August 3, 2020

A Message to Melrose from the MPL…

It has been wonderful to be able to get physical items back into library patrons’ hands again! We are very busy here at the library, as well as when working from home. Our library services include circulation of library items, answering reference questions, and virtual programming. Our staff are working in teams to stagger our presence in the building, and maintain proper distancing and safety measures while we work.

Here’s what’s happening and how you can use our library resources right now:

Circulation Services.

While we continue to offer online access to books, magazines and more through services such as Overdrive and Hoopla, we are thrilled to be up and running with our Front Door Pickup service. We have checked out over 5,300 items so far, so we know that many of you are aware of this service! You can place items on hold from home, or call us and we will place holds for you. When your items are ready, you will get a message to schedule a date and time to pickup your items at the library’s front door.

Wondering what to read? We are adding new books each week. Sign up for a newsletter about our newest material through Wowbrary!

Once you’re done enjoying that great book or DVD, you can return it in our book drop near the West Emerson parking lot. We’re now accepting returns of DVDs, audio books and CDs as well as books in the drop. Material is being quarantined for four days before checkin – we are using the Reference Room to safely store material until we are able to check it in.

If you have questions about your library materials, feel free to email the staff at melcirc@noblenet.org

Reference Services.

Have a question? Let us help you! Our reference staff are ready and willing to assist you with your reference needs, whether you need information on a specific resource, or just want your curiosity satisfied about something. Give the library a call, or email the staff at melref@noblenet.org

Internet access: if you have an internet-enabled device such as a smart phone, tablet or laptop, please help yourself to our wifi internet access, either in your car in the parking lot, or while enjoying the library lawn. You can also check out one of our internet hot spots, which will enable you to have internet access at home, or wherever you need it!
Among the variety of online reference resources we provide are several online newspapers:

- *Melrose Free Press*
- *Boston Herald*
- *Boston Globe*
- *The New York Times*
- *Boston Metropolitan Collection*

**Programming Services.**

Our summer reading program will be wrapping up soon, and we’re excited about the level of participation we had from all ages. We continue to offer online programming including book groups, special events and children’s programs. Keep an eye on our [event calendar](https://www.melrosepubliclibrary.org/) to see what’s coming up!

**Coming Next …**

We are busy working with our local museums so that we can get as many passes as possible back into circulation for you.

We are working on a mobile printing solution so patrons can send us print jobs straight from their home computer, phone or tablet.

We will be expanding our Front Door Pickup options to include thematic “browsing bags” with a small assortment of books that you may like.

Stay tuned for more details!

**Keep in mind**

There are no fines or fees for material currently checked out. And remember to regularly visit us at Melrose Public Library.org ([https://www.melrosepubliclibrary.org/](https://www.melrosepubliclibrary.org/)) You can also find us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and our Instagram account for teens.

We are here for you. Enjoy our collections, both online and through our Front Door Pickup service. Get your questions answered by our Reference staff, and enjoy the use of our wireless internet. And don’t forget to check out our virtual programs and events!

Thank you again, and always, for your patience and understanding.

Linda Gardener, Director
Melrose Public Library