

Dear Grace Community,

It's the final week of faculty meetings and report card writing here at Grace. I know I speak for many when I say we miss the children already! What a remarkable year of challenge and triumph for all of us. I am wishing all of you a summer of joy and possibility.

I am also writing to share with you our final hiring announcement for the upcoming school year. As we announced earlier this spring, **Jennifer Hamilton** is stepping into Kindergarten as lead teacher next year, leaving a vacant lead teacher position in Prekindergarten. We are delighted to have appointed **Sreepriya Ghosh** as lead teacher for Prekindergarten. She will be assisted by former Preschool Assistant teacher, Chris Saffour. Currently teaching at Ohr Kodesh Early Childhood Center, a Reggio Emilia-inspired school, Priya has over 15 years of experience in early childhood education. Before Ohr Kodesh, Priya worked at Gates of Discovery in Olney, which was also a Reggio Emilia-inspired school. Priya worked at Gates with Grace music teacher Amanda Mendez and also with incoming Academic Assistant Jessica Boritz. As we look ahead, we are interested in developing our own Reggio-influenced program as it aligns beautifully with our belief in children's curiosity, love of learning, and agency. In a Reggio-inspired classroom, "children are valued as strong, capable, resilient, and rich with wonder and knowledge." We are excited to welcome Priya to our community as a teacher leader in this philosophy and also as an educator deeply dedicated to nurturing children in their earliest years. Her former director at Gates described her as one of the most extraordinary educators she has ever worked with during her career. We look forward to introducing you to Priya this summer and fall and we want to extend our warmest welcome to her now.

You will be hearing from Grace more in the coming weeks and months. We hope you have had a chance to review the [summer enrichment webpage](#) on our site, with resources for enrichment and activity for your children. We also sent a recent communication regarding forms that need to be completed before school begins. Finally, a reminder that our summer office hours are 10 am - 2 pm, Monday through Thursday and 10 am - 12 pm on Fridays.

Wishing you a wonderful summer!

-Jen Danish