

## “Newsy” the ESOL Tutor Newsletter

March, 2026



## Welcome to “NEWSY” the Literacy Unlimited Tutor Bulletin



Hi Everyone,

There is lots of news to read about and activities to get involved in. Read on to find out more.

## Tutor Workshops and Events



*Tutor Social - February 2026 - Andina Cafe*

### **Tutor Time Workshop – Tutor Panel Discussion - Wednesday, March 25 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm Online (Zoom)**

This month, we have invited a panel of 5 tutors to discuss their approach to the following topics related to tutoring:

1. What is the flow of your tutoring sessions?
2. Where do you go when you are stuck for new ideas?
3. How do you/do you talk about politics with your student?
4. Have you ever had to pivot mid-lesson and what did you do?

Want to be part of the conversation? Contact us at [fplmail4@minlib.net](mailto:fplmail4@minlib.net) to sign up for this Tutor Time workshop.

**Mark your Calendar – Tutor Workshop – How to Teach Pronunciation - Tuesday, April 28, 6:00 – 8:00 pm Framingham Public Library – Costin Room**

Teaching pronunciation can be a challenge for tutors.

- What is sheltered English, and why is it so important?
- How can we set up students for success by teaching pronunciation correctly, from the get-go?
- Sometimes, native English speakers accidentally model the wrong pronunciation. How can this be avoided?

These are some of the questions that will be answered at this workshop. You can bring your questions, concerns, and experience to this hands-on Guide to How to Teach Pronunciation to English Language Learners workshop. This workshop will be led by Debbie Centamore, Dean of Students and Volunteer Coordinator at Framingham Adult ESL. You can register for the workshop [here](#).

## Tutor and Student Activities

**Danforth Museum – Acquiring English through Art – A 3-part series for English Language Learners**

Literacy Unlimited and the Danforth Art Museum are collaborating on a new program for spring of 2026. The Danforth is inviting students and volunteers from Literacy Unlimited to visit 3 times over the next 3 months. During each 45-minute visit, students will practice speaking and understanding English while looking at art. They will learn new vocabulary by observing and describing works of art about people, places, and things.

*This program is for intermediate-level English students and their tutors/teachers.*

**Visit Dates + Times**

Thursday, March 19th, 10am

Thursday, April 16th, 10am

Thursday, May 21st, 10am

If you and your student would like to participate in this series, please register [here](#). Registration will be capped at 20 participants and priority will be given to students.

**Mark your Calendar - Change in Bloom: Making Mixed Media Zines – Saturday, April 18 – Framingham Main Library – Spark Lab**

Spring is the season of growth and new energy. Bring your spring colors to life on the page with writing and art! We will be making Zines, small handmade books that combine words and

images. Using poetry, watercolor, and collage, we will explore themes of movement and change. You will finish the workshop with an original zine to take home. No writing or art experience required! The teachers speak Spanish.

Robin Danzak, who has led many tutor workshops for us, will be co-facilitating this event. Details about the time and how to register will be available soon on the Framingham Public Library's website [here](#) and in the library's April newsletter.

## Hello to Our New Tutors

The following tutors just completed the ESOL or Basic Literacy tutor training, and we can't wait to match them with an English learner. Hopefully, you will have a chance to meet them at one of our upcoming tutor events.

Alison D	Shari C
Roxanne T	Peter R
Mike H	Chris H
Kelly T	Lynn L (Basic Literacy)

## Looking for New Tutor Volunteers

If you know someone who you think would be a great tutor, please refer them to us. There is a new volunteer information session on Wednesday, March 25, at 6 pm on Zoom. More information and sign-up forms for upcoming information sessions and training can be found [here](#) on our website.

The next ESOL tutor training will be on Wednesdays, 6:00 – 9:00 pm, online (April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20).

## Thank you to our Student Registration Volunteers

A huge thank-you to all our volunteers who helped us with student registration. We couldn't have done it without you. You all did a fine job, and we must give a shout-out to Larry, who entertained two preschoolers while their mom completed the registration form. As he said, "his grandparenting experience just kicked in," and we were very grateful for that.

Paige A	Jane R	Barbara T
Renee C	Karen S	Lee Ann F
Larry E	Rick G	Ligia P
Zelda G-D	Les B	Dorothy R
Brenda F	Valerie R	Jim M
Lucette N	Tonya B	

## Tutor Volunteer Opportunities

**Events Committee – Interest Form**

Literacy Unlimited is looking to put together an ad-hoc committee to help plan and execute social events for the program each year. Social events may include our December and June potlucks, monthly/bimonthly tutor socials, Literacy Unlimited anniversary events, and more. The committee would convene and meet according to program need; frequency and meeting times TBD.

If you are interested in joining the Events Committee, please fill out [this form](#) to let us know!

## Tutor and Student Accomplishments/Activities – Take the Win!!!

Here are some fantastic milestones our students are reaching with the help of their tutors. To the tutors who took the time to share these accomplishments, we are truly grateful. By the way, tutors are doing a great job of sharing with us, and these are just samples of accomplishments reported – there are too many to include them all. Congratulations to all our silent heroes whose achievements, big and small, inspire us all.

**Valerie and Manal** - Manal and Valerie had a lively discussion about how to clean snow after a storm! Manal said it's very helpful to tell people how to do this!

**Martha and Mirian** - Mirian has begun to learn idioms from her coworkers. This month, we talked about what it means to be a "couch potato" vs. a "party animal". When she hears one, she doesn't know; she brings it to tutoring, and we discuss what it means.

**Lucy and Larisa** - Larisa has advanced to the next level in her English classes.

**Elizabeth and Gulgun** - Gulgun attended her first class at FSU for teacher certification training.

**Michael and Aristotel** - continue to follow the exploits of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table, and learning how to pronounce words that are unfamiliar and rarely used in general conversation.

**Mal and Alexander** - Alexander enjoyed speaking English with his neighbors.

**Usha and Shathana** - Shathana had a problem with the usage of Do/Does and Has/have. Now, she understands the usage. She also answered the worksheets correctly.

**Nancy and Sun Woo** - Sun Woo and Nancy volunteered to be recorded for a tutoring session at the library.

## Library and Literacy Closings

There are no Literacy or Framingham library closures in March.

## Last Word

Sometimes we can feel that we aren't making enough progress with our students' English learning and that we are just plodding along. It's ok, any forward progress, even after a step backward, is progress. And if you are mired in the thought that learning English or any language is harder for an adult, here is an [article](#) that explains that adults, compared to children, bring different strengths to the task of

learning English. The points in the article might give you an idea as to how you can enhance your approach to teaching English. A big thank you to Elizabeth H, an ESOL tutor, for sharing this article.

And thank you for reading this newsletter to the end.

Karen, Martha, Marjie, and Kyara