructional.

Carmen and Ashley - Carmen and Ashley have been working together since December 2023. So far, they have gone on field trips to McDonalds and Stop and Shop. Their field trips made their lessons more interesting and helped them learn new things they had not thought about! Keep up the excellent work Carmen and Ashley! *(February, 2024)*

Paula and Anna - Paula and Anna have worked together since February 2022. Paula just got her driver's license! Great job, Paula and Anna! *(February, 2024)*

Iris and Carol - Iris and Carol have been matched since March 2019. They recently worked together on a presentation for Iris's daughter's school. The presentation covered the details of the Chinese New Year's customs and traditions. Iris worked very hard researching the subject and finding materials and props to use for the presentation. Carol helped Iris with the English component to introduce this amazing topic to the group of kids. They loved it! Congratulations Carol and Iris! *(February 2024)*

Bruno and Jim – Bruno and Jim have been matched since November 2023. Jim asked Bruno to write something small every week on a subject of his choice. This assignment served as a starting point for conversations, grammar discussions, error correction etc. Bruno has taken the writing assignments to a great level and he has learned so much from this activity. Great job Bruno and Jim! *(February 2024)*

Bruno - Bruno recently joined the office to be a volunteer and was instrumental during the student registration session in February. Bruno's skills have allowed us to communicate better with many Portuguese speaking students. Great work Bruno! *(February, 2024)*

Merve - Merve attended conversation classes with class leader Kathy a few years ago and then she became a tutor. She has been volunteering in our office now and she was wonderful registering students in February. Thanks so much Merve! *(February, 2024)*

Barbara T - Barbara has been a tutor since May 2023. She was the first tutor to get her hours in after we sent the request in February. Thank you so much Barbara and thank-you to all those who send their hours on time! *(February 2024)*

Last Word

As always thank-you for reading to the end and let us know what you are thinking about after reading this edition of Newsy.

Have a great day,

Karen, Michelle, Laurie, and Marjie