Read All About It!

Craven Literacy Council's Student Newsletter

Craven Literacy Council, 2507 A & F, Neuse Blvd., New Bern, NC 28562
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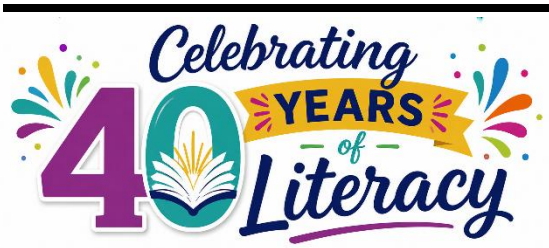
No. 71 **Summer/Fall 2026**



Student Stories

Please send us your stories or poems for the next newsletter. We would love to hear from you!

Time Ticks Along!

Each year, fall rolls around faster and faster and that means school has started for our children, the days are getting shorter, the temperature's getting cooler and my desk is full of papers because YOU all have come back to classes with your tutors! Hurray!! We are so happy to have you here!!

We have lots to share in this Summer/Fall issue of the Student Newsletter! Can you believe CLC turned 40! I was just 24 when they started! Look at the Fun Facts section and learn all about the moon and autumn. It officially starts here in North Carolina on September 22nd at 8:05 PM! Check out timeanddate.com to learn more! There are LOTS of things to do this fall. And what does chocolate have to do with learning more vocabulary?!! Read on and find out! Maybe I'll see you on the Bike MS route in Arapaho! Whatever you do this fall, we hope that you have a wonderful school year ahead.

Lydia

Working with Omar: A Student Who Inspires Me.

One of the many joys of volunteering with the Literacy Council is the opportunity to work with dedicated adult learners such as Omar.

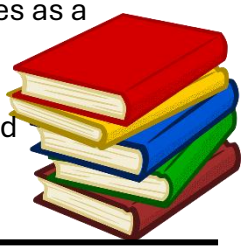
Omar arrives promptly at 8:00 a.m. Monday morning, courtesy of CARTS transportation, and stays until his ride returns around 10:30 a.m. During that time, he demonstrates an enthusiasm for learning that is inspiring. Omar is always polite, well-prepared, and eager to participate. He completes his homework, willingly takes additional reading materials home, and is never hesitant to admit when he doesn't understand something. Above all, he is polite. His honesty and determination make him a prize student.

Our lessons focus on reading comprehension, vocabulary development, syllable patterns, and common word endings. Omar approaches each task with concentration and persistence and yes, sometimes frustration. He especially enjoys reading about baseball, Black history, and famous individuals. Recently, he suggested we work on math, because, as he puts it, "those are the smartest people."

One of my favorite moments was when Omar asked if he could learn cursive writing. His enthusiasm was matched by his talent—his penmanship is beautiful. Whether he is practicing reading, writing, or another skill, Omar strives for excellence. He is truly a perfectionist in everything he attempts.

Working with Omar has been a privilege and a pleasure. His commitment to learning and self-improvement serves as a reminder of the determination and courage many adult learners bring to the classroom. I am honored to be part of his educational journey and look forward to celebrating his continued success.

Leigh



An Exercise in Journaling

Writing is a good way to practice thinking in a new language. Here are samples from the Let's Talk! class as they wrote about their summer.

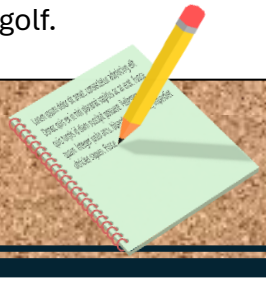
What I did this Summer
by Jennifer

The Summer of 2026

My family and I, we had some funny time together. We went to aquarium North Carolina. After than we went to the beach. They did a little fishing, and we enjoyed the sunset.

Other weekends we went for bike rides, we also we went to the park to play volleyball with some friends.

Another place where we had fun was at MacDaddy's, where we bowled and played golf.



What I did this Summer
by Norma

Summer of 2026

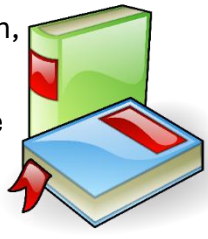
* My family and I celebrated the 20 years of my younger daughter. I baked a cake for her. This event was July 31.
* Sometimes I go to walk outdoors in the evening.
* I like to take care of my garden.
* When the day is so hot my husband and I stay at home watching tv. or practicing English in Duolingo.
* Some days in the morning I go to work.
* My life is very simple. I don't have many things to do.
* The Sunday my old daughter and my grand children visited me.

What I did this Summer
by Fabiola

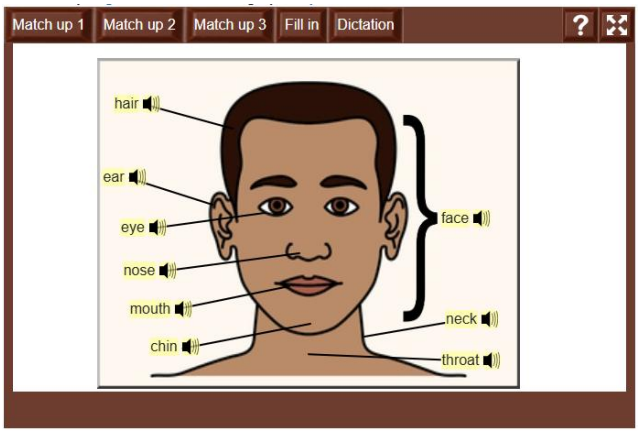
In the summer I took care my garden and I went to the beach with my daughter and her friends. I also took my four legged granddaughter to the park.

Five Fun Facts About September

- **It has 9 letters for the 9th month:** September is the only month with the same number of letters in its name as its numerical position on the calendar (9 letters and the 9th month).
- **It was the 7th month:** On the early Roman calendar, September was the seventh month before two extra months (January and February) were added.
- **The name match for songs:** More popular song titles feature "September" than any other month of the year. Can you name any?
- **The Harvest Moon:** The full moon closest to the autumn equinox is called the Harvest Moon, which shines bright and allows farmers to work late into the night.
- **Opposite seasons:** September marks the start of autumn (fall) in the Northern Hemisphere and the start of spring in the Southern Hemisphere.



Online Vocabulary Lessons



Are you looking for an interactive way to build your vocabulary? A fun way to review English each day? The website Learning Chocolate may be just what you are looking for. This program offers many simple vocabulary lessons, each one focused on a specific topic such as food or clothes. Each lesson has different activities to practice listening, reading, and writing tasks. The site is free and does not require registration.

Tutor Joan writes "This site is AMAZING!!! My student loves the lessons and can't wait for more… Try it now!"

www.learningchocolate.com

We encourage you to give Learning Chocolate a try. Please contact Jim with any questions.

Places to Go, Things to Do…

Discovering Tryon Palace: Caswell's Capital Tour: Uncover the untold story of how North Carolina helped turn the tide of the American Revolution. *Sept. 3 and every other Thursday*

Murder by Poe: Rivertowne Players presents Murder by Poe, a chilling reimagining of Edgar Allan Poe's most iconic tales—The Black Cat, The Tell-Tale Heart, The Fall of the House of Usher, and more. Aug. 28-30, Sept 4-6. Masonic Theatre, 514 Hancock St.

2026 Footloose on the Neuse Summer Concert - THE BRITISH INVADERS - 1960's British Fusion: Sept. 4, Union Point Park

Constitution Week: Learn about New Bern's history, our part in the American Revolution, and how the Constitution affects each of us. Sept. 17-23, Tryon Palace.

Bike MS: Historic New Bern Ride: Bike MS is one of the largest fundraising cycling series in the world. With dedicated riders working to end multiple sclerosis forever, one pedal stroke at a time. Sept. 18-20.

Movie in the Park - Finding Nemo: Grab your blankets and enjoy movie night under the stars at Union Point Park! Sept. 25.

Hometown Harvest Market: A cozy fall event featuring a wide variety of local vendors, unique finds, handmade goods, a delicious food truck, and a mobile coffee shop — all in a relaxed, family-friendly setting. Sept. 26-27, New Bern Shrine Club, 2102 S. Glenburnie Rd.

These are but a sample of what's happening in and around New Bern. There are also trivia nights, live music, karaoke, trolly tours and much more! Check out **visitnewbern.com/event-calendar** for more information and times of events.

September 6 – National Read a Book Day
September 7 – Labor Day
September 8 – International Literacy Day
September 11 – Patriot Day (9/11 Remembrance)
September 13 – National Grandparents Day
September 22 – Autumn Equinox (First day of Fall)
September 26 – National Pancake Day
September 29 – National Coffee Day

40 YEARS of Literacy

G R H S T Y E E O L S F N M M
N U E U T I B H L R W U E A S
I O T A B O F B A L R T T N T
N O X B D E R E E C I H S O U
R B E B U I Y I M D T G I V D
A D E G O Y N F E U I I L E Y
E J Z Q T O B G N S N W K L G
L Y P R N E K L W W G D Z V U
L O O H K A I S P E A K I N G
P F J Z C T N E D U T S S U Z
L I T E R A C Y C O U N C I L
M C I T I Z E N S H I P Y K B
J O A N J T H T A I D Y L E R
J J C R L H V H U J D O H I H
T R H J N H V E L K O P V F F

books	GED	Lydia	student
citizenship	Jim	math	study
Debbie	Joan	novel	teach
Debby	learning	reading	tutor
Dwight	listen	speaking	writing
forty years	literacy council	stories	