



# Westgate Veterinary Hospital

## NEWS

SPRING 2015

WWW.WESTGATEVETS.COM

### TRAVELLING FROM IRELAND TO THE UK

Previously we could travel to the UK from The Republic of Ireland with just a passport and a microchip. Recent changes to the requirements now mean that all dogs and cats must have a Rabies vaccination at least 21 days before travel as well as the microchip and passport to travel between these countries. We can provide the passports, Rabies vaccination and microchips. Contact us for more details on **041 9838718**.

### 10% off all flea and worm treatments

for the months of March, April and May 2015.

### 10% off all Grooming

for the months of March, April and May 2015

**f** You can now find us on **FACEBOOK!!**

Check out our page for **special offers, lost and found pets and lots more...**

[www.facebook.com/WestgateVeterinaryHospital](http://www.facebook.com/WestgateVeterinaryHospital)



### Adding a new pet to the family!

Introducing a pet into the family is a lot of fun and also a big responsibility. So – to help keep your new arrival fit and well, here is a short “to-do” list!

**Vaccinations:** One of the key reasons pets are living longer is that we are able to vaccinate them against a range of infectious diseases (see panel right) that, without regular vaccination, pose a deadly threat to our pets.

**Regular booster vaccinations**, combined with a **health check**, are the best way of protecting your pet, plus at the same time keeping a watchful eye out for any other emerging health issues.



**Fleas:** Most puppies and kittens will arrive with a fair number of fleas, so it is a good idea for us to give them a check over on arrival! Spot-on treatments are ideal for treating your pets, whilst household sprays are great for treating your home.

**Worming:** If their parents were not regularly de-wormed, there is a very high prevalence of **roundworm** infections in puppies and kittens. As they grow up they are susceptible to infection with both **roundworms** and **tapeworms** and will require regular worming treatment. Additionally, **lungworm** is posing an increasing threat for many dogs (see overleaf for further information).

**Life-stage diets:** We can now offer pets a tailored series of diets from tiny kittens and puppies, through adulthood and into their senior years. These diets are designed to offer the ideal balance of nutrients for each life stage. The good news is that these diets can make a real difference to the health and wellbeing of pets.

**Lost and found:** It is important to get your pet identified as soon as possible. As well as a collar and tag, we also recommend having your pet micro-chipped as a more secure and permanent form of identification.

Finally it is well worth considering **pet insurance** – covering your pet against those unexpected vet bills!

**We are here to help**, so please don't hesitate to ask us for further information on any aspect of caring for your pets!



#### Vaccination against infectious diseases

We recommend you regularly vaccinate your pets against the following, potentially fatal, infectious diseases:

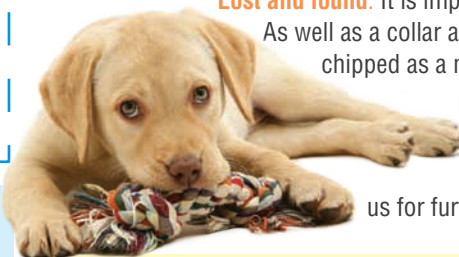
##### Dogs:

- Distemper
- Infectious canine hepatitis
- Parvo virus
- Leptospirosis
- Para influenza virus

##### Cats:

- Cat flu virus
- Feline panleukopenia virus
- Feline leukaemia virus

Photos: Warren Photographic



### Dentistry: getting to the root of the problem!

Pets, like humans, can suffer from a range of dental problems – and here are a couple that we particularly look out for:

**In puppies and kittens:** the **temporary** teeth should fall out as the **permanent** teeth start erupting – at around 12 weeks of age. If this fails to happen (as is often the case in the smaller breeds of dog), the **retained** temporary tooth may cause its adult counterpart to erupt in the wrong direction, often causing problems.

**In adult pets:** **gum disease** is a very common issue. The build up of plaque on the tooth surfaces causes bleeding and reddening of the gums, and if untreated, can eventually result in tooth loss.

Happily, most dental problems – if detected early, are usually very treatable and something that we check for when you bring your pet in for their puppy and kitten checks and annual vaccinations.

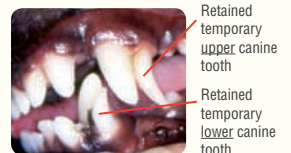


Photo of retained temporary teeth in a 6 month old dog



Photo of gum disease in an adult dog. Note the build up of yellow calculus.

For further information on any of the topics covered in this newsletter, please contact your local surgery

