



## OCTOBER 2021

Hi Everyone,

We hope you're all healthy and had a lovely summer, and have settled back in to the routine of school. This half term seems to have gone by very quickly!

We have really enjoyed welcoming lots of lovely new children at our clubs this term, and we've all been really impressed with how our new Reception children, new starters to club and our new Year 3's at Big Oaks have settled in. It has been really nice getting back to some kind of 'normality', and it's been lovely seeing the children getting back to school run clubs and coming along to us afterwards.

We are continuing to follow the approach each school is taking when it comes to Covid-19 guidelines, so we will update you when any changes are made at any of the clubs. Our clubs are getting busier and busier, we're really enjoying welcoming more children to club and supporting our families as they are getting back in to the office.

We are also very proud to have added **Mini Oaks**, our new Preschool to our Oaks family. After a lot of hard work over the summer holidays, we opened on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, and we're now caring for ten lovely children there. **Lily** is our Preschool Manager, and is doing a fantastic job there after 8 wonderful years at Burghfield Oaks.

**We'd like to say a big thankyou to you all for your ongoing understanding and fantastic support already this year. We all appreciate it so much.**

### Team news

Since our last Parent newsletter in July, we have said a sad goodbye to **Rachel**, who left Little Oaks to start a new job. **Abi** has started at Little Oaks in her new Deputy Playleader role and is really enjoying it.

**Jackie** is really enjoying supporting Graham and the team at Big Oaks. Big Oaks is very busy this year, and we have welcomed several new team members there – **Niamh, Esther, Ollie, Charlotte** and **Liza** – they are all really enjoying getting to know the children (and getting involved in many Connect 4 tournaments!) We will be welcoming **Lucy** and **Georgia** to Big Oaks after half term.

# The Oaks Newsletter



**Liza** is our new Playleader at Burghfield Oaks, and is really enjoying getting to know the children, parents and the team there. We will sadly be saying goodbye to **Debra**, who will be leaving Burghfield Oaks at the end of this half term (we're really glad that she'll be staying on with us and working at Mini Oaks!) Liza will be supported by **Nicole**, our **new Deputy Playleader** at Burghfield Oaks after half term. We have welcomed **Ollie** and **Olivia** to the Burghfield Oaks team, who are both settling in really well.

At Silchester Oaks, we have welcomed **Olivia**, who is enjoying getting to know the children and having fun with them.

**Prubie Sahota** will be joining us next month as our new **Risk and Regulation Director**. Prubie will be working closely with the Directors and is really looking forward to getting to know The Oaks over the next few months.

**Alison Bell** will be joining our Office team as our new **Office Administrator** in November. She is looking forward to getting involved and working for The Oaks.

## News

We now have our **Facebook page** up and running! Please do like and follow our page – '**The Oaks CIC**' We regularly update our Facebook page with pictures from each club to show you what we've been getting up to and the fun we have. Please note that the pictures don't show any children's faces - we will be asking for specific permissions regarding our Facebook page before we post any pictures which show children's faces in.

Our new **website** is also up and running. We will be keeping this updated with news, useful links and information, so please do have a look: [Oaks Childcare Clubs » The Oaks Childcare Clubs CIC](#)

We are going to be phasing a roll out of '**I-Connect**' in our clubs in the Autumn/Spring terms. This will mean our team using I-Pads instead of paper registers. This will be starting at Silchester Oaks after half term, and will be following in our other clubs next year.

In response to the survey we sent out last year to two of our clubs, we understand that there may be a demand for **holiday clubs** in some of our schools. We are keen to understand the level of demand and we will be in touch with you about it. We are continuously looking to increase our offering to support our parents and serve the community.



## Mini Oaks

**Mini Oaks** is our new Preschool, and we opened on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. We are based in the Parish Centre attached to Burghfield St Mary's church, and we are proudly looking after ten lovely children at the moment. We have a fantastic team there – **Lily, Alex, Sheena, Jodie, Nikki** and **Debra**. We now have our minibus up and running and we are regularly out and about on trips with the children, so I'm sure you'll see us around!



We are running an open event at our **Forest School site** in Mortimer West End after half term, we will be in touch with you about this nearer the time.



If you know of anyone looking for a Preschool place for their child, please do let them know about Mini Oaks, we'd love to welcome them for a visit to show them what a fantastic Preschool we are!



## Club news

At **Little Oaks**, the children have really enjoyed the Autumn and Halloween crafts at club. They've also been having lots of fun outside enjoying the last of the warmer weather. We hope they all enjoyed the delicious biscuits they made!



At **Big Oaks**, the children have been very busy sewing, tracing, playing games, playing with the parachute and enjoying being outside as much as possible!



# The Oaks Newsletter



The children have been doing lots of different things at **Burghfield Oaks** – they've been having fun with dominoes, making bracelets, dancing, making hedgehogs and playing outside in the rain (following a vote from the children!)



At **Silchester Oaks**, the children have been enjoying Halloween crafts, playing outside and having fun building forts. They made some fantastic leaf people too!



**Please follow our Facebook page for more photos and updates!**



## Session availability

If you need to **add any extra sessions**, or make any changes to your sessions please contact Nicole in the office to check on availability.

At the moment, we have plenty of availability at **Early Burghfield Oaks**, **Early Silchester Oaks** and **Silchester Oaks**. We have availability most afternoons at **Burghfield Oaks** – and plenty of room on Friday mornings and afternoons at **Big Oaks**, and we have some afternoons and most mornings available at **Little Oaks**.

We are also available for **ad-hoc sessions**, so if you do need to book any sessions on a one off basis, please contact Nicole to check on availability. In September and October we added almost 200 one off sessions for parents!

Thankyou for some lovely feedback you have passed on for the team since September – it means a lot to them!

*“It’s a real testament to your team- they both jumped at the chance for more sessions!”*

*“Both children are really excited to start the Oaks again this year!”*

*“I also wanted to pass on a huge thanks to Jess for giving Emily a big welcome this morning on her first day at Burghfield Oaks. Emily was very excited to get to School and having met Jess walked straight in without looking back so couldn’t be happier with how she’s started”*

*“We feel the staff at Mini Oaks are brilliant and have always been so lovely and caring”*

*“She seems to be really enjoying her time at breakfast and after school club on the days she is with you and it is great that she has managed to settle in so quickly.”*



## Contact information

If you need to get hold of us while your child is at club, please use the contact numbers below:

Little Oaks and Early Little Oaks – <b>Debs Clarke</b>	07968 439041
Silchester Oaks and Early Silchester Oaks – <b>Julie Vincent</b>	07789 846579
Big Oaks – <b>Graham Field</b>	07826 462650
Early Big Oaks – <b>Jackie Rozentals</b>	07826 462650
Burghfield Oaks – <b>Liza Severnini</b>	07918 828246
Early Burghfield Oaks – <b>Jess Bushnell</b>	07748 478101

The Playleaders at club are always available should you need to discuss any aspect of your child's care with them – please don't hesitate to ask them if you would like to check on anything or have a discussion.

If you need to contact Nicole in the office, please use the email address [office@theoakschildcare.co.uk](mailto:office@theoakschildcare.co.uk). She works 15 hours a week term time and is currently working from home as well as in the office. Nicole typically monitors the inbox until around 1pm each day.

**We hope you all have a very happy and healthy half term!**

The Oaks Childcare Clubs CIC

# The Oaks Newsletter



