

We are continuing to “build a sense of community” and still keep our physical distance. We are now trying to connect in some meaningful way with as many of our community as we can. We have heard from many of our tutors but not all, and plan to call them. If you would like to volunteer to call some of our tutors, please let us know.

### **Literacy Unlimited Website – Under Construction**

We are refreshing our website and adding lots of new material. Check it out next week. <https://framinghamlibrary.org/literacy/our-program/>

### **Our Survey**

First and foremost, thank-you to all who responded to the survey. It was sent to 228 tutors and so far we have heard from 96 tutors. That is a 42% response rate, an impressively high rate. If you haven’t responded, please do even if you did not meet with your student last month.

Here is a sample of what we learned:

*Question: How would you (tutors) like to be contacted?*

email	83%
Phone	8%
Zoom meeting	3%
No preference indicated	6%

*Question: How do you like to contact your students? (Choose as many as apply.)\**

Email	59%
Phone	40%
Zoom	33%
WhatsApp	18%
Facetime	16%
Skype	12%
Text	8%
WeChat, snail mail and Google Hangouts	1% each

*\*Note: percentages do not add to 100% because respondents could choose multiple contact methods.*

## **What’s Happening at Literacy Unlimited While we are “CLOSED”**

Weekly Conversation Classes

Some of the English conversation classes are being held. If you have a student who might benefit from participation in a Conversation class, please let us know by email [fplmail4@minlib.net](mailto:fplmail4@minlib.net). We will forward the meeting information to them. Here are the classes that are currently being held some using video conferencing, some not:

Beginner:       Thursdays 1:00PM – 2:30PM  
Intermediate:   Tuesdays 1:00PM – 2:30PM  
                      Wednesdays 10:00 – 11:30PM  
Advanced:       Wednesdays 7:00PM – 8:30PM

**Discussion: Using Google Classroom to meet with students:** This is a virtual (video conferencing or call-in, your choice) meeting about another option for meeting with your students.

**Tuesday, April 7, at 3:00PM**

Meeting information:

**Join Zoom Meeting**  
<https://zoom.us/j/815514209>

Dial in phone numbers:  
+1 253 215 8782 US  
+1 301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: 815 514 209

**Weekly Tutor Get-together:** This is a weekly meeting (using video conferencing or call-in, your choice) for tutors to support each other and to learn about new tutoring ideas. Last week in addition to catching up with each other, we did a demo of the ESL library. Next week, on Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, we will do a **demo of setting up a classroom in ReadWorks**.

**Thursday, April 9, at 7:00PM**

Meeting information:

**Join Zoom Meeting**  
<https://zoom.us/j/815514209>

Dial in phone numbers:  
+1 253 215 8782 US  
+1 301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: ID: 690 239 527

## **About Video Conferencing and ZOOM**

If you haven't tried video conferencing, this is your chance. Give it a try – last Tuesday we had 17 participants in the weekly Tutor Get-together meeting - we had fun and learned a lot. And no, you are not behind the curve if you haven't tried it yet, just call in on your phone using a dial-in phone number.

To join the meeting with video, download the free app and follow the prompts after clicking the meeting link just before the meeting starts. If you don't have video capability, you can just call into the meeting. Let us know if you want some help.

## **Ideas for Working with Your Students**

Based on the tutor meeting this week and the survey responses, many of you are connecting with your students in a variety of ways based on the tutor's and the student's situation. The approaches range from sending a student lessons via snail mail to a Zoom video conference and variations in between. Although the first step is to connect with your students by phone, text or email once you have done that the next thing is to design a lesson. Below are some resources to help you do that.

ReadWorks: Demo next Thursday, April 9 at 7:00PM during the Weekly Tutor Get-Together

ESL library (Many downloadable lessons easily sortable by English proficiency level and topics):

Website: [www.ESLLibrary.com](http://www.ESLLibrary.com)

**Check out the new lessons on Covid 19** <https://esllibrary.com/collections/69/lessons>

NewsforYouOnline (Weekly online Newspaper with timely articles for ESOL learners):

[www.NewsForYouOnline.com](http://www.NewsForYouOnline.com)

## **Resources For Your Students**

We are receiving lots of information from the Library, the Mayor, and from other sources about things related to Covid-19. If your student has a specific question, let us know and we will try to get you an answer.

## **Office Happenings**

### **Reminders:**

Please keep track of the time you spend with your student – these are reportable. This includes: phone calls, texts, emails, and of course virtual conferencing time (e.g., Zoom, Skype, WhatsApp, etc.).

The “Literacy” section on the Framingham Public Library website has many resources for tutors here <https://framinghamlibrary.org/literacy/our-program/tutor-resources/>. <https://framinghamlibrary.org/literacy/our-program/>

Although we are working from home, we do have access to our database, email, and voicemail and can give you student or tutor contact information if you need it.

Last words. I had a chance to have an interesting conversation with an acquaintance from South Korea – his brother still lives there. I asked him what he knew about COVID-19 and South Korea. He told me two things 1. South Korea was prepared for the pandemic because they lived through SARS. For example, they had pandemic preparation drills last spring. 2. Because South Koreans all have cell phones and internet access is robust and widespread, when someone is diagnosed with COVID-19, the locations the patient visited are transmitted in real-time to cell phone users. As a result, South Koreans can almost immediately avoid possibly contaminated locations. As I think about the impact of COVID-19 on us, I think both of these changes could be in our future. What do you think?