



## In this edition!

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### Dental care to sink your teeth into!

Regular dental check-ups, alongside regular tooth brushing at home, are great ways to protect your pet's teeth and prevent conditions such as dental disease in cats, dogs and rabbits.

We'll be running a dental campaign from April to June this year – why not get involved by booking your pet's next dental check-up? Plus, keep an eye out for discounts, promotions and helpful guides in practice! To learn more or book an appointment for your pet, please contact the practice.



### Travel safely with your pet this summer



If you're planning on travelling abroad with your pet, remember to check the rules of the country you're going to well in advance. Your vet will be able to help you organise the right documentation (such as an Animal Health Certificate, which is required for travel to EU countries), and can advise you on any specific requirements (like vaccinations, pet insurance and microchipping). Every country is different, so be sure to research the rules and contact your vet practice for support as early as possible.

To familiarise your pet with travelling by car, introduce the experience gradually. Try sitting them down in your car first, then turn the engine on and off and go on shorter trips to help get them used to the movements and sounds, steadily building up to longer journeys. Praise and treats will help with this process, too!

Always take a good supply of fresh, clean water with you, no matter where you're going or how short the journey is, as this can help prevent dehydration and heatstroke.

If your pet is a nervous traveller, pheromone sprays or familiar blankets from home can help to keep them calm. If you're concerned about your pet's levels of stress and anxiety, our team will be happy to talk you through the supportive products and behavioural treatments available.

Make sure your pet's carrier, cage or harness is secure. Not only will this keep them safe, but following this police guidance will also ensure that you're not at risk of fines or invalidating your car insurance in the event of an accident.

**For more guidance around travelling with your pet this summer, please get in touch with the practice.**





## Protect your pet with regular vaccinations

Vaccination is vital in protecting cats, dogs and rabbits from key infectious diseases that cause pain, distress and can be life-threatening.

*Is your pet up to date with their latest vaccinations and boosters?*

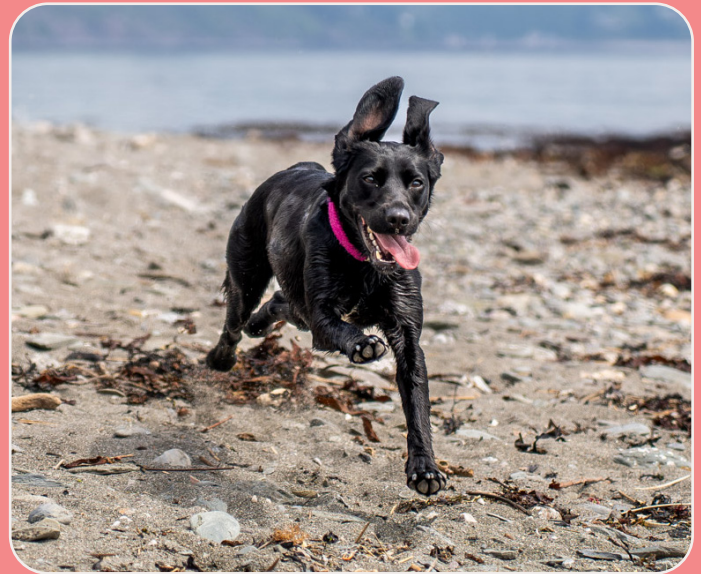
If you're not sure, don't worry! The practice will send you a reminder when their next vaccination is due. If you have any questions about your pet's vaccinations and level of protection, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

### *Vaccinations for rabbits*

Rabbits need to be vaccinated against two life-threatening diseases: myxomatosis and the classic and variant strains of rabbit haemorrhagic disease. These diseases are easily transmissible and both indoor and outdoor rabbits are at risk. All rabbits should therefore receive yearly vaccinations to ensure they are protected.

### *Protect your dog from kennel cough*

Kennel cough, also known as canine infectious cough, can be caused by several different viruses and bacteria. It doesn't tend to cause serious illness for most dogs but can cause a nasty, honking cough and is very contagious. We offer vaccination against the main causes of kennel cough in addition to your dog's core, annual vaccinations.



We strongly recommend that your dog receives the kennel cough vaccination. The name "kennel cough" is misleading, as your dog can catch it anywhere where they are around other dogs, but there's a greater risk when there's lots of dogs, such as at the park, day care, shows or competitions. To minimise the risk, yearly vaccination is required and should be given well in advance of going into kennels. Speak to your vet and kennels to find out when your dog needs to be vaccinated.

For further advice about preventing kennel cough, please reach out to the practice.



## What is flystrike and how does it affect rabbits?

Flystrike is a life-threatening condition caused by flies laying eggs on rabbits, which hatch into maggots and begin to feed on the rabbit's flesh. This can rapidly cause severe injury to our rabbits, so it's important to ensure that your rabbit is protected and check those at risk at least twice a day.

Both indoor and outdoor rabbits are at risk of flystrike, while rabbits who are overweight or have stiff joints or toileting issues are all at higher risk. To prevent flystrike, ensure your rabbit's home is clean and dry, take them for regular health checks that include a dental check, keep their coat well groomed and clean and chat to the team about suitable preventative products.

Get in touch with our team for further support.

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