

DIY Handwashing Station Project

Jeanine Harmon • 4 months ago • Wednesday, Nov 18 at 4:49 PM • **6th Grade**

Hello Sixth Grade Families,

We are excited to announce a new service learning project that is in the works for our sixth graders. It's the kind of project we love at Park Day School! This project connects to a local organization, is integrated into our classroom curriculum and our social justice programming, and actively involves students in building/making something useful for the community. Our students will be building DIY Handwashing Stations in our Innovation Workshop in partnership with the local organization **LavaMaeX**.



LavaMaeX is a local organization that believes that "access to hygiene and sanitation are a basic human right." We started working with LavaMae in 2019. They brought one of their **mobile hygiene shower units** to our campus during CARE Week. In preparation for this visit, our middle schoolers led an all-school drive for personal care items. The MS students assembled 200+ hygiene kits to donate during their visit. In March 2020,

LavaMae became LavaMaeX, non-profit accelerator that helps communities around the country create their own mobile hygiene programs. This innovative **DIY Handwashing Station design** was created by Samantha Reardon, their Replication Engagement Lead. Since Sam made this design available for free on their website, over 400 stations have been built and deployed across the country. We welcomed Sam as a special guest speaker in sixth grade on 11/6. She can't wait to work with us on this project!

Our goal is to make six DIY Handwashing Stations. Three of these stations will be donated directly to LavaMaeX. Students will have the opportunity to do research and decide where they would like to donate the other three stations. The stations are made from easy-to-find items from hardware stores (see attached spreadsheet). Each station costs approximately \$250.00 to build. We have already purchased the galley pumps. We are seeking donations (supplies and funds) from both inside and outside of our community for this project. If you would like to help, or know someone who can, please email me directly at jeanine.harmon@parkdayschool.org.

In community,

Jeanine Harmon

Director of Community Outreach and Service Learning