

"Newsy" the ESOL Tutor Newsletter

May, 2021



Welcome to "NEWSY" the Literacy Unlimited Tutor Bulletin



Hi everyone,

This month's newsletter is packed with information and requests for your opinion and engagement in the program. Hopefully, there is something for everyone. Thanks in advance for reading through to the end and participating.

Student Testing

It is that time of year again. Students must be tested once per year usually in May and June. This year, assessments will be given remotely. We have emailed students requesting they schedule a time for testing. As always, please encourage your student to do their best on the test and assure them that the results will not impact their relationship with you or their participation in conversation classes.

Tutor Volunteers Needed

Tutor Buddies

A tutor buddy is a tutor who is working with, or has worked with a student(s), and who is willing to lend guidance and support to a new tutor for a short period of time. We could use a few more volunteers for this rewarding experience. If you would like to be a tutor buddy, please contact us: fplmail4@minlib.net

Conversation Class Leader

Conversation classes continue to be popular with our students. If you are interested in becoming a conversation class leader please let us know: fplmail4@minlib.net There are many options for times, level, duration and topics. We would like to add more classes as there are many students on our waiting list.

Share your Tutor Experience with Other Tutors

Do you have a favorite online resource (e.g., ESL library, News for You, Newsela, YouTube, Ted talks, etc.)? Are you using an application (e.g., crossword maker, flashcard maker, etc.)? Are you using videos, songs, virtual shopping sites, etc. in your tutoring? If so, other tutors would like to hear about your experiences and we would love to add you to one or more of our upcoming meetings.

If you would like to share your experience or have a suggestion for a topic for a tutor meeting, let us know: fplmail4@minlib.net

Scheduled Tutor Meetings

May Tutor Meetings

We will continue to meet on alternate Tuesday afternoons at 2:00 PM for tutor technology. This month we will have tutor office hours during the day. We will also have a tutor tune-up meeting during the day as well. The Zoom links for upcoming meetings are below.

Week of:	Tuesday	Thursday
May 3	5/5 Tutor Office Hours	
May 10	5/11 – Tutor Technology	
May 17		5/20 Tutor Tune-Up
May 24	5/25 – Tutor Technology	

Tutor Technology Meeting – Tuesday, May 11th at 2:00 PM

Laurie will go over using news websites like News For You, Newsela, Easy English News, News in Levels, or The Times in Plain English, etc., If you use a news site with your student, we would love to have you share your experience.

Tutor Technology Meeting – Tuesday, May 25th at 2:00 PM

Topic to be determined. Please let us know if you have an idea or a request.

Virtual Office Hours for Tutors – Wednesday, May 5th at 10:00 AM

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

Blended Tutoring, Distance Tutoring or Remote Tutoring

Tutor Tune-up – Thursday May 20th at 2:00 PM

Ready to learn some new skills for remote tutoring or has your tutoring been suspended during Covid but now you are ready to try remote tutoring? We hosted a similar meeting a couple of months ago and it was quite popular.

Your Input Requested

Newsela – LVM is looking into a paid subscription for this online resource. Please complete this 2 question survey so we can provide input.

Tutors Helping Students Prepare for Citizenship

Are you interested in helping a student prepare for the citizenship interview and test? If so, let us know: fplmail4@minlib.net We are planning to have a Zoom session to discuss resources and approaches for helping these students.

Good to Know – For Students

Covid Vaccine Registration

Does your student need information about vaccines or help registering for a vaccine shot? This Massachusetts state website is in multiple languages, (click on the country flag on the top left-hand corner of the web page), is informative, and has information on how to schedule a vaccine. <https://macovidvaxhelp.com/?locale=en> If your student needs more help, let us know: fplmail4@minlib.net

Cinco de Mayo – Wednesday May 5th – Spanish Yoga and Meditation class

Do you have a student who speaks Spanish? On Wednesday, May 5th from 4:00 – 5:00 PM on Zoom, the Framingham Library is hosting a Yoga and Meditation class in Spanish. Your Spanish speaking students can find out more on the Framingham Library website here <https://framinghamlibrary.org/calendar/event/yoga-y-meditacion-con-nissa>

Framingham Public Library

There is a collection of new young adult books at the Library. These books are in large print but not obviously so. The large print and extra white space makes for easier reading and quicker page turning which builds confidence in readers. There are a variety of titles, current (e.g., Alex and Elisa, a love story), and older (e.g., A Wrinkle in Time). If you think your student might be interested, check-out the new titles in the Library on the main floor in the Young Adult section.

Book Group

Book group is planning to start up again in June. 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

Good to Know – For Tutors

Immigrants' Day at the State House – May 4 at 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

MIRA (Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition) is sponsoring its 25th annual Immigrants' Day. Last year Anne and I attended and found some of the speakers very inspirational when talking about the work that we do at Literacy Unlimited. This is a virtual meeting that you can register for here

<https://actionnetwork.org/events/immigrants-day-virtually-at-the-state-house-2021/>

Adult Basic Literacy (ABL) Tutor Training in June

The Boston LVM affiliate is offering an ABL tutor training in June. Training will be remote using Zoom on Monday and Wednesday nights June 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, and 23 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. If you are interested, or know someone who might be interested in becoming an ABL tutor, let us know: fplmail4@minlib.net

New Tutor Training

We will be having a new ESOL tutor training session that will be on Monday nights May 10, 17, 24, June 7, 14, 21 at 6:00 PM. If you know someone who is interested in becoming a tutor please have them contact us at: fplmail4@minlib.net Tutor training will be remote using Zoom and we have plenty of room. There will be an ESOL tutor training information session on May 3 at 6:00 PM. Anyone who is interested in becoming a tutor is encouraged to attend an information session.

Emailing Literacy Unlimited

We want to respond quickly and accurately to your emails and in order to do that, we have a request. It is best if you send a separate email with a descriptive subject and use: fplmail4@minlib.net We know it is easy to respond to Newsy, tutor meeting invitations, etc. with news or questions about you or your student but this makes it difficult for us to respond to you and track an email thread to resolution. Thank-you in advance for helping us wrangle our email.

Final Thoughts

Whew, this is a long one. I just want to thank-you for reading this through to the end and being a part of this important program and contributing to our community.

Karen