

TOPVETS

MEOWSLETTER

Small Animal Newsletter

October 2015

Welcome!

Welcome to our October Small Animal Newsletter. We hope you find it interesting. October is dental month at TopVets.

To promote good dental health in our pets,



Topvets is proud to offer FREE Dental Checks for the whole of October 2015 and 15% off any dental procedure.

All patients go home with a goodie bag for great dental health!!!! See more on page 2

True or False?

Dogs are colour blind?

FALSE: While they cannot distinguish the myriad of colours our eyes can, they can distinguish some colours and have better peripheral vision than humans. They are red-green colour blind only and see a brighter less detailed world than humans.

Karyn's Corner: Pyometra!



Pyometra is the term given to an infection in the uterus, in which the uterus fills with pus. It is a life threatening and serious condition. Over the last couple months we have had several cases of pyometra come through the clinic.

The classic presentation is middle to older age entire female dogs that have usually been on heat 4-8 weeks earlier. Bitches present as lethargic, off food and sometimes vomiting. A smelly vulvar discharge may be present if the cervix of the uterus is open.

Treatment for pyometra needs to be prompt and aggressive as the risks of septicemia and uterine rupture is high. Emergency surgery to remove the uterus after stabilization of the patient is required.

Fortunately pyometra is easily prevented by de-sexing your pet. So if you have no plans to breed her, get her fixed early and save yourself an emergency trip to the Vets!



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Topvets Clinic Kaitaia, 17 Matthews Ave, Kaitaia, Ph: 4082838
Topvets Clinic Coopers Beach, 182 SH10 Coopers Beach Ph: 4062216

WEB: www.topvets.co.nz
Email: admin@topvets.co.nz

DENTAL MONTH

October is dental month at TopVets.

Dental disease is one of the most common problems seen in cats and dogs. Up to 80% of pets suffer from dental disease by the age of 3. Taking care of your pets' teeth can do more than just freshen their breath, it can improve their quality of life. Most of us realise the importance of looking after our own teeth, but dental hygiene is also an essential part of caring for your pet. Some common signs that your pet may have dental disease include:



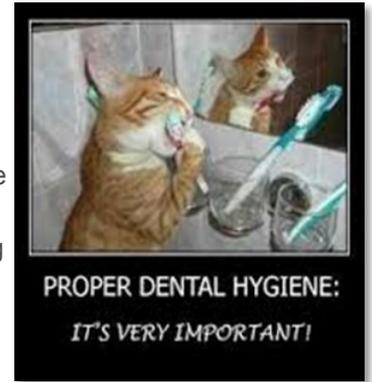
- Bad breath
- Yellow/brown tartar on teeth
- Dribbling
- Difficulty eating
- Pawing or rubbing the mouth
- Loose teeth
- Bleeding gums

Plaque, is the perpetrator of bad breath and gum disease. Because your pet doesn't brush their teeth like you do, plaque can cause tartar build up. The result is swelling, redness and inflammation of the gums, otherwise known as gingivitis. If not checked, your pet can develop periodontal disease, which destroys the gums and tissue that support their teeth.

To help keep your pets teeth nice and healthy TopVets are running a dental month in October.

During the month of October all dentals will receive 15% off the total bill, a gift pack containing dental treats for your pet to go home with and you'll automatically go in the draw to win a hamper for your pet at the end of the month!

A dental for your pet involves a general anaesthetic, scale and polish, thorough examination and removal of any damaged teeth. An average dental costs \$400- \$500, and if extractions are needed this will cost more. If your pet is over 9 years of age pre general anaesthetic bloods are recommended to check that the liver and kidneys are functioning well. These cost \$50 and are performed in house on the day of surgery. If your pet is over 10 years of age along with bloods, IV fluids are recommended to help speed recovery after surgery. These cost \$50. Places are limited and booking is essential so phone us on 408 2838 to get your pets teeth looking and smelling their best! Remember animals use their teeth as a tool to eat, groom, defend themselves and carry their young, so healthy teeth is a must!



FREE DENTAL CHECK!!!!

Book an appointment in the month of October for a **FREE Dental Check!!**

One of our qualified nurses will spend 10—15 minutes with you and your pet and assess whether a dental procedure might be necessary.

Donna's Disasters



Vet Nurse Donna talks you through some basics for Flea Treatment

FLEA SEASON IS NEARLY UPON US AGAIN!!!!

Below is some information on understanding the flea lifecycle

Fleas are the consequence of living in the Far North, one of the flea capitals of the world. Our high-humidity summers and moderate winters cause flea population explosions.

Fleas are not only annoying to pets, they also carry the eggs of tapeworm and if present in large enough numbers can cause anaemia which can be life threatening. Therefore it is important that you treat your animals regularly. Most flea treatments are monthly. This may vary though as some animals are more susceptible to flea bite irritation and may need treatment more regularly.

