

## FULL CIRCLE PRESCHOOL

June marks a year since our preschool re-opened after the pandemic closure period! This month has been filled so many blessings within our community. Thanks to generous donations, we purchased and installed new playground equipment from Cedarworks. We are beyond excited for this outdoor play enhancement and truly want the children to take ownership and pride in their learning spaces. Thank you to all who came and contributed to the OZ outdoor workday—what an amazing turnout. It was so deeply comforting to be surrounded by so many OZ community members in wake of a difficult, isolating year. The children were thrilled to walk through the new trails in the woods and enjoy the story walk featuring the book *Tiny Perfect Things* by M.H. Clark, which encourages readers to pay closer attention to the beauty of the natural world around us. As Mary Oliver wrote, "Attention is the beginning of devotion." We look forward to continuing to learn about the land and establish stronger relationships with nature and our beautiful community.

We are all breathing a huge maskless sigh of relief after Governor Scott's announcement to lift all state COVID-19 restrictions! This means that fully vaccinated parents and family members no longer need to wear masks for pick up and drop off both inside and outside of OZ. With this announcement also came the news that there are no COVID-19 restrictions or requirements for Vermont's childcare programs! After a year of working with the children while wearing masks, we cannot express how amazing it feels to hug our children without masks. We continue to use caution to ensure the safety and well-being of our children, families, and staff.

Over the summer months, we will be busy transitioning children to their new classrooms for the fall, welcoming new families, and sending our beloved Pre-Kindergarteners off to Kindergarten. I am so proud of the resilience of our children, families, educators, and community for powering through such a difficult year and finding the joy in all the moments in between. Onward!

~Erika Geremia

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PHOTOS BELOW...















