

Small Talk

SPRING 2023

Hafren Veterinary Group Small Animal Newsletter



Welcome to the Spring 2023 edition of our newsletter, bringing you seasonal and topical information and updates.



PRACTICE NEWS

Congratulations to Head RVN, Joedie on her recent engagement to Andrew - we wish them every happiness for the future. 2023 will be a busy wedding year for Hafren, with Knighton vets Emma and Sasha and Newtown RVN Joedie all tying the knots with their partners - The Hafren family send all our love and congratulations. A very warm welcome to RVN Kayleigh who has started work in our Llanidloes Branch - we hope you will be very happy and wish you every success in your new job.

SUSTAINABILITY

Here at Hafren we understand the effect that our business can have on the environment. We have formed a Green Group to promote reducing waste and recycling within the practice and we are accepting unused veterinary medicines back for disposal to prevent the harmful effects in landfill and waterways.

WINTER WEIGHT ?? - ARE THEY CARRYING TOO MUCH?

In dogs a simple test is to run your hands over their chest – you should be able to easily feel (but not see) their ribs without pressing too hard. They should also have a “waist”, when viewed from both above and the side. By contrast, if you can’t do this or if your pet’s stomach sags down and bulges out, then a diet may be in order. It’s also important to keep an eye on your cat’s waistline as well! So – why is it a problem? Unfortunately, excess weight places extra demands on many organs of the body. Carrying extra weight can lead to, or worsen, many conditions including: • arthritic joint problems, • heart disease (putting the heart under increased strain), • raised blood pressure, • diabetes (a particular risk factor in cats), • decreased stamina and heat intolerance – to name just a few! . As we know ourselves, losing weight is never easy. If you have any concerns about your pet’s weight please contact the surgery and speak to one of our RVNs.



EASTER TREATS



All of 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