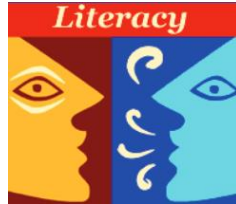


July 20, 2020



Welcome to “NEWSY” the Literacy Unlimited Tutor Bi-Weekly Bulletin!

Hi everyone,

The Learning Yard is open at the Framingham Public Library. Yay! This is an outdoor space with tents, tables and social distancing appropriately spaced chairs. It is located between the Library’s Lexington street parking lot and the library building. You can’t miss it and to introduce you to the new space, we are having a Tutor Office Hours meeting on Thursday, July 30th in the Learning Yard. Bring your mask, and we hope to see you there in person. This has been a long time coming 😊

English Conversation classes - we have been working and coordinating with new conversation class leaders on additional classes as three of our current classes are full and waitlisted. We are hoping to have as many as 17 ZOOM classes starting in August. And we have some exciting new class options/formats as well that we are going to try. Stay tuned – we will need you to get the word out to our students.

English Conversation Classes

Weekly English Conversation Classes

The following English conversation classes are being held weekly and have space for new students. Tutors, students, and conversation class leads are encouraged to refer students who want to join a class. The conversation class leader will forward meeting information to new students.

Framingham:

Beginner: Storytelling)	Mondays	1:00 - 2:30 PM	TPRS (Teaching Proficiency by Reading & Storytelling)
Low Int to Adv:	Fridays	1:00 - 2:30 PM	FUN with Pronunciation!
High Beg/Int:	Thursdays	1:00 - 2:30 PM	
Intermediate:	Tuesdays	1:00 - 2:30 PM	
	Wednesdays	10:00 - 11:30 AM	
Advanced:	Wednesdays	7:00 - 8:30 PM	

Contact us if you have an interested student fplmail4@minlib.net.

Natick:

Beginner: Tuesdays 11:00 - 12:00 PM

Intermediate: Fridays 10:30 – 12:00 PM

Contact Laurie Christie if you have an interested student LChristie@minlib.net

Tutor Meetings

Tutor Technology Meeting – Tuesday July 21st at 2:00 PM

Anne will explain CELL-ED, an adult literacy, language and workforce-ready skills learning platform that learners access by flip phone or smartphone and texting. The service is free until the end of the year and, if possible, we would like our students to try it out.

Tutor Technology Meeting – Tuesday July 28th at 2:00 PM

Topic to be determined. If you use some kind of technology and/or digital learning tool with students and you would like to share it with other tutors/conversation class leaders or if you have a question about technology and remote tutoring, let us know.

Virtual Office Hours for Tutors – Thursday July 23rd at 7:00 PM

All topics are welcome – it is always an interesting discussion.

Please join us on Thursday nights!

Joining a ZOOM meeting: Click here [Literacy Unlimited/Covid-19 Ideas](#) for ZOOM download instructions for Android and iPhone/iOS devices. If you don't have video capability, you can just call into the meeting. Liehua has helped several tutors, who have called into a meeting, to set up the video at a later date.

IN-PERSON Office Hours for Tutors - Thursday July 30 at 6:00 PM at the Framingham Library Learning Yard

You know you have been waiting for this! With the Learning Yard now open and Anne out of quarantine by then, we are having our first ever in-person Tutor Office Hours. We will start at 6:00 PM but we will be there till 7:30 PM. We would love to see you and I am sure other tutors and class leaders would enjoy seeing you too. This will give you a chance to check out the space and decide if you would like to use it for some of your tutoring sessions.

We will send out an email closer to July 30th including sign-up requirements if necessary depending on the number of tutors planning to attend. Of course you must wear a face mask and we will practice social distancing. And please don't attend if you aren't feeling well or have a fever.

Blended Tutoring, Distance Tutoring or Remote Tutoring

At the last tutor technology meeting, Laurie and I demonstrated how to use the ZOOM meeting "Annotation" functionality and the ESL library "Classroom" function when working remotely with students and worksheets (both digital and pdf format). We used the ESL library for examples so here is the login information for the ESL library:

Website: www.ESLLibrary.com

Good to Know

Tutor Trainings

No update yet from Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts (LVM) on the re-design of the tutor trainings (ESOL and Basic Literacy) for remote delivery. This would give us an option to train tutors regardless of face-to-face meeting restrictions. However, if you know someone who is interested in tutoring, have them email us at fplmail4@minlib.net and we will contact them when tutor training resumes.

Student Assessments

Assessments of new and current students continue to be on hold although we are expecting an update soon from the state on how to administer the assessments remotely.

Face Masks

If you or a student need a face covering, email us at fplmail4@minlib.net with your student's and/or your name and phone number. The library will coordinate the mask pick-up.

Final Thoughts

I am reading The Library Book by Susan Orlean. Although the book is about the devastating fire at the Los Angeles Public Library in 1986, it was written in 2018 and what is really interesting to me is the role libraries play in a community and how that role has evolved over time. While reading the book, I cannot help but contemplate how libraries will evolve in reaction to COVID-19. Of course book browsing, check-out, and returns are changing but more interesting to me, is what new programs will sprout as a result of COVID's impact. One thing for sure, Literacy Unlimited is growing. It looks like we may soon be offering 17 English conversation classes each week. And if all goes according to plan, we will be offering a Book Group, a Families Welcome class, an Idiom class, and a Civics class in addition to English proficiency based classes. These new conversation class formats are typical of the creativity and energy of all our conversation class leaders and their commitment to our English learners. Hats off to all of you! If this any indication of things to come, the Library and Literacy will better than ever in spite of COVID-19.

We are so excited that we may get to see some of you in person on Thursday July 30th at the Library. And we hope you are excited about seeing your fellow tutors too. We have so much going on and while email and ZOOM meetings are ok, they certainly don't take the place of a face to face meeting.

It's all good! Hope to see you soon,

Karen