

“Newsy” the ESOL Tutor Newsletter

March, 2025



Welcome to “NEWSY” the Literacy Unlimited Tutor Bulletin



Hi Everyone,

Spring has sprung this week with temperatures near 60 degrees. Yay! It has been a cold, icy winter and spring’s warmth feels so good. March is a transition month in many ways. Read on to find some reminders about ongoing activities and some new ones too.

General Information

New Tutors

The following new tutors completed their ESOL training in February. Please join us in congratulating them and welcoming them to our community. We are so grateful to have them.

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| Ryan F | Cynthia C |
| Safura H | Mimi F |
| Steven M | Charles Y |
| Jennifer A | Peter G |
| Luiza B | Amel K |

Melanie A

Victoria Y

New Student Registration

We registered 79 new students in February and so far we have invited 51 of them to join a weekly conversation class. A huge shout-out is in order for the following volunteers who helped us with this bi-annual event.

Helen A

Bonnie M

Les B

Pam R

Russ C

Barbara T

Maria B

Peter B

Lee Ann F

Laurie Y

Jini F

Michele M

Ruth H

Nancy B

Lucy C

Kathy S

Jim M

Rosamaria G

Arnie H

Shellie R

Margaret E

Janis K

Edson D

Pam R

Janis K

Ana Clara D

Naomi P

March Library and Literacy Closings

There are no closings this month.

Good to Know for Tutors

REMINDER MIRA's 29th Annual Immigrants Day at the State House (IDSH)

This year, Immigrants Day will actually be a two-day event.

On **Tuesday, March 18th**, MIRA is running an all-day Immigrant Rights conference focused on preparing communities for action at the official IDSH on the 19th. Tickets to this conference are \$65 - Literacy Unlimited cannot cover the fee for volunteer attendees for this event, but if you are interested and able to afford it, we highly encourage you to attend.

On **Wednesday, March 19th**, all community members are welcome to gather in Boston for the free Immigrants Day at the State House program. Doors open at 9am followed by programming from 10-12, and a chance to meet with your legislators to discuss policy and issues from 12-2pm. Find more information and register to attend one or both days on Mira's website here: <https://miracoalition.org/news/events-calendar/idsh2025/idsh-event-2025/>.

Martha plans to attend the programming on the 19th, and we think it would be amazing to get a group of Literacy Unlimited students and volunteers who can attend together. Please let your students know about this incredible event, and reply directly to this email if you are interested in joining us at the State House next week.

Tutor Workshop with Dr. Robin Danzak – Pronunciation 101: English Speech Sounds and Strategies for Students Thursday March 27, 6-7:30pm - Framingham Public Library – Technology Learning Center (upper floor)

This workshop will overview English's phonemic inventory (speech sounds) and explore ways to teach the pronunciation of "tricky" sounds like "th" and "b vs. v". Tutors will learn and practice general strategies to support students' speech accuracy and fluency so that they have fun practicing and gain confidence to speak outside of class.

Tutor Training in May/June

As you know we are always looking for new tutors and your referrals are a great way for us to recruit tutors. Our next tutor training will be in-person at the Framingham Library on Thursdays from 1:30 – 4:30pm (May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5). If you know of someone who might be interested, please have them contact us.

REMINDER Immigration Resources

There are so many changes with regard to immigration it is hard to keep up. You can find resources about this hot topic here [Immigrant Rights](#)

Meeting Areas for Tutors – Framingham Public Library - Update

The old homework center on the first floor (i.e., the two tables) and the adjacent study room are unavailable on Tuesdays from 2:00 – 4:00pm. The old homework center on the first floor is not available on Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:30am and on most Saturdays from 10:00 – 11:30am.

Good to Know for Your Students – Please Share with Them

ONGOING 1-1 Conversational English Practice – Thursdays, 2:30-4pm, every week through April 24

Literacy Unlimited is partnering with an education class from Framingham State University to provide weekly 1 to 1 conversational English practice for adult English learners. Attendees will be paired up with an FSU student to talk about anything from their lives, to the weather, to current events.

This drop-in group will run every Thursday from 2:30-4pm for English learners at a **High Beginner level or above**. The group is open to anyone in the community – attendees do not need to be registered Literacy Unlimited students to join. Please tell your student(s) about this opportunity – it has been a very popular and high-energy weekly event.

Tutor and Student Accomplishments – You Rock!!!!

Our students with the help of their tutors continue to make impressive strides forward. Congratulations to all our silent heroes.

Elena and Brian – Elena attended Brian's citizenship seminar and just passed her naturalization interview and received her US citizenship. Congratulations!

Xiang and Jason – have been working together since November. Xiang finished the first lesson of his new reading book. How exciting!

Maisi and Lucette – have been working together since December 2019. Maisi has been busy completing coursework in the language school she enrolled in, starting a business, and applying for jobs. Way to go!

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.

Last Word

Recently our work has been challenging, with many students and tutors navigating the government changes rocking lives. However, last week we matched 9 English learners with tutors. Matching is one of the most rewarding parts of our jobs here at Literacy and 9 matches in just 5 days is probably a record. These new matches remind us that even during challenging times there are bright sunny spots.

Where do you find hope and light? We would love to hear from you,

Martha, Karen, Laurie, and Marjie