

MARCH 2024



WELCOME TO CLAWS & PAWS

Lanes Vets Newsletter

Here you'll find great advice, offers for you and your pet, news, hints & tips, seasonal advice and much, much more!

PRACTICE NEWS



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Dental disease in pets 🐱🐶

Brushing our teeth is a normal part of our daily routine, and we should do the same for our pets. Simply brushing our pets' teeth can prevent the majority of dental diseases.

If not brushed daily, plaque starts to build on the surface of our pet's teeth, over time this reacts with your pet's saliva and turns to tartar and begins to build below the gum line. If ignored this can cause gum disease resulting in pain, tooth root exposure, bacteria and potential tooth loss.



Did you know that
8 out of 10 dogs
have signs of dental
disease by age 3?



Do you know how to recognise the signs of dental disease? 🤔

Signs that your pet is suffering from dental disease include:

- 🦷 Bad breath
- 🦷 Yellow/brown plaque—covered teeth
- 🦷 Red or bleeding gums
- 🦷 Difficulty eating with food falling from their mouth
- 🦷 Weight loss
- 🦷 Rubbing their face
- 🦷 Excessive salivation

If you spot these signs on your pet, don't hesitate to get in touch with us to book an appointment!

How can I prevent dental disease?

It is best to start introducing tooth brushing as young as possible as it will become normal to your pets and part of their daily routine.

However, it is never too late to start brushing your pet's teeth, as daily brushing will prevent further plaque build-up. Using a soft brush and pet-friendly toothpaste is best. The following steps will help when introducing tooth brushing:

- 1 Select a time of day when they are calm and relaxed but not hungry or tired. After meal times are best!
- 2 Let your pet taste the toothpaste by smearing a little onto your finger and allowing them to try it or placing a little bit on the toothbrush and allowing them to try that. Then gently smooth it over the teeth and gums using your finger and use the brush to brush the teeth. Repeat this a few times.
- 3 Gently brush the teeth using an up-down motion, angling the brush towards the gumline.
- 4 Move onto the back teeth using a gentle circular motion, brushing both sides of the mouth.

What can I feed my pet to reduce the chance of dental disease?

Various specialist diets can be fed to your pet to help with tooth cleaning, and some specialist toys can also help.

Please speak to one of our nurses to discuss the options available to your pet.



A Picture is Worth A Thousand Words!

We tested this theory on our [Facebook](#) page by asking you to post a picture of your pet in the comments, and we'd reply with a caption that matched the pet's expression and the situation they were in.

The replies were amazing, and here are just a few of the photos we received 📌

Head over to our [Facebook](#) page for more photos of adorable pets!



Change your garden into a pet pawradise!



Do you have a garden or patio? 🤔 You won't want to miss this post! 🐶🐱🐰

Here are some of the best ways to turn your garden into a pet-friendly playground:

- 🐾 Secure your plants in raised planters and, if you have plants that your pet can step on, make sure they are hardy species and not poisonous to your pets.
- 🐾 Ensure there are nice, shaded places for your pet to rest and maybe also consider a small water feature like a children's pool when the weather is hot.
- 🐾 Build play structures your pet likes, like climbing structures or interesting agility challenges.

Could my pet have allergies?



Allergies, especially during spring, are an annoyance that many people go through every year. 🤧 This season can also bring allergic problems to our pets, due to increased particles floating around and a boom of insects like fleas that might trigger severe reactions.

It can be especially difficult to deal with allergies if your pet has just started having symptoms like itchiness, red skin or hair loss, and you don't know why. Investigating and treating problems like atopic dermatitis, especially when the allergens that trigger it are seasonal, can be challenging, but we are confident we can provide them with the relief they need.

If you suspect that your pet might be suffering from allergies, or you notice a significant increase in itching, don't hesitate to call us!