

Dear OLV Parents and Guardians,

We are in the process of creating a library “makerspace” here at Our Lady of the Valley. What is a makerspace? In simple terms, it is an area that allows for creativity and innovation to occur so that students can engage in learning experiences that allow them to make real life connections. For example, within this makerspace our students will have the freedom to design, engineer, fabricate, create, build and collaborate. Makerspaces provide students with a place to tinker and develop something that may not have been possible to create without a space with resources. We are so excited to bring this opportunity to our students, but in order to have a space that is useful, we are in need of several items to be donated to the space.

If you are able, we would be so appreciative of any donation that you are willing to provide. Many things from your home can be reused – NO PURCHASE NECESSARY! Please be sure that items are relatively clean and usable prior to bringing them to school. All items may be dropped in the large receptacle labeled “MAKER MATERIALS” at the bottom of the library stairwell.

The items that we are in need of are:

* Toys: LEGOS, building blocks, science kits, K’nex, Tinker Toys, erector sets, broken toys, action figures, dominoes, marbles, playing cards, rainbow looms, puzzles, magnets
* Play doh, modeling clay
* Wires, pipe cleaners/chenille sticks, wikki stix, cotton balls
* New Batteries (all sizes)
* Packaging materials such as bubble wrap, styrofoam
* Ribbon, yarn, string
* Sewing materials: needles, thread, Fabric scraps, knitting needles, felt, lace, buttons
* Duct tape (any color or design), masking tape, rubber bands, brads
* All types of paper: newspaper, construction paper, scrapbook paper, origami paper
* Cardboard of any kind (cereal boxes or large moving boxes – flattened PLEASE!)
* Paper towel tubes, popsicle sticks, paint stir sticks, paper plates
* Plastic bottles, butter or sour cream tubs, egg cartons, Ziploc bags, wax paper, saran wrap, aluminum foil
* PVC pipe, tubing
* Flashlights
* Storage containers: plastic tubs, organizers with drawers such as metal toolboxes used for automotive tools
* Antibacterial wipes

\*ANY items that you think might be able to be used to build or create!

Once we launch our makerspace, teachers will be invited to bring their students to participate in “maker” activities. More information will be provided as we build our mkaerspace. For now, [here is a link to a video (CLICK HERE)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVBVK1BAOos). that shows how one school implemented a makerspace in their library. Thank you so much for your help in getting our library makerspace off the ground!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Elliott and the Makerspace Exploratory Class