



Welcome to “NEWSY” the Literacy Unlimited Tutor Bulletin

New Student Registrations

Since there is no firm date as to when we will be able to meet new students face-to-face, we continue to take new student registrations online. We are trying to place new students in a conversation class quickly. If you know of a new student who could benefit from attending an English Conversation class or would like to be matched with a tutor, the link to the online registration is on our website here

<https://framinghamlibrary.org/literacy/our-program/become-a-tutor/>

Literacy Unlimited, Program Coordinator

We are interviewing candidates for the Literacy Unlimited, Program Coordinator. If you know of someone who would be interested in the position, please let us know or point them to this website where they can apply.

<https://ess.framinghamma.gov/MSS/employmentopportunities/default.aspx>

Tutor Meetings

February Tutor Meetings

We will continue to meet on alternate Tuesday afternoons at 2:00 PM for tutor technology and there will be one Tutor Office Hours meeting in February. ZOOM meeting information for Tutor Technology and Tutor Office Hours is the same every week and is included below with the descriptions of these meetings.

Week of:	Tuesday	Thursday
February 1		
February 8	2/9 – Tutor Technology	
February 15		2/18 - New tutor Information Session 2/18 Tutor Office Hours
February 22	2/23 – Tutor Technology	

Tutor Technology Meeting – Tuesday, February 9th at 2:00 PM

LJ Carroll, a tutor, will share with us how she used <http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com> to create a word search puzzle to use with her beginner student.

If there is time, Laurie C will show us how to use Zoom's whiteboard function.

Tutor Technology Meeting – Tuesday, January 23rd at 2:00 PM

There are no specific topics scheduled for this meeting. If you have an idea or request let us know. fplmail4@minlib.net

Virtual Office Hours for Tutors – Thursday, February 18th at 7:00 PM

The agenda is open – all topics are welcome – it is always an interesting discussion. Topics have included tutoring challenges and successes and ideas for supporting tutors.

Blended Tutoring, Distance Tutoring or Remote Tutoring

Black History Month

February is black history month and there are lots of interesting ESOL lessons focused on it. Here are a few ideas:

ESL Library <https://esllibrary.com/> Search on “Black History Month” to find 38 lessons at various English levels.

ReadWorks <https://www.readworks.org/> Search on black history or go here <https://www.readworks.org/find-content#!q:g:t/pt/features:/> Although there is free content you will have to create an account.

Tutor Tune-up Advanced

Last month we held a two-hour Tutor Tune-up session that included the basic functionality of Zoom and some examples of how tutors could use digital resources in their tutoring.

Based on your feedback at the Tutor Tune-up and Tutor Virtual Office hours, we are planning a second session called Tutor Tune-up Advanced. This session will include more advanced Zoom functionality like annotate, whiteboards, polls, audio share, save chat, etc. We will include some examples of how tutors are using these features in their tutoring.

We will contact you with the date and time of the session when we schedule it.

Good to Know

New Tutors

We have five new tutors who have recently completed ESOL tutor training and who we would like to welcome to the program – you may see them at one of our tutor meetings. They are:

Bonny Jaswal

Jeffrey Engmann

LJ Carroll

Paula McCue

Stefan Lukianov

If possible, we would like to match these new tutors with a “Buddy”. A tutor “buddy” is a tutor who is available to a new tutor for month or so to answer questions, provide support and generally guide a new tutor. If you would like to be a new tutor “buddy”, please contact us. fplmail4@minlib.net

New Tutor Training Sessions

The next tutor training session will be in March. The training sessions will be held on Monday and Thursday afternoons on March 1, 4, 8, 11, 15, 18 from 2-4 pm.

If you know someone who is interested in becoming a tutor, they can register for the March training on our website

<https://framinghamlibrary.org/literacy/our-program/become-a-tutor/> There will be a new tutor information session on Thursday, February 18 at 2:00 PM.

Citizenship Class Starting in February

Do you know someone applying for US Citizenship?

We are offering a 12-week class to help prepare applicants for the Naturalization test and interview. The program will review American History & Civics, and questions and terms that applicants need to know to successfully complete the process. The program will begin in February 2021 and be held on Tuesdays evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 PM. Students must be at least an intermediate level English speaker to benefit from the class. Classes will be held using Zoom, so access to a computer will be most beneficial.

If you have questions or know a student who may be interested, contact us at fplmail4@minlib.net or 508-532-5574.

English Conversation Classes

Due to social distancing restrictions, social interactions can be few and far between for students and tutors.

If you know a student who you think could benefit from attending a conversation class, please let us know. We do have spaces in some classes. Alternatively, if you would like to lead a group conversation class, please let us know - we would really like to add new class offerings.

The list of our current class schedule is here on our website here <https://framinghamlibrary.org/literacy/our-program/conversation-classes/>

Book Group

Book group will be starting a new book at the beginning of March. This special conversation class is for intermediate and above English learners. If you have a student who may be interested, let us know fplmail4@minlib.net.

Final Thoughts

Although there is a foot of snow on the ground, the groundhog says there will be six more weeks of winter and Covid is still with us, spring with longer and warmer days will surely come as will the end of this pandemic. As we patiently await our turns to get the Covid vaccine and dream and plan for better days ahead, it is more important than ever to continue to meet virtually and build our skills and experience so we can blossom when we can go back to in-person meeting. Tutoring will never be the same and in many ways that is a good thing.

Happy Chinese New Year, Happy Valentine's Day, and Happy President's Day to all of you! Thank-you for all your continuing efforts to make our students and one another's days indeed special,

Karen