

# Small Talk

SPRING 2022

Hafren Veterinary Group Small Animal Newsletter



Welcome to the Spring 2022 edition of our newsletter, bringing you seasonal and topical information and updates.

## WEATHER TIPS AND FACEBOOK

Is it really nearly Spring?? Having had 3 storms in the last week and all the associated damage and flooding we are certainly due for some Spring sunshine. For tips on how to keep our pets safe in the storms and cold weather please see our facebook page . Head RVN , Joedie keeps the page up to date with lots of topical tips, news updates and competitions. Hafren have three facebook pages - one dedicated to Small Animal, one to Farm and Equine ,and one for Poultry and Gamebird.

## ANNUAL VACCINATIONS

We recommend regular vaccinations for dogs, cats and rabbits. Dogs can be vaccinated against parvovirus, hepatitis , distemper, leptospirosis and kennel cough. Cats against cat flu, panleukopenia and feline leukemia virus. Rabbits against myxomatosis and viral haemorrhagic disease 1 and 2.

## DENTAL DISEASE

Did you know that dental disease is one of the commonest conditions seen in dogs and cats . Pets have two sets of teeth and their 'milk' teeth progressively fall out from about 12 weeks of age to make way for the adult teeth. Problems can occur if plaque and tartar are allowed to build up on adult teeth. Gingivitis (inflammation of the gums) can occur when plaque starts to build up and this can lead to a biofilm developing and is often accompanied by bad breath. If this is left unchecked then it can result in severe dental disease, dental pain and eventually tooth loss. If you are concerned about your pets teeth call the surgery ask about our complimentary nurse dental checks. Over 80% of cats and dogs over 3 years old show signs of dental disease and the good news is that many of these cases can be prevented with the appropriate treatment, feeding and dental care.

## EASTER TREATS

All us humans love a treat , but it is important that we watch what our pets eat especially around Easter time . Chocolate contains a chemical called theobromine which can be poisonous to dogs ,cats, rodents and rabbits. The severity of the poisoning can vary depending on the type, quality and quantity they consume. Hot cross buns can be a danger too - grapes, raisins, currants and sultanas are all toxic to dogs.

Most cat owners don't know it ,but lilies are so poisonous that a cat can suffer fatal kidney failure just from biting a lily leaf or petal, licking lily pollen from its paws, or drinking water from a vase with cut lilies in it.

IF YOU THINK YOUR PET HAS CONSUMED ANY OF THE ABOVE DON'T WAIT FOR SIGNS OF ILLNESS - CONTACT THE SURGERY IMMEDIATELY